

# LATHREM LETTER

DECEMBER – JANUARY 2023

## Very Merry Grinchmas Party

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 FROM 2 – 3:30 P.M.

We have a wonderful, awful idea.  
Let's gather together for some Grinchmas cheer.  
We'll feast on Who Pudding and play a Who game  
Which we promise will not be totally lame.  
There'll be holiday songs we'll certainly sing  
To make sure you have fun at this Grinchmasy thing.  
And maybe, just maybe, at the end of the day  
You'll feel Christmas spirit and be able to say  
Your friends at Lathrem aren't Grinches, no way!



**Registration deadline is December 7.**

**Fee: Free for CIL members; \$3/resident; \$5/non-resident**

01-20823-A

### FACILITY HOURS

**Monday – Thursday**

8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

**Friday**

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Saturday**

9 a.m. – Noon

**Sunday**

12:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

\*Closed Dec. 24 – 26 & Jan. 1

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Lathrem Senior Center**

937-296-2480

2900 Glengarry Drive,  
Kettering OH 45420

**Senior Transportation Dispatch**

937-296-2483

**Website**

[playkettering.org/cil-senior-center](http://playkettering.org/cil-senior-center)

## Happy (Almost) Noon Year's Eve Party

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

We're celebrating the New Year Bavarian style  
With accordions and singing and plenty of smiles  
We'll oompah and polka and dance willy nilly  
Then collapse in our chairs and laugh ourselves silly.  
There'll be pretzels and nibbles and a fake champagne toast  
We'll sing Auld Lang Syne that they'll hear coast to coast.  
So don't miss the fun, there's plenty of space don't you worry  
Let's ring in the New Year just a couple of days early!

**Registration deadline is December 22.**

**Fee: \$10/resident; \$12/non-resident**

**Sponsored by Legacy Health Services.**

01-20823-B



**CITY OF KETTERING**  
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Lathrem Senior Center Staff

**Recreation Superintendent.** . . . Shauna Lewallen  
Shauna.Lewallen@ketteringoh.org

**Recreation Manager** . . . . . Drew Corbett  
Drew.Corbett@ketteringoh.org

**Senior and Adult Program Supervisor** . . . . . Jennifer Giessler  
Jennifer.Giessler@ketteringoh.org

**Program Coordinator** . . . . . Jena Bosworth  
Jena.Bosworth@ketteringoh.org

**Program Coordinator** . . . . . Hayley Heck  
Hayley.Heck@ketteringoh.org

**Program Coordinator** . . . . . Brittany Kilburn  
Brittany.Kilburn@ketteringoh.org

## Lathrem Senior Center Advisory Board

**Chair** . . . . . Karen Schmidt

**Vice-Chair** . . . . . Edna Vanderkarr

**Secretary** . . . . . Gail Carone

**Lisa Fields** . . . . . Member

**John Schmidt** . . . . . Member



For more information, call 937.296.2587.



CITY OF KETTERING

## Kettering Mayor & Council

### Peggy Lehner, Mayor

Peggy.Lehner@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-477-7640

### Jacque Fisher, Vice Mayor, At Large

Jacque.Fisher@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-232-1637

### Jyl Hall, At Large

Jyl.Hall@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-604-5341

### Lisa Duvall, District 1

Lisa.Duvall@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-838-7425

### Bob Scott, District 2

Bob.Scott@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-478-9910

### Tony Klepacz, Vice Mayor, District 3

Tony.Klepacz@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-657-3327

### Bruce E. Duke, District 4

Bruce.Duke@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937-299-2259

### Matt Greeson, City Manager

Matt.Greeson@ketteringoh.org . . . . . 937.296.2412

### Steven Bergstresser, Assistant City Manager

Steven.Bergstresser@ketteringoh.org . . . 937.296.2412

### Council Office

KetteringMayorCouncil@ketteringoh.org . . 937.296.2416

[www.ketteringoh.org](http://www.ketteringoh.org)

@Kettering\_OH

City of Kettering, Ohio – Government

## Lathrem Senior Center Membership\*

Type of Pass	CIL Member	Kettering Resident	Non-Resident
CIL Pass (1 year)		\$36/year	\$54/year
CIL Pass (6-month)		\$21/6 months	\$32/6 months
Guest Daily Drop-in Fees	FREE!	\$3/program	\$5/program
CIL Exercise Pass	\$45/year	\$67/year	\$84/year
Senior Exercise Drop-in Fees	\$2/class	\$3/class	\$5/class

Spouses under 55 years of age may join the CIL for the same rate as their partner.

