



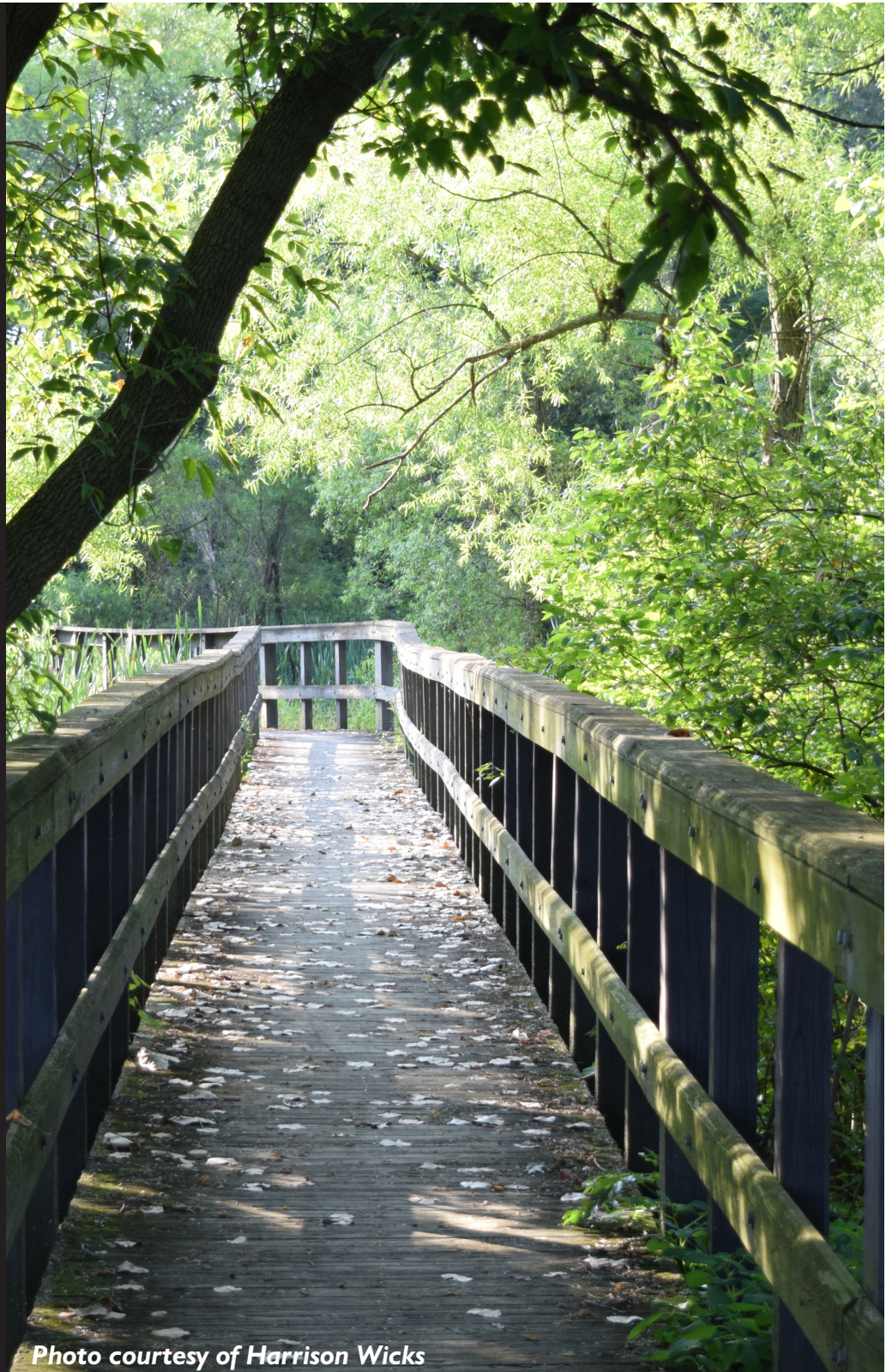
# The **TREE CITY**

## Bulletin

Volume 25:1 – Spring 2020

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*Photo courtesy of Harrison Wicks*



**Council Members**

**Mayor & President of Council**

**Jerry T. Fiala**  
330.678.8007

**Ward 1**

**Garret Ferrara**  
330.678.0069

**Ward 2**

**Jack Amrhein**  
President Pro Tem  
330.835.8639

**Ward 3**

**Robin Turner**  
330.221.8860

**Ward 4**

**John M. Kuhar**  
330.678.5897

**Ward 5**

**Heidi L. Shaffer**  
330.256.4346

**Ward 6**

**Tracy Wallach**  
330.678.0540

**Council-at-Large**

**Michael DeLeone**  
330.678.0032

**Gwen Rosenberg**  
440.665.4327

**Roger Sidoti**  
330.678.3381

**Who To Call At The City of Kent...**

<b>Emergency – Police, Fire, Ambulance</b> . . . . .	<b>9-1-1</b>
After Hours Non-Emergency Concerns . . . . .	330.673.7732
Building Division – <i>Building Permits</i> . . . . .	330.678.8107
Income Tax Division . . . . .	330.678.8103
Clerk of Council . . . . .	330.678.8007
City Manager’s Office . . . . .	330.676.7500
<i>Door-to-door solicitation, special event permits</i>	
Community Development Department . . . . .	330.678.8108
<i>Economic development, housing rehab, zoning</i>	
Engineering Division – <i>Street and Sidewalk construction</i> . . . . .	330.678.8106
Fire Department - Non-Emergency . . . . .	330.673.8814
Health Department . . . . .	330.678.8109
<i>Animal bites, birth/death certificates, food service inspections, pest control</i>	
Parks & Recreation Department . . . . .	330.673.8897
Police Department - Non-Emergency . . . . .	330.673.7732
<i>24-hour calls, stray animals</i>	
Police Department - Investigations . . . . .	330.673.7733
Police Department - Administration . . . . .	330.673.3221
Republic Services of Ohio Hauling, LLC - Residential Rubbish Removal. . . . .	1.800.247.3644
Recycling Center . . . . .	330.678.8808
Service Department . . . . .	330.678.8105
<i>Yard Waste Transfer Site, signs, traffic lights, street maintenance, trees, water/sewer problems</i>	
Utility Billing – <i>Water, sewer, stormwater and recycling bills</i> . . . . .	330.678.8104

**Trash Collection Reminder**

Please be reminded that City Ordinance 521.08 states:

Collection Time Period: Each container placed at the curb or alley, and each other item set out for collection, shall be placed at the location no earlier than 7:00 pm of the day before collection, in the locality as established by the City’s Refuse and Recycling Contractor.

Container Retrieval: The empty solid waste receptacles and recycle storage containers shall be removed from the curbside by 7:00 pm the day collection has taken place.



The City of Kent tests the siren system twice per month:

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at 11:00 am**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 pm**

The tests run for 3 minutes each time. In the event of a real emergency, the sirens will be set off 3 times for a total of 9 minutes.

The Tree City Bulletin is published quarterly by the City of Kent, and is provided to inform residents and businesses regarding City programs and services. Questions or comments regarding the newsletter may be directed to the City Manager’s Office - 301 S. Depeyster - Kent, Ohio 44240 – 330.676.7500. Unless otherwise stated, all programs and services described in this publication are intended and provided for City of Kent residents only. Designed by LMS Creative Communications, Ltd. **This publication is printed on recycled paper.**

Applications Are Now Being Accepted Through MARCH 24, 2020 at NOON



Interviews will be scheduled by the Clerk for April 1, 2020 at 7:00 pm during Council Committee Meetings. In-person interviews only.

Online application: <https://www.kentohio.org/184/Boards-Commissions>

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT CLERK OF COUNCIL**  
330.676.7555 - OR - [councilclerk@kent-ohio.org](mailto:councilclerk@kent-ohio.org)

NOTE: By statutory definition, "elector" means anyone of voting age and a resident of the City. The Kent City Charter Section 8.01 mandates that all appointments to City Boards and Commissions shall be electors of the City, with the exception of the Board of Building Appeals.

## BOARD OF BUILDING APPEALS

Volunteer. Six (6) Vacancies: One (1) Vacancy for a General Contractor; One (1) Vacancy for a Registered Heating & Air Conditioning Contractor, One (1) Vacancy for General Public and Three (3) vacancies for Alternates. TERM: Three (3) years commencing immediately through 12/31/2023.

## PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Volunteer. One (1) vacancy. The Parks and Recreation Board was created in accordance with Kent City Charter Section 61(a). This Board consists of five (5) members who are electors of the City. Four (4) members are appointed by the Council and one (1) member is appointed by the Board of Education. TERM: To fill an unexpired term commencing immediately until 01/19/21.

## DESIGN AND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Volunteer. One (1) Vacancy. Must be elector of the City. Members shall have, to the highest extent possible, a demonstrated knowledge, experience, or interest in architecture and/or historic preservation. Members must possess a determination to work for the overall improvement of the quality of the physical environment of the City. TERM: Three (3) year term commencing 4/17/20 through 12/31/2023.

## CIVIL SERVICE

Volunteer. One (1) Vacancy: The Kent Civil Service Commission prescribes, amends, and enforces rules for classification of positions in the civil service of the City government and the Kent City School District. These rules include matters such as examinations resignations, appointments, promotions, removals, transfers, layoffs, suspensions, reductions and reinstatements. The Civil Service Commission is composed of three individuals that must be a resident of either Kent City or Franklin Township. TERM: Six (6) years commencing

immediately through December 31, 2026.

## FAIR HOUSING BOARD

Volunteer. One (1) Vacancy. City of Kent codified ordinances Chapter 557.05: There is hereby created the Fair Housing Board to consist of seven members who shall be qualified electors of the City. They shall be appointed by Council. Of the members first appointed, one shall hold office for a term of one year; one for a term of two years; and the other for a term of three years; and their successors shall be appointed for terms of three years. All vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term. TERM: Three (3) years commencing 4/18/20 through 12/31/23.

