



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Changing seasons bring change itself to so many areas of our lives. As we move into summer, our kids finish yet another year of schooling while our high school graduates anticipate the beginning of the next chapter in their lives. Summer

schedules provide us with challenges as we strive to enjoy the warm weather while balancing work and play.

As a City, we work to provide many opportunities for you to make the most of the “longest days” of the year. Whether it is a walk on our trails, a refreshing cool down on a splash pad, a picnic in a park, or free concert on an open field, we want Kentwood to be your first choice for family fun.

This newsletter puts a spotlight on the many community gatherings and events planned this summer. We look forward to seeing you at one of our many events and wish you a warm, wonderful, and long summer!

Mayor Stephen Kepley

Summer Concert Series - June 14 to Aug. 2

Grab a blanket or chair and join us on the lawn behind Kentwood City Hall for our summer concert series. This year's lineup features West Michigan favorites such as The Crane Wives and The Moxie Strings. A variety of food trucks will be at each free concert offering savory and sweet small bites. Concert-goers are welcome to bring their own beer or wine to the performances, which begin at 7 p.m. on select Thursday nights.

Summer Reading Program

Kent District Library's summer reading program is in full swing through Aug. 11, offering a wide range of books, programs and activities for all ages. Participants can qualify for prizes by tallying the number of books they read and tracking points from activities. To sign up, visit kdl.READSsquared.com or stop by the Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch to pick up a reading log.

Fourth of July Celebration

All are welcome to join us for our annual Fourth of July Celebration. Activities will include a pancake breakfast, the NN Mobile Solutions 5K Race, an Independence Day parade at 9:30 a.m. and an evening complete with carnival rides, games and fireworks at Crestwood Middle School.

National Night Out - Aug. 7

Neighborhoods are invited to join in this year's National Night Out -- an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our community safer.

Please join us on Tuesday, Aug. 7 between 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. as residents leave their living rooms and turn on an outside light to spend the evening with their neighbors. A host of special events throughout neighborhoods in Kentwood, such as block parties, cookouts and parades, are encouraged.

How can you and your neighborhood participate in this nationwide event? Please call the Community Services Bureau of the Kentwood Police Department at 616.656.6569 for suggestions or to invite us to your activity. You may also register online by searching for “National Night Out” on our website.

Celebrate Kentwood - Aug. 11

All are invited to join us as we Celebrate Kentwood at City Hall on Saturday, Aug. 11. Beginning at 9 a.m., residents and friends will be able to take part in a day jam-packed with fun. The event will feature food, inflatables, carnival games and live entertainment, as well as community booths, a beer garden and a classic car show. Back for a second year will be Kentwood's Got Talent, which will feature singers, dancers and other performers.

Sign Up For Our Monthly eNewsletter

We are launching a monthly eNewsletter to help residents stay in the know about all things Kentwood. You can sign up on our website at www.kentwood.us.

WHAT'S HAPPENING • SUMMER 2018

JULY

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

July 4, 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

- 7:30-9:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. NN Mobile Solutions 5K Race
- 9:30 a.m. Parade

KENTWOOD FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays (July 7, 14, 21, 28)

Kent District Library – Kentwood Branch
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WITH BIG DUDEE ROO

July 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

Kentwood City Hall

Enjoy Big Dudee Roo's atmospheric rock and grunge sound.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WITH THE MOXIE STRINGS

July 19, 7-8:30 p.m.

Kentwood City Hall

Relish The Moxie Strings' genre-blurring blend of ear-catching melodies and foot-stomping, rock-influenced rhythms.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WITH THE CRANE WIVES

July 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

Kentwood City Hall

Music by The Crane Wives features three-part vocal harmonies and eclectic instrumentation.

AUGUST

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WITH BLUE SOUL EXPRESS

Aug. 2

Kentwood City Hall
7-8:30 p.m.

The Blue Soul Express is a West Michigan band that will take you on a journey through classic soul, R&B, funk and blues.

KENTWOOD FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays (Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25)

Kent District Library – Kentwood Branch
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Aug. 7

6:30-9:30 p.m.

Register on our website.

CELEBRATE KENTWOOD

Aug. 11, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Kentwood City Hall

- 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Classic Car Show
- Noon-2 p.m. Kentwood's Got Talent
- Noon-4 p.m. Carnival Games, Kids Activities

More details available on our website.

SUMMER TAXES DUE AUG. 20

City of Kentwood summer property tax payment must be received no later than Aug. 20 to avoid a 3 percent penalty. For more information or questions, call 616.554.0761.

SEPTEMBER

KENTWOOD FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays (Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29)

Kent District Library – Kentwood Branch
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 8 will be a special day to show that Kentwood cares at the Kentwood Farmers Market. Donations of nonperishable food and toiletry items will be accepted for our Little Free Pantry.

Monetary donations will also be accepted for the Youth Scholarship Fund, which helps low-income youth participate in recreational programs.

END OF SUMMER FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Sept. 15

Kent District Library – Kentwood Branch
11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Kentwood's End of Summer Food Truck Festival is back and better than ever. Last year we grew the event with the addition of craft beer, live music and a wide variety of food trucks. This year, the festival will feature food from more than 20 trucks and live music from four bands.

**FOR MORE DETAILS ON
EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT:**

WWW.KENTWOOD.US