\*Effective January 1, 2024



## SPECIAL EVENTS

# HOLIDAY GOAT PARTY

Thursday, December 7 from 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Find your craziest holiday sweater and come for lots of cuddles, pictures, laughs and of course, hot chocolate and treats. Prizes will be given out to our top 3 winners for the craziest sweater.

**Registration deadline is December 4 at 5 p.m.**

Fee: \$8/resident; \$10/non-resident

Sponsored by Cinga Healthcare.

What could be cuter than little goats dressed in their favorite holiday sweater? Nothing!

Ages 18+

01-20605-A



## SINGING IN THE SEASON

KETTERING SHOW CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Monday, December 11

2 – 3 p.m.

The Kettering Senior Show Choir is back and ready to kick off your holiday season with a special, free concert. Registration is required.

**Registration deadline is December 6.**

4TH FRIDAY

SENIOR SOCIALS

Ages 55+

### The Art of Cozy

From Hygge to Nixsen to Fika and so much more, this program will invite you to examine how you move through the seasons and interact with others. You'll learn ways to slow down, relax and enjoy your days through little rituals and simple changes in your environment. Hot cider and doughnut holes will bring out the feeling of gezellig to keep you cozy as we learn together. Sponsored by Vienna Springs. **Registration deadline is January 19.**

01-20820-A Friday, Jan. 26 at 3:30 p.m.

Fee: \$5/resident; \$7/non-resident

# GENERAL PROGRAMS

## DECEMBER

### **Take Charge of Your Diabetes for the Holiday**

More information on page 29 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20835-A Friday, December 1 at 10 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### **Bootleggers, Bandits and Badges: From Dry Times to Hard Times in Dayton OH**

More information on page 29 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20835-B Tuesday, December 5 at 10 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### **Simply EZ Nutrition**

More information on page 29 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20879-A Thursday, December 7 at 11 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### **Italian Apple Pie: Torta di Mele**

More information on page 30 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20612-A Monday, December 11 at 6 p.m.

Fee: \$19/resident; \$24/non-resident



### **Alzheimer's Education Series: Legal and Financial Planning**

More information on page 31 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

04-20881-D Monday, December 11 at 11 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### **Medication Safety for Mature Adults**

More information on page 30 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20877-A Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 11 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

## JANUARY

### **The Beautiful World of Woodland Cemetery Mausoleums**

More information on page 30 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20835-C Tuesday, January 9 at 10 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### **Discover the Dayton Synchronettes**

More information on page 30 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20835-D Friday, January 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### **From Your House to Senior Living the Stress-free Way**

More information on page 30 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20835-E Thursday, January 18 at 10 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident



## Brookdale Lunch & Learn

Brookdale of Kettering presents monthly Lunch & Learns at the Lathrem Senior Center. The program includes a light, box lunch and information on healthy topics. **Pre-registration is required for all programs.**

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

More information for the sessions below on page 27 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

### Holiday Wellness Tips

01-20882-A Wednesday, Dec. 13 at Noon

### January Session

01-20882-B Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Noon

## Area Agency on Aging Caregiver Series

This series provides valuable information for anyone providing support for aging parents or spouses. Whether you can attend one session or multiple sessions, this wonderful series will help you be the best caregiver you can be. All sessions will meet at the Lathrem Senior Center.

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

More information for the sessions below on page 29 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

### Care of the Caregiver: Part 1 – Just Breathe

01-20878-A Monday, Jan. 9 at 1 p.m.