## PARKING ACTION COMMITTEE

Volunteer. Two (2) vacancies. Must be elector of the City. Responsible for administering the policy recommendations of the Parking Management Planning Committee. Composed of the City of Kent Community Development Director; City of Kent Safety Director; City of Kent Service Director; a representative from the Kent Area Chamber of Commerce; and five (5) members of the Business Community, appointed based on : 1. Geographic Basis – (e.g.: East and West Main Streets, North and South Water Streets, Franklin Avenue, side streets...) and 2. Land Use Basis – (e.g.: Church, service, retail, housing and nightclub representation...) TERM: Commencing immediately through 12/31/2023.

## BOARD OF HEALTH

Volunteer. One (1) Vacancy: The Board of Health is created in accordance with Kent City Charter Chapter 66(A). The Board of Health of the City may make such orders and regulations as it deems necessary for its own government for the public health, the prevention or restrictions of disease and the prevention, abatement or suppression of nuisances. No member of the Board shall serve more than two (2) full terms consecutively. TERM: To fill an unexpired term until 8/16/2020.

## STORMWATER DISTRICT REVIEW AND APPEALS BOARD

Volunteer. Two (2) Vacancies. The Board will hear appeals regarding disputes brought by owners and non-owners concerning application of the city's Stormwater Utility Chapter and will have the authority to make adjustments to provide relief due to unique circumstances which reduce the burden of operating, constructing, repairing and maintaining the Stormwater utility system. Term: Two-year term commencing immediately through 12/31/2022.

## EQUALIZATION ASSESSMENT BOARD

Volunteer. Twelve (12) vacancies. Must be elector of the City as well as a property owner. Members of the Board shall hear objections to estimated special assessments for particular projects in the City. Boards for specific projects shall be selected, by lot, from the Assessment Equalization Board. TERM: Three (3) years.

## LOAN REVIEW BOARD

Volunteer. One (1) Vacancy available for a Local Attorney. The City's Loan Review Board is responsible for reviewing loan applications from qualified businesses seeking Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding to assist with needed commercial start-up or production expansion costs. TERM: Five (5) years commencing immediately through 12/31/2025.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Ward 5 Resident Meeting 4-22-20, 7-8:30 pm

Kent Police Station Community Room  
Hosted by Heidi Shaffer  
• Meet Council Members and City Staff, incl. Community Development & Police  
• By Citizen Request: Presentation on Spring Parties & Rental Housing issues  
• State of the Ward: What's happening now, in next few years, view to the future.



## Ready for Spring?

By Dave Ruller, Kent City Manager

Spring seems like the perfect time to talk about the new “stuff” we've got popping-up around the community that you may not have noticed under the overcast skies of winter.

The headliner for “new and improved” would be the City's updated website

(<https://www.kentohio.org>). The City's web page received a much-needed overhaul in 2019 resulting in a more user friendly, attractive, and easier to navigate site that we think is also more representative of the Kent community.

After 20 years, it was time to raise our game online and we're happy with the result. Our goal is to keep the site more current, keep the content fresh, and feature community photos that show off our best sides. All that and more on a modern web based platform that is the #1 web software used by cities nationwide based on sales, service, and cyber-security.

The updated City web site is big news but as great as technology is, it's only as good as the people that run it -- and old fashioned “human contact” still matters so I wanted to run down a few new hires on City staff.

Our most recent addition is the hiring of Rhonda Hall as the City's new Budget and Finance Director. Rhonda spent most of her career in the private sector as a principal at a prominent CPA firm in northeast Ohio before she moved over to become Finance Director for the City of Macedonia prior to joining us. Taking care of people and money is what her job is all about and we think she's a great fit for Kent on both counts.

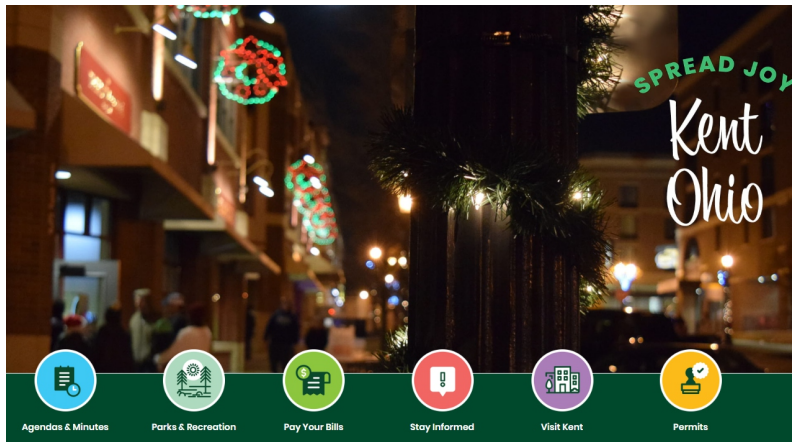
The Kent Parks and Recreation Board recently hired a new Parks Director, Kevin Schwartzhoff. Kevin comes to Kent with an exceptional resume having served as Parks Director in a number of premier communities around Ohio -- including a stint in Athens, Ohio where he gained experience managing recreation services in a college town. Recreation is such an important part of our community that having a proven parks professional on the team is a big deal.

In 2019 the Kent Health Board announced the appointment of Joan Seidel as the City's new Health Commissioner. Joan was

able to hit the ground running (just in time for the coronavirus) as she had previously served on the Kent Health Board and had a successful career at Robinson Memorial Hospital – so she knew the City staff, knew the community, knew KSU, and was plugged into the area health care network. That's the perfect combination for a Health Commissioner which is why we're lucky to have her.

After a remarkable run, Police Chief Michelle Lee announced that she plans to wrap up her career this summer. That led to a round of Police Chief testing that resulted in the promotion of Captain Nick Shearer to Police Chief coinciding with Michelle's departure. There is no replacing Chief Lee but we're excited to see Nick get a chance to be a Police Chief and continue the great work in community policing that Chief Lee worked so hard on. As Nick assumes his new role as Chief, Lieutenant Jen Ennemoser will take over his duties as Police Captain, rounding out what will be one of the most dedicated leadership teams in the City.

We're also thrilled to have added Kathy Petsko to the Community Development Department where she will be leading our efforts to make our neighborhoods stronger, which is a one of City Council's top priorities. Kathy also serves as the City's Grants & Neighborhood Program Coordinator finding grant funds for many important projects and services that we would not be able to do without state and federal support.



By the time this article gets published I'm optimistic that City Council will be wrapping up the design phase of the new City Hall project. After a lot of Council meetings, public meetings, and individual meetings, I think the architect has a good feel for what we're looking for (and can afford) in a new City Hall – and it seems we have a design that captures those aspirations. You can also expect to see the old Police Station on South Water Street finally be removed to make way for the new City Hall.

Speaking of new offices, the Kent Health Department has entered into a long term lease to move into the 2nd Floor of the PARTA “Central Gateway” (parking deck) building in downtown Kent. The space is ideal for their needs, it offers their customers the convenience of walking, biking, driving or taking the bus to get to them, and it's space that PARTA has not been able to secure a tenant for, so everybody wins.

(Continued on page 10)



## Kent Community Heart & Soul Project

Kent's unique character, along with the deep emotional connection felt by the people who live here, is Kent's Heart & Soul.

This project is a **community driven, strategic planning** effort that brings people and their elected officials together to build a stronger, healthier, and more economically vibrant community on what matters most to everyone.

The Kent Community Heart & Soul project is a step-by-step roadmap that guides residents in shaping the future of the Kent community and is supported by the City of Kent.

Three principles guide the model:

- **Involve Everyone.** Hearing from all residents, especially those whose voices are often missing or overlooked in community dialogue.
- **Focus on What Matters Most.** When residents share what they love about where they live and identify their hopes for the future, common themes emerge.
- **Play the Long Game.** This project will equip Kent residents and

officials for the long run with the skills and tools to continue doing business guided by what matters most—their Heart & Soul.

### How can I get involved?

This project is open to all Kent residents, students, visitors—anyone that has a stake in the community. Whether you live, work, or play in Kent we want to hear from you! Meetings are held the **2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:00PM – 7:30PM** in the Kent Free Library upstairs meeting room.

### Kent Community Heart & Soul Contact Information

Abby Greer,  
Community Liaison & Project Coordinator  
Phone: 330-807-4842

Harrison Wicks,  
City of Kent  
Phone: 330-676-7500

Facebook.com/kentheartandsoul  
E-mail: kentheartandsoul@gmail.com



## Business, Community & Healthcare Expo...Taste of Kent – April 18<sup>th</sup>

By Anne Money Penny, Executive Assistant

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this year's Kent Area Chamber of Commerce Business, Community & Healthcare Expo on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at Theodore Roosevelt High School. Once again representatives from University Hospital Portage Medical Center will be on hand providing a number of free health screenings. The event is open to the public and admission and parking are FREE!

Kent-area restaurants, caterers and eateries will be represented in the cafeteria area at the Taste of Kent | 1:30 am - 1:30 pm with samples of their menu offerings. Tickets will be sold for \$1 each or six for \$5. Proceeds from the tickets sold at the Taste of Kent will benefit the KACC's **Dan Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund**.

This truly is a community event and its success depends on an impressive number of sponsors and entities working together including: Kent City Schools, Kent State Intercollegiate Athletics and the Kent City Health Department. In addition, the Chamber collaborates with members of the Theodore Roosevelt DECA program on the coordination and execution of the annual event that annually attracts well over 1,000 attendees.

Business owners, organizations, crafters/home-based business owners interested in participating in this year's event may obtain applications at [www.kentbiz.com](http://www.kentbiz.com) under the **Special Events Information** tab, or by calling the KACC office at 330.673.9855. Placement consideration will be given to return participants, KACC members and new vendors in that order.

We welcome the community to come out and patronize the local businesses, and learn more about their products and services, enjoy delicious food samples and listen to great music!





## Project Spotlight...Kent a Bicycle Friendly Community?

By Jim Bowling, PE, Deputy Service Director/Superintendent of Engineering

When you stop and think of what makes Kent a great place to live, what do you come up with? Some would say Kent City schools, Kent's unique neighborhoods or Kent State University. I believe that one unique quality about Kent is that it is a walkable and bikeable place to live. How do you determine if a place is bikeable? Well the League of American Bicyclists have a program that does just that.



At the recommendation of the Sustainability Commission and the approval of Kent City Council we submitted an application to the League of American Bicyclists in February 2020. The application is extensive and the League looks at many variables surrounding four main factors. These factors include Education, Encouragement, Enforcement and Engineering. They also look at Key Outcomes like ridership and safety records for bicyclists.

So the question is, why should we submit for a Bicycle Friendly Community designation? Well there are a couple of reasons. One is to get an impartial comparison to our neighboring communities that have achieved a Bicycle Friendly Community designation. This includes nearby communities such as Hudson, Barberton and Akron. All of which have achieved a Bronze rating from the League of American Bicyclists. The second reason, which is the more important reason, is that the League will provide a report showing where the community can improve in becoming a more bikeable community. This impartial third party evaluation will give us invaluable information on how to improve the quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kent.

Finally, you can also help by participating in an on-line survey from the League of American Bicyclists. Just go to the following web address: ([https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/app\\_BFC\\_Sp2020](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/app_BFC_Sp2020)) and complete as many questions as you can. The survey takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. The survey closes on March 22nd.

## DEAR CITY OF KENT RESIDENTS, YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A SPECIAL COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

**MARCH 26, 2020 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**



### LOCATION:

Kent Free Library  
Large Conference Room  
312 W Main St. Kent, Ohio.

You may have attended some of the more than 60 educational events held by Kent State University during the past 6 months that were a part of the year-long observance of the 50th commemoration of May 4, 1970. More than 40 additional events will take place during the remainder of the Spring semester. We are expecting upwards of 20,000 people coming to Kent for the historic 50th commemoration weekend taking place May 1 through May 4, 2020.

Kent State University is holding this special community conversation so you can share your thoughts, ideas and personal stories about this pivotal moment not only in the history Kent State University and our city, but in the history of the United States as well.

You will also have the opportunity to learn about the events the University is planning for the 50th Commemoration and how it may affect Kent and surrounding communities.

Questions about the 50th Commemoration?

Rod Flauhaus | 50th Commemoration Project Manager  
Rflauha1@kent.edu | (330) 672-2423





## Distracted Driving

By Lt. Mike Lewis

This year, the Kent Police Department will be targeting distracted driving. Recent studies in 2019 concluded that distracted driving is just as dangerous as impaired driving. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) data on fatal crashes (data based on national police reports) indicates that in the U.S. during 2017, there were 3,166 people killed in crashes in which distraction was a contributing factor. This is about 9 people per day or 9% of all crash deaths. Compare this to 10,874 alcohol related deaths in 2017 or about 29 people per day. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) believe that police reported crash data almost certainly underestimates the role of distraction in fatal crashes because drivers often don't volunteer that they were distracted and there is usually a lack of other evidence to determine otherwise.



IIHS found that drivers who spent the greatest amount of their driving time interacting with a cellphone also had the highest rates of near

crashes and crashes because cellphone use affects how drivers process information. When manipulating a cellphone, drivers generally take their eyes off the roadway. Drivers engaged in cellphone conversations are engaged in a cognitive distraction. These drivers tend to concentrate their gaze towards the center of the road. Brain activity associated with visual processing and attention is suppressed when drivers are cognitively distracted. This leads to "inattention blindness" in which drivers fail to comprehend or process information from objects in the roadway even when they are looking at them.

Cellphones and texting aren't the only things that can distract drivers. NHTSA defines distracted driving as any activity that could divert attention from the primary task of driving. Ohio Revised Code 4511.991 generally define distracted driving as engaging in any activity that is not necessary to the operation of the vehicle and impairs or reasonably would be expected to impair, the ability of the operator to drive the vehicle safely. Besides using electronic gadgets, distractions can also include adjusting a radio, eating and drinking, reading, grooming, and interacting with passengers. Recently, Ohio passed legislation that increases fines for drivers who are cited for a moving violation and found to be distracted at the

time of the violation. Officers with the Kent Police Department will start indicating on traffic citations when this occurs and this will increase fines by \$100.

Kent City Police Officers will also start enforcing more strictly, Kent City Ordinance 331.34 Full Time and Attention. This ordinance prohibits the operation of a vehicle without the driver giving their full time and attention to the operation of such vehicle. This is a primary offense ordinance that places 2 points on your driver's license.

For more information on distracted driving, you can take a free, on line training at [www.drivertraining.ohio.gov/courses](http://www.drivertraining.ohio.gov/courses).

## City Operating Levy Up For Renewal

A City levy that supports the expenses of the operating departments including the Kent Fire Department, Police Department, and Service Department will be finishing up its voter approved 5-year term in 2019 -- and Kent City Council has asked the Board of Elections to include the RENEWAL of this levy on the March 17, 2020 ballot for voter consideration.



This Operating levy has been renewed by the voters every 5 years for the last 55 years and City departments have come to depend upon the funding it generates to sustain the level of services provided in Kent. It's worth noting that the effective millage rate is still based on the rate first approved in 1960 and has not been changed in 55 years.

If approved the 1.16 mils operating levy is projected to generate \$323,533 in revenues in 2019 at a cost to a homeowner of \$25.75 per year on a \$100,000 home which is a decrease from \$29 per year on a \$100,000 in 2018. Following State funding cuts in excess of \$1,000,000 a year to the City, this levy revenue has proven critical to keeping City services afloat.

If you have any questions on the levy, please feel free call the Finance Department at (330) 678-8102 for more details.

Visit the City of Kent's new website!



THE CITY OF

Kent, Ohio

<https://www.kentohio.org>



## Our Valuable KSU Students

By Tom Wilke, Economic Development Director

As you noticed all the KSU students shopping in our stores and dining (and occasionally drinking) in our restaurants and our taverns, did you ever wonder how much they contributed to the local economy? Well we did and we decided to find out. We teamed up with the Economics Department at KSU to commission a study on how much the average student spends in the City of Kent.

Dr. Shawn Rohlin, Interim Director of the Economics Department, and Dr. Curtis Reynolds, Associate Professor of Economics, developed a study primarily using surveys to determine and quantify the average spending habits of a typical student. The students surveyed represented a spectrum of students in that 38% lived on campus, 48% lived locally but off campus, and 14% commuted to campus. They were specifically asked about their spending in off campus locations for entertainment, restaurants, retail shopping, grocery shopping, gasoline and parking.

To no one's surprise, students spend a lot of money locally and what the study found was that the average student annually spends \$2,090 in the City in the categories above with food dominating their spending choices as restaurants and grocery stores were the two highest categories. The study went on to report that previous research quantified that every dollar spent in the local economy results in additional \$.70 of indirect spending also in the local economy as the employees and business owners "respond" the money they earn. Using this ratio, the average student generates \$1,454 in indirect spending resulting in a total benefit to the local economy of \$3,544. Given that there are 25,808 students currently enrolled at the main KSU campus, collectively they are contributing an estimated \$53,938,720 in direct spending in the city and a total of \$91,463,552 in direct and indirect spending. These numbers make it clear that the KSU student population is a tremendous portion of the local economy and that they contribute directly to the existence of many of our locally owned and operated businesses.

Another area that the study looked at was the spending habits of the students in our downtown business district. As most of you know, over \$140 million dollars has been collectively invested in our downtown over the past twelve years and it is vital to monitor and protect that investment. To that end, the surveys asked how much of their total expenditures took place in a downtown business and the average response was \$813 annually with almost half of that being spent in our restaurants and taverns. Applying the same indirect spending calculation to this total, we arrive at an additional benefit of \$578 of indirect spending in downtown resulting in a total benefit of \$1,391 for our downtown businesses. Using the current student population of 25,808, we arrive at an



annual amount of \$20,981,904 in direct spending and a total of \$35,898,928 of direct and indirect spending in our downtown businesses. Clearly the success of our downtown transformation is largely driven by the KSU student body and my only regret is that we do not have this same information from before the redevelopment for comparison purposes.

Finally, since there are several housing projects that have either been built or being proposed in the near future, the study asked the students how their spending habits would change if they lived downtown. Specifically, the study quantified how much more a student would spend in downtown if they also lived downtown. Perhaps not surprisingly, the study found that a student living in downtown would spend significantly more there to the tune of \$1,626 in annual incremental spending. Of course, as you have become accustomed to, we can also estimate that the direct spending will result in an additional indirect spending of \$1,135 for a total annual benefit \$2,761 per downtown resident. Currently, 345 Flats and Avant 220 have been built with a total 332 beds. These 332 beds represent the first significant presence of downtown residents and using the spending numbers from above, it will result in incremental direct spending of \$539,832 annually and total incremental spending of \$916,652 in our beautiful downtown business district.

The great news is that this new spending in downtown does not have to be at the expense of other businesses in Kent as the current rather tight housing market indicates that the units vacated by students (or other residents) moving downtown would be quickly backfilled by someone else eager to spend their money in Kent. It is also important to remember that all these numbers are estimates and that actual results may vary.

I think it has long been recognized that Kent State University has been a valuable educational and cultural contributor to the Kent community but who knew their student body was such an important economic engine for our business owners and employees!





## Health Department News

### The Health Department is moving!

Your Kent City Health Department has found a new home! Very soon you will find us and all our department has to offer at the PARTA Central Gateway Building, located on Erie and DePeyster streets, right in the heart of downtown Kent.

Finding a new location was not easy. A new office had to meet many needs, affordability, space for our staff and programs, storage for equipment, parking for our customers as well as assuring accessibility for our customers. This brand new space is all on one floor, has elevator access, equipment storage, parking, and a great location in the center of Kent! We are still very close to campus so Kent State University students can utilize our services, but also right downtown and easy for all Kent community members to find and use.

In working with PARTA to finalize the lease agreement we will have four designated health department parking spaces, with 30-minute free parking. This should allow community members time to complete the services they need at the Health Department and not incur a parking fee. Or, you can ride a PARTA bus right to our front door!

There is no official move-in date yet, so please be on the lookout for future announcements. Then stop in, say hello, and find out what we do to help Kent be a healthy place to live, work, and have fun.

### Ohio Pesticide Law

This law addresses pesticide application in hospitals, schools, food service, and golf courses, as well as rental units. If an apartment building has more than 4 units, which applies to any multi-tenant facility, pesticide is not allowed to be applied by a non-licensed applicator.