### Care of the Caregiver: Part 2 - Sounds of Stress Relief

01-20878-B Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 11 a.m.

### Part 3 – The Healing Power of Touch

01-20878-C Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 1 p.m.

### Part 4 – Putting it All Together

01-20878-D Tuesday, Jan. 30 at 1 p.m.

## Medicare Education

More information on page 30 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20876-A Monday, January 22 at 10 a.m.

01-20876-B Monday, January 22 at 5 p.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

## Get Your Kicks on Route 66

More information on page 31 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20835-F Tuesday, January 30 at 10 a.m.

Fee: Free for CIL members  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

## Organizing on a Budget

More information on page 31 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20609-A Wednesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m.

Fee: \$12/resident; \$17/non-resident

**CIL members receive 10% off all programs unless otherwise noted.**

## Technology One-on-One Help with the Dayton Metro Library

Level up your technology skills with a one-on-one session to answer your tech related questions. Want to get eBooks? Don't have an email, but would like to create one? We can help you with that. Come with questions, inquiries and your device (if applicable). Contact the Lathrem Senior Center at 937-296-2480 to schedule your appointment.



**Mondays, January 8 & 22, 3 p.m.**

# FITNESS & SPORTS

## Gentle Stretch Yoga

More information on page 32 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20899-A	Tuesdays, Nov. 28 – Jan. 30 at 8:30 a.m.
01-20899-B	Tuesdays, Nov. 28 – Jan. 30 at 10 a.m.
01-20899-C	Thursdays, Nov. 30 – Febr. 1 at 9 a.m.
01-20899-D	Tuesdays, Feb. 13 – April 9 at 8:30 a.m.
01-20899-E	Tuesdays, Feb. 13 – April 9 at 10 a.m.
01-20899-F	Thursdays, Feb. 15 – April 11 at 9 a.m.
Fee:	\$56/resident; \$70/non-resident

## Archery for Seniors

More information on page 32 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

01-20855-A	Friday, January 26 at 3 p.m.
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## Senior Golf League

Golf is a great way to exercise, get outside and meet new people. Lathrem Senior Center members are invited to play in the mixed league at Community Golf Course on Thursday mornings throughout the summer. League registration forms and packets are available at the meeting and at the front desk. Lathrem Senior Center membership is required to participate. **For more information about our wonderful league please attend the planning meeting on March 28 or contact Jena Bosworth at 937-296-2480 or [jena.bosworth@ketteringoh.org](mailto:jena.bosworth@ketteringoh.org). Deadline to Register is Monday April 8.**

01-20860-A	Thursdays, April 26 – Sept. 12, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Fee:	\$40

## Drums Alive - Golden Beats

More information on page 32 of the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide.

04-20896-A	Mondays, January 22 – March 4 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Fee:	\$40/resident; \$50/non-resident

## Drop-in Exercise Class Schedule

Fee: Free for CIL Exercise passholder; \$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

<b>Senior Circuit Training</b>	M/F 9 – 9:50 a.m.	Incorporates weights, ropes, steps and other equipment to provide a comfortable complete body workout.
<b>Chair Exercises</b>	M/W 10 – 10:50 a.m.	Specific balance exercises that can reduce the risk of falling combined with strength flexibility movements.
<b>Dance Cardio</b>	W 9 – 9:50 a.m.	Choreographed, easy-to-follow dance moves that help with balance, coordination and keep fun in fitness.



**Interested in more information on the Fitness Centers and Programs?**

See pages 8 – 9 in the December – February PlayKettering Activity Guide!