### What Does this Ohio Pesticide Law Mean?

This means apartment managers, maintenance personnel or landlords are not allowed to apply their own pesticide. So a multi rental unit owner wanting to eliminate nuisance pests must either be a licensed pesticide applicator or must hire someone who is. ORC 921.06 has been in place since 2004, but has not been rigorously enforced. Enforcement will be stricter now. This includes over-the-counter products AND EPA regulated pesticides.

Landlords, apartment managers and maintenance are no longer allowed to treat for pests in any apartment or multi-unit facility with more than 4 units in one location.

This includes treatment for ants, bees, bed bugs, roaches, and mice. This law prohibits the use of sprays, powders, baits, traps, bombs, etc.

### For more information

**Phone:** 614-728-6987

Press 1 for: Licensing, Certification, Insurance

Press 2 for: Enforcement, Inspections, Complaints

Press 3 for: Product Registration

**Fax:** 614-728-4235

**General Email:** pesticides@agri.ohio.gov

For an emergency that poses a sudden threat to public health, contact the National Response Center (NRC) at 1-800-424-8802

For pesticide poisoning, call 911 if the person is unconscious, has trouble breathing, or has convulsions. Otherwise, call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222. Physicians are required to report any pesticide-related exposure to the local health department within 48 hours.

To report an exposure at work, pesticide drift, misuse, or other concerning application, contact us at 614-728-6987 between 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

To report a spill, release or environmental crime, contact the Ohio EPA Environmental Response at 800-282-9378

### Where can I go if I am concerned about pesticide use?

You may contact the Kent City Health Department at 330-678-8109 or visit the website at <https://www.kentohio.org/153/Health>

## PulsePoint

PulsePoint is a Smartphone app designed to support public safety agencies working to improve cardiac arrest survival rates through improved bystander performance and active citizenship. PulsePoint empowers everyday citizens to provide lifesaving assistance to victims of sudden cardiac arrest. Application users who have indicated they are trained in CPR and willing to assist in case of an emergency can now be notified if someone in a nearby public place is having a cardiac emergency and may require CPR. The application also directs these citizen rescuers to the exact location of the closest publicly accessible Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

**Download PulsePoint:**

<https://www.pulsepoint.org/download/>



## Hometown Bank Concerts Series

Music will again be in the air in downtown Kent on select evenings beginning May 21<sup>st</sup> and concluding September 18<sup>th</sup>. Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket and join the growing number of music lovers in Hometown Bank Plaza in downtown Kent for great music and relaxation! All concerts are 7:00 - 9:00 pm. *Rain dates are the following Thursday, if performer is available.* Kent isn't the only place where you can enjoy music on select evenings. This year's schedule includes concerts in Brimfield and Ravenna too.

### Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

Theodore Roosevelt High School Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

Ravenna High School STEEL BLUE  
*Ravenna Courthouse Lawn*

### Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>

Dan Angotti Jazz Orchestra – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

### Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

Reflections – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*  
*Motown Night Kent*

### Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

Hard Day's Night (Beatles Tribute Band) – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

### Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>

122nd Army Band - The Band of The Ohio National Guard – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

### Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

Joseph Rubin Orchestra (40's Music) – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

F.O.G. (Fat Old Guys) – *Ravenna Courthouse Lawn*

### Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>

Evolution Eric Clapton Tribute Band – *Kent Blues Fest*

### Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>

Chardon Polka Band – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

The Boomers – *Brimfield*

### Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

The Michael Weber Show – *Brimfield*

### Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>

Monica Robins & The Ninja Cowboys (Country Night)  
*Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

### Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Monica Robins & The Whiskey Kings (Kent Music Round Town) – *Kent Hometown Bank Plaza*

## News from Utility Billing:

### **REMINDER: On-Line Payment of your Utility Bill is available!**

You can make payments with credit card or e-check at

<https://kentohio.ezsecurepay.com>, without having to pay a convenience fee. An email receipt option will be presented at the end of your transaction. You will need your Utility account number when first registering your on-line payment profile.



When taking vacations, it is a good idea to turn off outside spigots at the inside shut off valve. This prevents vandals from turning on your spigots and letting them run.

### **Senior/Disabled Citizen Discount**

The water and sewer will be discounted by 20% if the income guidelines fall within these ranges, annual household income not to exceed: Single: \$27,950, Married: \$31,950 with proof of annual income, and proof of age (62 or older) or disability.



The homeowner would simply need to fill out a form and provide proof of income and age or disability to our office and the discount would be applied to the next bill.

(Continued from page 4.)

The Kent Fire Department will also begin their long planned remodeling and small expansion of the West Side Fire Station in late 2020. This Station provides critical life-saving services and the improvements should make those services even better.

The City's Service Department is pleased to announce that they've reached an agreement with ODOT to start a new project this year repairing and repaving SR59 on the west side of town. From a pothole perspective, it's long overdue and thanks to some hard work by our Engineering Division, ODOT was able to move the project up from 2021 to 2020.

Another new City-ODOT partnership project should kick-off this year with the street improvements planned for N. Water Street (between Main Street and the Fairchild Bridge). In 2018, neighbors, businesses and property owners partnered with the City to host a "Better Block" weekend event to reimagine the street and those ideas grew into this major street redesign for N. Water Street that will get underway this year.

For the City vehicle fleet we've been exploring options for CNG and battery powered trucks and we recently purchased new modern gas pumps that will make sure the environment around our gas pumps is well protected until alternative power sources become a viable option.

This is just a sampling but there's a lot of new stuff – big and small -- coming Kent's way in 2020.



## Spring Cleanup 2020



Items will be picked up in the **NORTHWEST** section beginning **Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** and ending **Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Items will be picked up in the **NORTHEAST** sections beginning **Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** and ending **Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Items will be picked up in the **SOUTHEAST** section beginning **Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** and ending **Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Items will be picked up in the **SOUTHWEST** sections beginning **Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>** and ending **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Items MUST be placed on the curb by 7:00 am on MONDAY of the week your section is scheduled to guarantee pick up!**

See street listing on page 13 to reference your street's location by section.

Please read this article carefully for items that are **ACCEPTABLE** and will be picked up. **NON-ACCEPTABLE** items will be tagged, rejected, and left on the curb. If you have questions about a particular item, please contact the Service Department at 330.678.8105 **PRIOR** to Monday of your scheduled pickup week for clarification.

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

- regular household trash
- yard waste
- concrete
- household hazardous waste (*paint, batteries, motor oil, pesticides, aerosol cans, gasoline, explosives, solvents*)
- light bulbs
- railroad ties
- loose/broken glass



Automobile tires will not be collected at the curb (see below for automobile tire drop off information and dates).

**RESIDENTS MUST CALL THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT AT 330.678.8105 IN ADVANCE OF THEIR SCHEDULED WEEK FOR THE REMOVAL OF ITEMS CONTAINING FREON.**



**ALL APPLIANCES SHOULD BE IN A SEPARATE PILE. DOORS SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM FREEZERS AND REFRIGERATORS.**

**SCRAP METAL SHOULD BE PLACED WITH APPLIANCES. PLEASE PLACE APPLIANCES ON THE CURB BEFORE 7:00 AM MONDAY OF YOUR DESIGNATED WEEK TO GUARANTEE PICKUP.**

**LOOSE ITEMS MUST BE PLACED IN BAGS OR CONTAINERS. CONTAINERS AND CONTENTS WILL BE PICKED UP. LOOSE ITEMS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP**

- TRASH CANS THAT ARE PLACED AT THE CURB CONTAINING ITEMS INTENDED FOR COLLECTION DURING THE SPRING CLEANUP WILL **NOT** BE EMPTIED AND RETURNED TO THE CURB. ALL CONTAINERS AND/OR CANS WILL BE COLLECTED AND DISPOSED OF WITH THE UNWANTED ITEMS.
- TRASH CANS THAT CONTAIN REGULAR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE PLACED AT THE CURB AS PART OF THE WEEKLY TRASH COLLECTION PROGRAM WILL BE RETURNED TO THE CURB.

### AUTOMOBILE TIRES WILL NOT BE PICKED UP AT THE CURB.

The City of Kent will be collecting automobile tires (rims removed) from Kent residents **ONLY** on Wednesday May 27th and Thursday May 28th from 3:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m. Tires can be dropped off at 641 Middlebury Road, behind the office to the City's Waste Water Reclamation Facility.

Residents will be required to show proof of residency (Valid ID or driver's license and a current City of Kent water bill) at the gate prior to admission to drop off tires.

City personnel will be checking ID's and assisting with tire drop off and loading.

This program is being run entirely by the City of Kent.

Items must be small enough for two men to handle; furniture, electronics, toys, bikes, carpet, etc. **All upholstered furniture and mattresses placed at the curb must be wrapped in plastic.** Building materials will be collected in small amounts and only if it is contained for easy handling. Construction materials placed at the curb for pick up must be cut into lengths of four feet or less and bundled to ensure pickup. Construction/demolition debris (drywall, lumber, fencing, etc) must also be bundled or placed in containers for pickup. Both the container and debris will be taken. Construction materials placed at the curb that has not been bundled or put into containers will be tagged, rejected and left at the curb.

**Please try to donate, find a reuse, or recycle unwanted items before placing them at the curb for collection.**

**Once a rejection tag has been placed on items left at the curb, those items will NOT be picked up at a later date. If you have any questions regarding Spring Cleanup, please call the Service Department at 330.678.8105.**

Visit the City of Kent's new website!



<https://www.kentohio.org>

## Spring 2020 Brush Collection Program

The City of Kent's Central Maintenance Division collects brush at the curb twice each year. The 2020 Spring Brush Collection Program will commence **Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**.

**Residents are asked to please place brush at the curb or edge of street BEFORE the first Monday of their street's scheduled collection period to ensure collection.**

Brush will be collected in the NORTHWEST section  
Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

Brush will be collected in the SOUTHEAST section  
Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

Brush will be collected in the NORTHEAST section  
Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

Brush will be collected in the SOUTHWEST section  
Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday, May 22<sup>th</sup>

*Please see page 13 to reference your street's location.*

***Crews will make only one pass down each street during the scheduled week.***

Please do not wait until later in the week to place your brush at the curb, as there will **NOT** be a second pass in your neighborhood.

Chipping crews will spend a maximum of 30 minutes at each residence. Residents that miss the collection or have an excessive amount of brush will be responsible to dispose of their brush on their own. It may be taken to the City Yard Transfer Site located on Plum Street near the entrance to Plum Creek Park.



- ☑ Placement of brush should be on the tree lawn and close to the curb or the edge of pavement with the cut ends facing the street.
- ☑ If possible, leave the brush in longer lengths, brush that is too long may be placed lengthwise.
- ☑ Stacked brush must **NOT** block the sidewalk or extend onto or over the roadway pavement.
- ☑ Stacked brush containing foreign objects will **NOT** be collected. City crews will notify homeowners by placing a notice on their door for any piles of brush that are refused because it is not stacked properly or contains foreign debris. Once the pile of brush has been rejected it must be corrected immediately or it will become the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of.

If a commercial contractor has been hired to trim or remove trees, the contractor is responsible for the brush removal and it is not to be placed at the curb.

Please note the beginning date of the Brush Collection Program for your location and make sure to place brush to be chipped at the curb prior to the start date for your neighborhood.

**Brush is collected at the curb during the months of May and October each year. During the remaining months residents can take brush to the City of Kent Yard Waste Transfer Site on Plum Street near the entrance of Plum Creek Park.**

If you have questions or comments please call the Service Department at 330.678.8105.



## NORTHWEST

Adamle Drive  
 Admore Drive  
 Adrian Drive  
 Allen Drive  
 Bruce Drive  
 Bryce Road & Way  
 Catlin Court  
 Chestnut Street, N  
 Clarkview Circle  
 Cottage Gate Drive  
 Crestview Circle  
 Cuyahoga St  
*(West of Hudson Rd)*  
 Deleone Drive  
 Delores Drive  
 Earl Avenue  
 Edgewater Circle  
 Erin Drive  
 Evergreen Drive  
 Fairchild Avenue  
 Fieldstone Drive  
 Forest Drive  
 Gougler Avenue  
 Governors Circle  
 Harold Street  
 High Ridge Lane  
 Hollister Drive  
 Hudson Road  
 Kevin Drive  
 Lakewood Circle  
 Longcoy Avenue  
 Lowell Drive  
 Majors Lane  
 Mantua Street, N  
*(Main to Crain)*  
 McKinney Boulevard  
 Michaels Drive  
 Nathan Drive  
 Naturewood Circle  
 Newcomer Road  
*(East side only)*  
 Nicholas Drive  
 Nottingham Circle  
 Park Avenue  
 Pearl Street, N  
 Phillip Drive  
 Pioneer Avenue  
 Prospect Street, N  
 Quay Boulevard  
 Randall Drive  
 Red Fern Circle  
 Robert Drive  
 Rockwell Street

Rollins Circle  
 Roy Marsh Drive  
 Shady Lakes Drive  
 Shorewood Circle  
 Stonewater Drive  
 Stinaff Street  
*(West of Hudson Rd)*  
 Sunset Way Circle &  
 Blvd Verona Avenue  
 Whetstone Drive  
 Whitewood Drive  
 Whittier Drive  
 Woodward Lane  
 Woodard Avenue  
 Wrens Hollow Circle

## NORTHEAST

Anna Avenue  
 Beechmont Place  
 Beechwold Drive  
 Birchwood Circle  
 Brady Street  
 Burns Court  
 Burr Oak Drive  
 Carthage Street  
 College Avenue, E & W  
 College Court  
 Columbus Street  
 Costley Court  
 Crain Avenue  
 Cuyahoga St  
*(East of Hudson Rd)*  
 Dansel Street  
 Davey Avenue  
 Day Street, E & W  
 DePeyster Street, N  
 Dominion Drive  
 Doramor Street  
 Edgewood Drive  
 Elizabeth Court  
 Elmwood Drive  
 Erie Street, E & W  
 Fairview Drive  
 First Ave  
*(1600 block only)*  
 Frances Drive  
 Gatun Street  
 Glad Boulevard  
 Graham Avenue  
 Grant Street, E & W  
 Harvey Street  
 Highland Avenue  
 Holly Drive  
 Horning Road

King Avenue  
 Lake Street  
 Lincoln Street, N  
 Linden Road  
 Lock Street  
 Luther Avenue  
 Main Street, E  
 Mantua Street, N  
*(North of Crain)*  
 Marvin Street  
 Mason Avenue  
 Miller Avenue  
 Needham Avenue  
 Oakwood Drive  
 Orchard Street  
 Overlook Drive  
 Perry Street  
 Pleasant Avenue  
 Portage Street  
 River Bend Boulevard  
 River Edge Drive  
 River Park Drive  
 Riverside Court  
 River Trail Drive  
 Roscoe Drive  
 Rustic Bridge Drive  
 Rustic Knoll Drive  
 Sherman Street  
 Standing Rock Avenue  
 Starr Avenue  
 Steele Street  
 Stinaff Street  
*(East of Hudson Rd)*  
 Temple Avenue  
 Tonkin Street  
 University Drive  
 Virginia Avenue  
 Walter Street  
 Water Street, N  
 Willow Street, N & S  
 Wilson Avenue  
 Wolcott Avenue  
 Woodhill Drive  
 Woodside Drive

## SOUTHEAST

Allerton Street  
 Artemis Drive  
 Athena Drive  
 Avondale Street  
 Beal Court  
 Benjamin Court  
 Berkeley Street  
 Beryl Drive

Bowman Drive  
 Burnett Road  
*(5439 only)*  
 Cedar Street  
 Chadwick Road  
 Cherry Street  
 Currie Hall Parkway  
 DePeyster Street, S  
 Dodge Street  
 Elm Street  
 E & W Franklin Avenue  
 Hall Street, E & W  
 Harris Street  
 High Street  
 Ivan Drive  
 Joyanne Court  
 Lincoln Street, S  
 Loop Road  
 Mae Street  
 Maple Street  
 Marigold Lane  
 Martinel Road  
 Meloy Road  
 Mogadore Road  
 Morris Road  
 Oak Street, E & W  
 Olympus Drive  
 Overholt Road  
 Pine Street  
 Primrose Lane  
 Rellim Drive  
 School Street, E & W  
 Shaw Drive  
 St. Clair Avenue  
 Statesman Place  
 Summit Street, E & W  
 Sunnybrook Road  
 Valleyview Street  
 Vine Street & Court  
 Walnut Street  
 Water Street, S  
 West Street  
 Williams Street, E & W  
 Willow Street Ext, S

## SOUTHWEST

Ada Street  
 Akron Boulevard  
 Beech Street  
 Brentwood Drive  
 Carol Drive  
 Chelton Drive  
 Chestnut Street, S  
 Colleen Drive

Deidrick Road  
 Denise Drive  
 Elno Avenue  
 Emich Drive  
 Eton Road  
 Francis Street, N & S  
 Gale Drive  
 Gardenview Street  
 Garrett Street  
 Garth Drive  
 Gill Drive  
 Grove Avenue  
 Hampton Road  
 Hughey Drive  
 Irma Street  
 Janet Drive  
 Jessie Avenue  
 Judith Street  
 Laurel Drive  
 Lawrence Court  
 Leonard Boulevard  
 Longmere Drive  
 Louise Street  
 Lower Drive  
 Manchester Avenue  
 Mantua Street, S  
 Main Street, W  
 Marilyn Street  
 Meadow Drive  
 Meredith Street  
 Middlebury Road  
 Munroe Falls-Kent Road  
 Norwood Street  
 Overbrook Drive  
 Parmalee Street  
 Paulus Drive  
 Pearl Street, S  
 Prospect Street, S  
 River Street  
 Roosevelt Avenue  
 Sheri Drive  
 Short Street  
 Silver Meadows Blvd  
 Spaulding Drive  
 Stow Street  
 Sunrise Boulevard  
 Suzanne Drive  
 Tallmadge Avenue  
 VFW Parkway  
 Yacavona Drive

**Kent Sustainability Commission**  
**Why Has Recycling Become So Confusing?**



Features in local papers have been giving conflicting information and confusing the conscientious citizen: Can I recycle glass? I thought I could recycle #5 plastics, but now I can't? I can recycle my plastic bags at the grocery store, why can't I put them in my recycling bin?

Bill Steiner, Director of the Portage County Solid Waste Management District (PCSWMD), met with the Kent Sustainability Commission during the Winter 2019 and this is what we learned.

**The Promise of Single Stream**

A few years ago, there was a market for all kinds of plastic. Foreign markets in Asia desired plastics and other raw materials for new manufacturing. A pyrolysis company was building a plant nearby in Akron that promised to buy and process more kinds of plastic. With the free market at the time, single stream recycling was economically attractive and Portage County jumped in. But, like most industries today, the market can change quickly.

The bottom dropped out of the foreign market. The recycling we were selling to Asia was too contaminated with unusable trash so they stopped buying it. And the local plastic processor wanted us to pay them for taking our plastic.

At the same time, local markets for items (like glass) has dried up because the price of the materials is unprofitable due to the high cost of transportation. Some new processing centers are being built, but it will take time for the market to adjust. Because of the volatility of the recycling market, and its modest profitability, it will take some time for new local markets to return.

**Clean Recycling Benefits Everyone**

If everyone in Kent filled their recycling carts only with the items that have a current market (see list below), making sure the items are **“Clean, Loose and Dry,”** we will keep our recycling rates lower. Clean recycling needs fewer staff and gets better prices, and the PCSWMD passes those savings on to us.

**PLASTIC BAGS RUIN EVERYTHING!**

The worst kind of contamination is plastic bags! They get tangled in equipment and force the shutdown and cleaning of the recycling equipment. If you put a plastic bag full of recycling

in your bin, it will end up in the landfill. All recycling items should be loose, as in “Clean, Loose and Dry”

**Where's the Cardboard?**

With the increase of online shopping, the PCSWMD is not seeing the amount of cardboard in recycling bins that it should. There is a good market for cardboard, so be sure to keep it out of the trash and in the recycle bin. Please breakdown all boxes before placing them into your cart.