## Senior & Adult Winter Drop-in Sports Schedule Effective January 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Senior Basketball & Short Court Tennis 8:30 – 11 a.m.	Senior Volleyball & Pickleball 8:30 – 11 a.m.	Senior Basketball & Short Court Tennis 8:30 – 11 a.m.	Senior Volleyball & Pickleball 8:30 – 11 a.m.	Senior Basketball & Short Court Tennis 8:30 – 11 a.m.	Senior Volleyball 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Adult Basketball & Pickleball 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.		Adult Basketball & Pickleball 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.		Adult Basketball & Pickleball 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	

Fee: Free for CIL Members; \$3/residents; \$5/non-residents



# ONGOING ACTIVITIES

## LATHREM SENIOR CENTER ONGOING GROUPS

### Creative Writing Group:

Bring your drafts and ideas to this informal, drop-in session to receive group feedback on your work. The group is mentored by Professor Joe Law of Wright State University.

Every 3rd Tuesday from 2 – 4 p.m.

### Crooked Hookers

This knit and crochet group is the perfect place to come for new project ideas, answers to yarn crafting questions and companionship. Don't forget to bring your current project and supplies with you. A CIL membership is required to participate in this group.

Every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday from 2 – 4 p.m.

### Kettering Senior Show Choir

A dazzling vocal ensemble for anyone who enjoys singing. This group performs for area organizations throughout the year. A CIL membership is required to participate in this group.

Fridays from 10 – 11 a.m.

Fees: Free/CIL members; \$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

### Weekly Bingo

Wednesdays from 1 – 3 p.m.

Wednesday bingo sponsors for December and January are as follows: Maudlin Senior Care Services, Legacy Health Services, Vienna Springs, Cigna, and the Montgomery County Treasurer. We are thankful for these partnerships and appreciate working with each of these sponsors.

Fee: Free for CIL members;  
\$3/resident; \$5/non-resident

Location: Lathrem Senior Center Area B



### Walnut Creek Senior Living Blood Pressure/Sugar Screening

**Mondays, December 11,  
January 8 and February 12  
from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

**No appointment necessary  
Lathrem Senior Center Lobby**



**Kettering HEALTH**  
**Blood Pressure Screening**  
Wednesdays, Dec. 13 and Jan. 10  
from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## Lathrem Senior Center Cards and Games

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Double Deck Pinochle 1 – 4 p.m.	Euchre 1 – 4 p.m.	500 1 – 4 p.m.	Bingo 1 – 3 p.m.	Canadian Bid Euchre 1 – 4 p.m.	
	Board Games 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays 1 – 4 p.m.	Social Bridge 1 – 4 p.m.	Hand & Foot 1 – 4 p.m.	Double Deck Pinochle 1 – 4 p.m.	Double Deck Pinochle 1 – 4 p.m.
		Creative Writing Group 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 2 – 4 p.m.		Crooked Hookers Knit & Crochet Group 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 2 – 4 p.m.	Social Bridge 1 – 4 p.m.
	Mah Jongg 4 – 7 p.m.		Canadian Bid Euchre 4:30 – 8 p.m.		

**CIL members receive 10% off all programs unless otherwise noted.**

# PHOTOS

## 2023 Lathrem Community Golf League

Eagles Club
Randy Neely Bob gottes Darrell Davis

Best Average Score	
Women	Men
Mea Greenwood (45.1)	Steve Heider (39.5)

Most Birdies of the Season	
Women	Men
Margo Quigley (2)	Bob Gottes & Ray Bullock (9)

Weekly Contest Winners:		
	Women	Men
Most Birdies	Margo Quigley	Andy Dock and Pete Miller (1)
Fewest Putts	Barb Redenbo (17)	Ray Edmonds (14)
Closest to the Pin	Carol Weinert	Chuck Gelm
Closest to the Pin	Nancy Thompson	Ray Edmonds
Longest Drive	Margo Quigley	Claude Owens
Most Pars	Margo Quigley, Barb Redenbo & Carol Weinert	Steve Heider (7)

Thanks to Ellis Rogers for helping out with delivering the score cards every week.