**Kent is a Recycling Leader!**

Kent was the first community in Portage County to have a recycling program, which was started by the Kent Environmental Council back in the 1970's and morphed into the PCSWMD. Kent continues to lead by having a relatively low recycling contamination level of 19%, however this number is still far higher than the 1% or less foreign markets demand.

**WHAT CAN GO INTO MY CURBSIDE RECYCLING CONTAINER?**

*The following list of items are the only items that will be accepted in your recycling container.*

**ALUMINUM & TINS CANS**

Food and Beverage containers are all accepted in your curbside container. Please be sure that they are empty and rinsed free of any contaminants before placing them into your cart.

**CARDBOARD**

Cardboard boxes are accepted in your curbside container. Please break it down and place it into your container. If you have excess cardboard, please stack it neatly in a pile next to your container. Pizza boxes must be free of grease and food before placing it into your cart.

**CARTONS**

Milk, Juice and Food cartons are accepted in your curbside container. Please rinse them before placing them into the cart.

**PAPER**

All Paper, Newspaper, Junk Mail, Magazines and Receipts are accepted in your curbside container. For shredded paper, please place it in a paper bag and label it “shredding.”

**PLASTICS**

Plastics labeled #1 & #2 are accepted in your curbside container. Please rinse them and place the lids back on the containers before placing them into your cart.

**GLASS**

Glass bottles and jars are accepted and should be rinsed out before placing them into your cart.



## Yard Waste Transfer Site Info

Located at the entrance to Plum Creek Park

### Days and Hours of Operation

Open EVERYDAY during daylight hours

During 2020, mulch will be loaded for residents between the hours of 9:15 - 11:45 am on the following Saturdays:

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

**June 6<sup>th</sup>**

**July 11<sup>th</sup>**

**August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Passes must be purchased in advance; no mulch will be loaded without a prepaid pass.**

### Pick-Up of Mulch **RESIDENTS ONLY!**

- ◆ There is no charge for mulch if loaded by hand
- ◆ There is a fee of \$10 per load IF loaded by front end loader at site (see dates/hours above)

**Loading passes must be purchased in advance and presented when mulch is loaded.**

**Passes are available for purchase at the City Service Administration Complex, 930 Overholt Road, weekdays 8:00 am - 5:00 pm**

### Drop-Off Yard Waste Rules

- ◆ Non-residents are NOT permitted on the site
- ◆ No charge for City residents to drop off yard waste
- ◆ No commercial use of site is permitted
- ◆ Unauthorized equipment prohibited on premises

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO EMPTY BAGS OF YARD WASTE AND TAKE THE BAGS WITH YOU**

## Materials List

**Please review BEFORE attempting to deliver to the site!**

### Accepted

- Brush
- Grass
- Firewood
- Leaves
- Weeds
- Any type of yard waste

### NOT Accepted

- NO lumber or wood pallets
- NO construction debris
- NO trash of any kind
- NO logs/stumps
- NO full trees
- NO large root balls
- NO railroad ties



### The City of Kent Yard Waste Regulations

Transfer Site is available to all Kent residents and monitored by video camera to protect against regulation violations and non-resident use. When asked by City of Kent staff, residents using the YWTS shall present proof of residency (drivers license or current water bill). Unauthorized equipment is prohibited on premises.

***If you have any questions regarding the Yard Waste Transfer Site, please call 330.678.8105.***

## 2020 Environmental Film Series

Presented by The Kent Sustainability Commission

**February 24, 2020** Topic: Climate Change

**March 23, 2020** Topic: Local Food Resilience

**April 27, 2020** Topic: Alt Modes of Transportation

Visit [Facebook.com/cityofkentohio](https://www.facebook.com/cityofkentohio) for more information

Showings will be at the Kent Free Library

312 W Main St, Kent, OH 44240

Held in the 2nd floor meeting room at **6:30pm - 8:00pm**

Discussion to follow in the World Café Method of large group dialogue. No registration required!

# Draft Authorization Form for Utility Bill

*Save check writing, postage and/or personal trips to City Hall!*

## 3 Simple Steps to Automatic Bill Payment...

1. Clip, complete and sign this form
2. Enclose a **VOIDED** check or saving deposit slip
3. Mail to: **City of Kent Utility Department**  
**930 Overholt Road**  
**Kent, Ohio 44240**

I authorize the City of Kent Utility Billing Division to automatically deduct the monthly payment of my utility bills from my checking/saving account on or about the **15<sup>th</sup>** of the month. If the 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a Saturday or Sunday, my account will be charged the previous Friday for the amount of my utility bill.

I understand that I control my payments. Should I decide to discontinue this payment service, I agree to notify the City of Kent in writing, at least **10 days prior** to the billing date.

I have read the above statements and fully understand that by signing this agreement, I authorize the City of Kent to debit and/or credit my checking/savings account as necessary to reconcile my utility payment.

Signature	Date	Daytime Phone Number
-----------	------	----------------------

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*as it appears on your bill*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*If other than as it appears on your bill*

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_  
*as it appears on your bill*

Service Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*as it appears on your bill*

Financial Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Checking/Saving Account Number \_\_\_\_\_  
*Include a voided check when using a checking account, or a deposit slip for savings account only*

<b>Office Use Only</b>	Entered ( <i>initials</i> ) _____	Date _____
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CUT & MAIL to: City of Kent Utility Division – 930 Overholt Road – Kent, Ohio 44240





**YOUTH & ADULT PROGRAMS...SPECIAL EVENTS...YOUTH & ADULT PROGRAMS...SPECIAL EVENTS**

**YOUTH EGG HUNT:** The Easter Bunny arrives at 12:45 p.m. to kick off our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Over 5,000 eggs for your little one to discover!  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 11 at 12:45 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Fred Fuller Park (497 Middlebury Rd.)  
**WHO:** Youth 9 yrs. and under  
**COST:** FREE

**ADULT EGG SCRAMBLE:** This popular adult egg hunt scatters over 7,000 eggs throughout Fred Fuller Park in the dark! Join the party for a chance to find winning eggs with over \$4,000 in prizes! Registration opens March 13.  
**WHEN:** Friday night, April 10  
**WHERE:** Fred Fuller Park (497 Middlebury Rd.)  
**WHO:** Adults 18 yrs. and over  
**COST:** \$20 per person  
**DEADLINE:** When 800 tickets are sold

**KENT TENNIS LESSONS:** Instruction provided by Sheila Shiu, Roosevelt High School's Varsity Tennis Coach! 6 week session.  
**WHEN:** Sundays from April 26 - May 3; Beginners 4 - 5 p.m.; Intermediate and Advanced 5 - 6 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Roosevelt High School's Tennis Courts  
**WHO:** All ages and skill levels accepted  
**COST:** \$50 resident; \$58 non-resident  
**DEADLINE:** Friday, April 24

**KENT BLACK SQUIRREL 5K WALK/RUN CLUB:** Chose to run or walk approximately 3 miles along the beautiful Hike & Bike Trails to Downtown Kent. There, we will enjoy perks at the day's designated shop. Each participant will receive a running club t-shirt!  
**WHEN:** Sundays 8:30am from May 3 to June 28 \*no club May 24\*  
**WHERE:** Hometown Bank Plaza  
**WHO:** All ages welcome. (14 & under must be with a parent.)  
**COST:** \$15  
**DEADLINE:** Friday, May 1

**TAKE A KID FISHING DAY:** Take your kid fishing with a free hot dog lunch provided for the family, prizes and fishing equipment giveaways for the children. Everyone in the family can fish for free and without a license.  
**WHEN:** June 6 from 7 a.m. - noon  
**WHERE:** Lake Hodgson in Ravenna  
**WHO:** Children and their families  
**COST:** Free  
**Deadline:** Register with Kent Parks and Rec by May 29

**CUYAHOGA RIVER DAY**  
 30th Annual Event: Visit our River Day displays at Haymakers Farmers Market! Explore children's nature activities & hands-on demonstrations, and pick up free native seeds, tree seedlings & recreation information. Celebration includes community events, river paddling expeditions, fish shocking demonstrations and stewardship opportunities throughout the weekend!  
**WHEN:** May 16th from 9 am - 1 pm  
**WHERE:** Haymaker Farmers Market  
**WHO:** Open to the public  
**COST:** Free

**ART IN THE PARK ARTIST APPLICATIONS** Call To Artists!  
**WHEN:** Festival dates September 12 and 13  
**WHERE:** Fred Fuller Park  
**WHO:** Any Youth or Adult Artist  
**COST:** Youth App \$25 Adult App \$125 by June 1 & \$150 by June 30

**TAI CHI IN KENT**  
 KPR brings you the focused practice of gentle physical exercise and stretching. Connect mind, body and spirit with instruction by Bill VandenBoom.  
**WHEN:** March 19 - April 16 & April 23 - May 21; Thursdays 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. 5 weeks.  
**WHERE:** Kent Roosevelt High School (1400 N Mantua St. Classroom #149)  
**WHO:** Adults  
**COST:** \$35  
**DEADLINE:** Friday, March 13

**FIELD HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
 Test your skills in this new league!  
**WHEN:** April - May; 6 week session; one day per week  
**WHO:** Girls, Middle school - High school  
**COST:** \$90  
**DEADLINE:** Friday, March 13

**KID'S NIGHT OUT**  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 4 & May 2 from 6-10 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Kent Recreation Center (1115 Franklin Ave.)  
**WHO:** 4-11 yr. olds  
**COST:** \$9 - \$19  
**DEADLINE:** The Friday before each event.



**YOUTH & ADULT PROGRAMS...SPECIAL EVENTS...YOUTH & ADULT PROGRAMS...SPECIAL EVENTS**

**RIDERS TENNIS LESSONS Session One**

Instruction provided by Sheila Shiu, Roosevelt High School's Varsity Tennis Coach on RHS courts! 4 week session.

WHEN: June 1 - June 24; Mondays & Wednesdays; Beginner: 5-6 p.m.; Intermediate/Advanced: 6-7 p.m.

WHERE: Roosevelt HS Tennis Courts

WHO: 8-18 yr. olds

COST: \$60 (res.); \$68 (non-res.)