### Special Thank You To Our League Sponsors



Legacy Health Services  
Our Family Caring for Yours

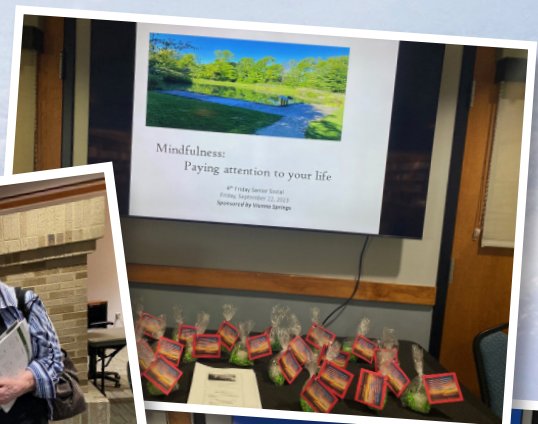
### Other Door Prizes:

Kettering Health, Fraze Pavilion, 10 Wilmington Place,  
The Medicare Connection, Hollywood Gaming



Donned in our best tropical outfits, we wrapped up summer here at the Lathrem Senior Center at the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Luau Beach Party! We then slowed it down at the Mindfulness 4<sup>th</sup> Friday with guided meditation, body awareness techniques, and delicious teas and goodies to help put us on the path to serenity.

# LUAU BEACH PARTY!



# 4<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAY MINDFULNESS



# SUPPORT SERVICES

## TAX APPOINTMENTS

**AARP Income Tax Preparation Assistance Appointment Scheduling Begins Tuesday, January 9, 2024!**

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program offers free tax preparation help to anyone and if you're 50 and older, and can't afford a tax preparation service, this program is made especially for you. The preparers are IRS-certified volunteers who understand that retirement or other life changes may mean your taxes are a little more complicated now.

**Appointment Scheduling Begins: Tuesday, January 9 at 8 a.m. Call 296-2480 or 296-2587.**

### Appointments Information:

- Appointments will be available Monday - Thursday, February 5 - April 11, 2024
- All appointments are held at the Lathrem Senior Center, 2900 Glengarry Drive.
- Appointments are limited to one hour per client.
- Clients will receive a reminder phone call up to 1 week in advance of their scheduled appointment.

### Types of Returns Accepted:

- **No complicated returns will be completed.**
- **Volunteers will prepare basic forms including the following:**
  - 1040EZ, 1040A with Schedules 1, 2, 3 and EIC
  - 1040 with Schedules A, B, C-EZ, D, EIC, R and SE
  - 1040-V
  - 1040-ES
- **Please bring the following to your appointment:**
  - relevant paperwork for your 2023 taxes
  - a copy of your 2022 return
- **Returns involving partnerships, income from rental property, or businesses will not be completed.**



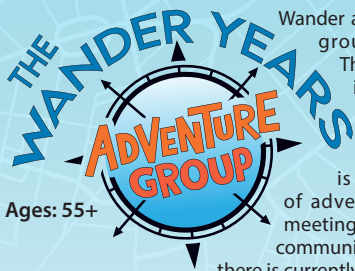
## Senior Transportation Program

The Lathrem Center offers transportation services for Kettering residents age 60 and older. For a small membership fee and inexpensive ride costs, our sedan and wheelchair-accessible vans can take you to medical appointments, grocery shopping, CIL and Kettering Recreation Complex programs, hair salons, banks, pharmacies and more.

Senior Transportation Program Membership Fee	<b>\$12/annually</b>	
Transportation Punch Cards	<b>Cards are available in \$12, \$24 &amp; \$48 values</b> <i>*Total of number of rides per card will be determined by the cost of rides taken.</i>	
<b>Individual Ride Fees</b> <i>Effective January 1, 2024</i>		
KRC/CIL/KFWC	Shopping & Personal Appointments in Kettering	Personal Appointments Outside Kettering
<b>\$2 one way \$4 round trip</b>	<b>\$3 one way \$6 round trip</b>	<b>\$5 one way \$10 round trip</b>



# HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS



Ages: 55+

Wander about the Dayton area with a fun group of like-minded individuals. These meet-ups for active agers may include anything from volunteer experiences to dining out to entertainment and everything in between. The goal of the group is to create a vibrant community of adventurers who enjoy socializing, meeting new people, giving back to the community and just having fun! Although there is currently no fee to be in this program, pre-registration is required for all activities.