DEADLINE: Friday, May 29

**SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS**

KPR & RHS High School Coaches offer a variety of sports camps to choose from: basketball, track, volleyball, soccer, etc. Sign up today for one or multiple camps & have your kids stay active this summer! Visit [www.kentparksandrec.com](http://www.kentparksandrec.com) for a complete listing.

WHEN: Throughout the summer months

WHERE: Locations vary based on camp

WHO: Ages vary based on camp

COST: \$49 - 73

DEADLINE: Friday before the camp begins

**"ON TARGET" FENCING**

Learn fencing from head coach Tom Nagy! Classes will focus on techniques with footwork, skills specific to each class level, and bout practice. 6 week session.

WHEN: Session 2: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, & 18; Session 3: May 2 - June 13 (no class May 23). Saturdays; Beginners from 2:30-4 p.m. Intermediate 4 -5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Kent P&R Fitness Center

WHO: 8 yrs. to adults

COST: \$80 res. / \$88 non res.

DEADLINE: The Wednesday before each session begins.

**HIP HOP HOOP** Hoop dance is an exciting combination of exercise and self-expression! Students learn how to move a hula hoop with their waists, arms, hands, legs and even their feet. Everyone has the opportunity to choose & create their own music and dances!

WHEN: Beginning April 15 (11 wks), Sat. & Wed. Times to be determined based on skill level

WHERE: Saturdays at Kent P&R Fitness Center. Wednesdays at Davey Elementary Gym

WHO: 8-18 yr. olds

COST: \$62 includes hula hoop

DEADLINE: Friday, April 10

**KID FIT STRONG TUMBLING**

Structured classes teach independence and respect while exploring gymnastics activities to develop flexibility, strength, coordination and balance.

WHEN: Tuesday, March 24 - May 26; "Parent & Tot" (2-3 years) 2:30-3pm, "Preschool" (3-4 years) 3:15-4pm, "Pre/KG" (5-6 years) 4:15-5pm

WHERE: Kent P&R Fitness Center

COST: \$75-\$90

DEADLINE: Friday, March 20

**MARCUM'S MARTIAL ARTS**

This traditionally structured program teaches students the tools for success, leadership skills, fitness and conditioning, self defense, stress management, conflict management and self defense. 8 week session.

WHEN: Wed. May 6 - June 24; 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Kent P&R Fitness Center

WHO: 7 yrs - Adults

COST: \$62 (res), \$70 (non res)

DEADLINE: Friday, May 1

**Housing Rehabilitation Program**

By Bridget Susel, Community Development Director

The City of Kent Community Development Department administers a federally-funded Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provides financial assistance to income qualified homeowners for the correction of substandard conditions and non-code compliant issues that may be present in some homes.

The City receives financial support for the program through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funding is provided to the homeowner through a deferred loan that is used to cover the costs of the needed repairs. The maximum loan amount is \$30,000 and the actual loan amount, per household assisted, will vary based on the scope and nature of the substandard conditions that will need to be corrected.

The program is limited to households that have a reported annual household income that is at 80% or below the area median income and any household seeking assistance through the program will need to own and occupy the home. The income limits used in the program adjust annually and are based on family size. The 2019 household income limit for a family of four, for example, is currently at \$57,850. (Continued on page 20.)



## What You Dump Could be Harmful

Bill Schesventer, WRF Manager and Eric Gorczynski, Environmental Technician

The Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) treats on average around 2 million gallons of domestic and industrial wastewater everyday with the majority of that coming from single family houses, apartment buildings, office buildings, restaurants and KSU. Our plant utilizes biological and chemical treatment to achieve the goal of returning a very high quality effluent back into the Cuyahoga River.

Treatment starts the moment the wastewater enters the facility as it travels through a barscreen that removes most of the large debris such as rags, chunks of grease, toys and other items. The flow then enters a detritus tank that is designed to allow the inorganic grit to drop out. Next a primary clarifier tank slows the flow and allows time for the suspended solids to settle to the bottom and the floatable material to rise and those are collected and sent to the primary digester and grease pit respectfully.

The secondary treatment consists of aeration tanks and secondary clarifiers. In the aeration tanks are billions of bacteria so small we would need an electron microscope just to see them.

At the beginning of the aeration tanks the wastewater and returned activated sludge are mixed together and aerated using air from our turbo blower. The bacteria break down the pollution, converting the organic material into carbon dioxide and water, and the ammonia into nitrate. We add lime slurry at the beginning of the aeration tanks to raise the alkalinity as the process of converting the pollution lowers the pH in the aeration tanks and the bacteria prefer working at a higher pH range, this chemical reaction from the slurry helps keep them healthy and happy.

Interesting you say but what does it all have to do with me? As I've shared the treatment process is accomplished by living organisms at our facility. These organisms do their job rather well. The Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), a measurement that tells us how much oxygen is needed to break down the pollutant loading of wastewater, and the suspended solids are both reduced as are the ammonia and phosphorous levels, so that they are well below the limits imposed by the Ohio E.P.A. in our permit.

As living organisms the bacteria can be damaged or killed by various chemicals and products which in turn can interrupt the treatment process causing problems and permit



violations. We ask all residents and businesses to be careful of what they dump into our system. In the past we've experienced instances where something has entered our system which effected treatment and caused us to come close to violations. So if you find yourself at home or work with questions concerning dumping please feel free to call us and we will be happy to help you.

•City of Kent Sanitary Sewer Use Ordinance list prohibited discharges to the system all of which have the potential to impact the WRF. The following list includes some prohibited industrial or commercial contributions to the waste stream but are not limited to

- Pollutants which present a fire or explosive hazard
- Acid or caustic contributions with a pH below 5.0 or above 11.0
- Wastewater having a temperature of 104° F
- Toxic wastes which result in toxic or poisonous solids, liquids, or fumes within the publicly owned treatment works (POTW)
- Medical wastes
- Wastewater containing radioactive waste or isotopes
- Petroleum oil, waste oil, solvents
- Metals such as Mercury, Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Cyanide, Lead, Molybdenum, Nickel etc.
- Wastewater causing the effluent to fail toxicity testing
- Pesticides, herbicides, biocides, corrosion inhibitors
- trucked or hauled pollutants

The City of Kent Water Reclamation Division grants Wastewater Discharge permits (WDPs) and Temporary Wastewater Discharge Permits (TWDPs) through its OEPA approved Industrial Pretreatment Program, so if you are an industrial/commercial entity operating within the City of Kent or an individual with questions please call (330) 673-6683 and ask for Bill or Eric or email us at [schesventer@kent-ohio.org](mailto:schesventer@kent-ohio.org) or [gorczynski@kent-ohio.org](mailto:gorczynski@kent-ohio.org).

## Child Immunization Clinics Held Monthly

Is your child fully immunized? Immunizing children on time is the best protection against dangerous childhood diseases. Vaccines protect children against potentially disabling and life-threatening diseases such as hepatitis B, pertussis (whooping cough), diphtheria, tetanus, haemophilus influenzae B, pneumococcal infections (meningitis), measles, mumps, rubella, rotavirus, chicken pox, polio, and human papilloma virus.



The Kent City Health Department works closely with the Portage County Health Department to provide child immunizations every month.

- When:** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
3:00 - 5:00pm
- Where:** 414 East Main Street
- Who:** All children, 2 months- age 18 years
- Cost:** \$10 per shot, **FREE** to those who can't pay!  
Medicaid, Buckeye, Care Source, and United Health accepted

## Immunization Schedule

Recommended Age	Vaccine
Birth	Hep B
2 Months	DTaP, Hep B, Hib, PCV, Polio, Rotavirus
4 Months	DTaP, Hib, PCV, Polio, Rotavirus
6 Months	DTaP, Hep B, Hib, PCV, Rotavirus, Flu
12 Months	Hep A, MMR, Varicella
15 to 18 Months	DTaP, Hep A, Hib, PCV, Polio
4 to 6 years	DTaP, MMR, Polio, Varicella
11 to 18 years	Meningococcal, HPV, Tdap, Hep A

## Kent State University Hosts Free Electronics Recycling Event

February 19 and 26; March 4, 11, 18  
from 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



E-Cycle Drive is hosted by Kent State University's University Facilities Management and the Office of Sustainability. The public electronics recycling drop-off event contributes to Kent State University's standings in RecycleMania. RecycleMania is a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste-reduction activities to their campus communities.

The Drive will be held in the Kent State University R-17 Parking lot behind Starbucks: between S. Willow Street and S. Lincoln Street. Members of both the campus and city of Kent community can recycle used electronics through RET3, an R2 certified recycler, where materials are handled in an environmentally and socially responsible way. Materials permitted at the E-Cycle Drive include personal computers, laptop computers, servers and storage devices, monitors CRT and LCD, docking stations, floppy drives, DVD/CD burners, VCRs, circuit boards, scanners, copiers, printers, cables, wires, extension cords, digital cameras, cellular phones, DVD players, network and telecom equipment. TVs and kitchen appliances are NOT accepted. For more information about E-Cycle Drive visit: <https://www.kent.edu/sustainability/e-cycle-drive>.

For more information visit: [www.kent.edu/sustainability](http://www.kent.edu/sustainability). If you have questions, contact Leah Graham, Kent State University's Outreach Recycling Coordinator, at 330-672-8023 or [lgrah13@kent.edu](mailto:lgrah13@kent.edu).

(continued from page 18.)

The City has offered owner-occupied housing rehabilitation assistance since 1984 and the program has provided deferred, low interest loans to numerous income eligible residents over the years in order to address a variety of substandard conditions. The scope of rehabilitation activities that can be provided through the program is quite diverse, and may include the replacement or upgrade of mechanical systems, correction of structural and foundation problems, as well as the replacement of deteriorated roofs, doors and windows.

If you have questions concerning the City's Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program or if you would like to request an information packet, please contact Kathy Petsko, Grants & Neighborhood Programs Coordinator at 330-678-8108 or via e-mail at [PetskoK@kent-ohio.org](mailto:PetskoK@kent-ohio.org).



## Main Street Kent Update

**Putt Around Downtown** – There's no better way to celebrate the arrival of spring than a round of miniature golf in downtown Kent. Eighteen businesses will set up putt-putt golf holes as part of our “course,” so participants can play, explore and enjoy the day on Sat., April 4. Prizes and fun will follow at the 19th hole. Tickets and details will be available at [www.mainstreetkent.org](http://www.mainstreetkent.org).

**Clean Up Kent** – Join us for some serious spring cleaning on Sat., April 18, from 9am-12pm. Pick up litter, remove graffiti, and pitch in to keep Kent beautiful. Details at [www.facebook.com/mainstreetkent](http://www.facebook.com/mainstreetkent).

**Seven Courses of Kent** – Mark your calendar for a real treat on Sunday, April 26! Seven restaurateurs will get together and prepare a special, seven course meal in the kitchen of Treno Ristorante. Each dish will be served with a specially selected beverage pairing. Only 70 seats will be available for this exclusive event featuring delicious dishes by Barrio, Bricco, Franklin Hotel Bar, Over Easy Morning Cafe, River Merchant, Treno and Wild Goats Café.

**First Friday Art Walks** – The theme for our 2020 Art Walk series is “Community.” From May through October, you'll enjoy local artist exhibitions, hands-on art activities, and family-friendly fun on the first Friday of each month from 5-8pm in downtown Kent. Stay tuned for information about our painted rock project, too!

**Art & Wine Festival** – Our fourteenth annual, signature event will take place on Sat., June 6 from 12pm to 9pm at the

Hometown Bank Plaza and surrounding streets. Local food, live music, Ohio wine and an array of artists will line the streets for all to enjoy. Artist applications are being accepted at <https://www.mainstreetkent.org/events/art-wine-festival/>

**Wizardly World of Kent** – We're planning for another magical weekend in Kent this summer, so save the date and stay tuned for more details — July 25, 2020! (Plus, many magical activities will be planned for Friday, July 24.)



For more information about Main Street Kent, our downtown businesses, events, and more, please visit [www.mainstreetkent.org](http://www.mainstreetkent.org). To learn about volunteer opportunities or to sponsor an event, email us at [info@mainstreetkent.org](mailto:info@mainstreetkent.org) or call 330-677-8000.



## Census 2020: We All Count

By Bridget Susel, Community Development Director

2020 is a decennial census year and April 1st has been identified as Census Day. Beginning in March, the U.S. Census Bureau will be mailing out invitations to households across the country to complete the 2020 Census. In all prior Census count years, questionnaire responses were submitted in writing. The 2020 Census marks the first time survey responses can also be submitted by phone and online making the process easier to complete in just a few minutes.

Many are aware of the importance the census plays in determining the number of congressional seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives every ten years. The census also has a primary role in determining State of Ohio congressional districts and federal funding levels for many critical grant-funded programs that support needed services in the community. Information gathered through the 2020

Census is used to determine funding levels for many grant programs that benefit the City of Kent, Portage County, and the State of Ohio. This federal funding supports a myriad of programs and services that cannot be adequately funded with limited local tax dollars, including roads and highways, schools and educational programming, affordable housing initiatives, crime prevention, employment training, and supportive services for disadvantaged groups and individuals.

At the local level, the Community Development Department utilizes federal grant funds the City receives to support programs and projects offered by local nonprofit and government agencies committed to serving those most in need in the community.

Every submitted 2020 Census response equates to thousands of dollars in federal grant support coming into our community and it would be unfortunate to lose any of that funding because someone didn't take a few minutes to submit a response to the 2020 Census. Being counted, really counts!

## Income Tax Information



All Kent residents 18 years or older **MUST** file a City of Kent income tax return, even if no tax is owed. Persons who are retired need to file a final return and write “retired” on it. No further returns will be due unless the retiree returns to work. Income tax returns are due (*must be postmarked on or by*) **Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. Returns received after April 15<sup>th</sup> will be considered late and may be subject to a penalty, even if no tax is due. “Resident” is defined as an individual whose legal residence is in Kent or who lived in Kent for 30 days or more in any 90-day period during the 2019 calendar year.

**The following people MUST file income tax returns and pay any tax due, even if they are non-residents:**

- ▶ Persons who own rental property in Kent
- ▶ Persons who operate a business in Kent
- ▶ Real estate agents who work for brokers in Kent, even if they sold no property in Kent
- ▶ Anyone who receives salary, wages, commissions, or other compensation for work done or services rendered in Kent, if the full amount of Kent's 2.25% income tax has not been withheld from that compensation.

**Certain types of income are not taxable. These types include.**

- ▶ Interest
- ▶ Dividends
- ▶ Active military pay
- ▶ Pensions
- ▶ Social security
- ▶ Workers compensation
- ▶ Unemployment benefits
- ▶ Welfare payments
- ▶ Medicare

### Credit Card Service Fee Effective October 1, 2018

Beginning October 1, 2018, taxpayers who elect to pay their municipal income tax bills by credit or debit card will incur a 2.75% service charge. This fee is charged by a third party vendor per credit card transaction and is not paid to RITA. Please note that this service charge applies only to credit or debit card transactions. Taxpayers electing to pay by check or via ACH will not incur this service charge.

**To file your City of Kent return with the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) for Residents and Businesses, RITA has the following FREE online services.**

**RITA E-File: A quick, easy and secure way to file your municipal income taxes online with R.I.T.A. at [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com)**

**Individuals** Are Provided The Following Features

- ▶ A simple step by step calculation of taxes or refunds
- ▶ Ability to file even if you moved in 2019
- ▶ Electronic transfer of refunds into checking or savings accounts
- ▶ Pay by credit card or ACH (electronic debit of checking or savings)
- ▶ Delay payment of taxes- file as early as you like and set up ACH payment anytime before April 15<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ Here's what you need to E-File
  - Social Security numbers for you and your spouse
  - W-2 forms from all employers
  - 1099 forms and Federal Schedules C, E, & F
  - Date of move for residents that moved in 2018
  - Bank Routing and Account Numbers- for a fast refund or to pay electronically

**Employers** Have The Following Choices:

- ▶ Monthly or Quarterly withholding returns
  - Fill in a simple form online, or
  - Attach a payroll file
- ▶ Annual Withholding Reconciliation returns
  - Upload W-2 data with online filing, or
  - Save W-2 data to CD and mail to R.I.T.A.

You must complete an **E-Registration** to utilize any of the on-line services. **Registration must be complete 15 days before due date of April 15, 2020.** Income Tax Division personnel will assist you with your Kent City Income Tax Returns at NO charge. The Income Tax Division is located at the Service Administration Complex at 930 Overholt Road. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. If you wish assistance with your Kent City Income Tax Return, please bring all necessary tax documents, such as W-2's, 1099's, Schedule C, Schedule E etc., with you to the Income Tax Division. If you have any questions please call the Income Tax Division at 330.678.8103.

### Precinct Election Officials Needed

The Portage County Board of Elections is looking for individuals who would like to be part of the democratic process by becoming Precinct Election Officials (PEO)s). As part of our ongoing efforts, we are reaching out in search of honest, reliable, and community-minded individuals.

On Election Day, nearly 600 citizens are needed to staff our 129 precincts. Without our PEOs, we simply cannot hold elections. They are present to make sure our elections are fair, impartial, and conducted according to Ohio law.

To become a PEO, you must be registered to vote in Portage County, attend a training class, and have transportation to your assigned location. Election Day hours are 5:45 am until all necessary work is completed after the polls close at 7:30 pm. Those that serve as PEOs receive \$120.

**The elections for 2020 occur on March 17<sup>th</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

To sign up or for more information, please contact the Portage County Board of Elections at 330.297.3512 or 330.297.3515 or visit our website: [www.co.portage.oh.us/board-elections](http://www.co.portage.oh.us/board-elections).



### Kent to Receive Tree City USA Award

34 years and counting! The City of Kent will receive the National Arbor Day Foundation's "Tree City USA" award again this year marking the City's thirty fourth year of earning the national recognition.

Mayor Jerry Fiala has proclaimed April 24, 2020 Arbor Day, urging all citizens to support efforts to protect and nurture our trees and urban forest not just for the beauty they provide but for the benefits they give our residents and community.



**TREE CITY USA®**

### Furnace Replacement & Hot Water Tank Replacement

FREE to qualifying households

The Kent Furnace Inspection and Targeted Replacement Program is available to income-eligible homeowners living within Kent City limits. This program provides:

**(1)** FREE furnace inspections, cleaning, tune-up, repairs and possible furnace replacement; **(2)** possible replacement of hot water tank and/or installation of expansion tank; **(3)** one combination carbon monoxide/smoke alarm and additional smoke alarms, as needed; **(4)** referral to additional energy conservation programs; and **(5)** energy conservation education to further increase energy efficiency and reduce heating costs. Replacement of an inefficient furnace is one of the simplest and most effective ways to improve energy efficiency and reduce the impact on the environment



The Community Action Council of Portage County operates this program through a grant from the City of Kent Community Development Department. Licensed heating and plumbing contractors obtain permits and inspections issued by the City of Kent Building Department. In order to qualify for the program, you must **(1)** own and occupy your single family home, **(2)** meet low-to-moderate income guidelines, and **(3)** complete the application and provide all required documentation. Elderly applicants, disabled applicants, and families with minor children are given priority. The program is designed to offer a one-time service. To obtain additional information and an application, contact Gloria Haven via email: [ghaven@cacportage.net](mailto:g Haven@cacportage.net) or 330-297-1456, Ext. 229; Carley VanCucha via email: [cvancucha@cacportage.net](mailto:cvancucha@cacportage.net) or 330-297-1456, Ext. 269; visit our website at [www.cacportage.net](http://www.cacportage.net), or stop by in person at Community Action Council, 1036 W. Main St. in Ravenna, open 8:00am-4:30pm.



**City Manager's Office  
301 S. Depeyster  
Kent, Ohio 44240**

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## **We Want To Hear From You...**

Please write your questions, comments or suggestions regarding city government on this form. Return the form either by mail, or drop it off at the City Manager's Office at 301 S. Depeyster, Kent, Ohio 44240. If you provide your name and address, we will respond to you directly. With your permission, the response may be published in a future issue of the *Tree City Bulletin*. If you prefer to comment anonymously, we may attempt to respond in a future issue.

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### **Optional Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**May we publish your questions/comments/suggestions?                      YES    NO**

**May we publish your name? (Address will NOT be published)                      YES    NO**