## Volunteer Adventure Experience: Gift Wrapping at Town & Country

If you are someone who enjoys making holidays special for others, wander over to Town & Country Shopping Center and volunteer at the annual Kettering Noon Optimist (KNO) gift wrapping event. Volunteers wrap holiday gifts in exchange for a donation to support youth scholarships throughout the following year. Wrap up the wrapping shift by wandering over to First Watch in Town & Country for lunch with the group. The only cost is for your lunch, but registration is required.

**Registration deadline is December 12.**

01-20818-A Tue., Dec. 19, 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Fee: Cost of lunch at First Watch

Location: Town & Country Shopping Center and First Watch

## Dining Experience: Lunch at Coco's Bistro

Blue Monday is a term commonly used to refer to the most depressing day of the year – the 3rd Monday in January. Whether it's failed New Year's resolutions, after holiday blues, trying to get right with your diet, Christmas bills rolling in or the gray and gloomy dark days Ohio winter weather brings, this day tends to hit hard. WE BEG TO DIFFER! Gather your people and meet at Coco's Bistro for a wonderful and inspiring lunch sure to lift your spirits. The only cost is for your lunch, but registration is required. **Registration deadline is January 9.**

01-20818-B Mon., Jan. 15, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Fee: Cost of lunch payable to restaurant

Location: Coco's Bistro, 250 Warren Street

Ages: Adult

## EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Enjoy an evening of fun, clean competition in our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Adult Euchre Tournament. Participants compete as individuals. Light refreshments will be provided and gift card prizes will be given to the top winners.

**Registration deadline is February 4.**

01-20621-A Fri., Feb. 9 from 7 – 10 p.m.

Fee: \$8/resident; \$10/non-resident

Location: Lathrem Senior Center



Join the team from the Kettering Police Department Community Relations Office for this monthly coffee and conversation about what's happening in your community. Learn about current city-wide crime trends and how to avoid falling victim to them. Meet KPD specialty teams and hear about behind the scenes ways crime is prevented or investigated. This participant driven program will include plenty of time for questions.

**December Topic:** K9 - Ptl. Harper

01-20840-A Wed. 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Dec. 20

**January Topic:** Vice Detectives – Det. Anderson

01-20840-B Wed. 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Jan. 17

Fee: Free

Location: Lathrem Senior Center





## CITY OF KETTERING

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ARTS DEPARTMENT  
3600 Shroyer Road • Kettering, Ohio • 45429-2799  
937.296.2400 • Fax 937.296.3242  
playkettering.org

# ARTIST BIOS

**Raven Harris** has had a passion for art since she was four years old attending art classes at Rosewood Arts Center. As a middle-school student, Raven was part of an exhibit at Fairmont HS and won an award in her age group at the Middletown Art Center. Raven aspires to become a tattoo artist someday.

**Brock R. Harris** began his artistic journey in the field of photo manipulation and digital art. Recently, he joined his photographer wife getting shots of different aspects of their community. Brock was the 2018 winner of the BW Greenway People's choice award for his photo "Reclaimed by Nature" taken at the Oakes Quarry.

**Connie S. Gifford** had a childhood passion for art that launched her into a 30-year profession in graphic arts and a degree in visual communication. As an adult she discovered the magic of watercolor. Connie spends time studying art in a variety of settings both virtual and in-person and is in numerous art societies.

**Brandi Gifford Harris** lives in Kettering with husband and their two daughters. She is working on a book of the adventures for each photo, mostly candid shots of her children and her dogs, focusing on humor, life and love. Brandi wants everyone to see life through the eyes of a child with her photographs and to notice the small things again.

**James M. Gifford** has enjoyed photography starting as a Boy Scout developing black and white prints. He expanded his skills while a Dayton Police officer. Jim also worked for the Fairborn Daily Herald. His great love in photography is catching the unusual shot: a macro close-up of a bee on a flower or bikes at a university in England; and the majesty of nature.