

2017 Recipient Matt Barnes
nominated by Julie Dennis of Van Buren Middle School



Read about Matt's contributions to the community on the next page below.



Dor-Wood Optimist Friend of Youth CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

MATTHEW BARNES



Matthew began his career in law enforcement in 2007, when he was hired by the Trotwood Police Department as a full-time police officer. During his time at Trotwood PD, Matthew served as a patrol officer, OPBA union representative, Community Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence (CIRGV) task force member, and was promoted to Sergeant. He also received the Trotwood PD certificate for professionalism.

In 2011, Matthew was hired by the City of Kettering as a full-time police officer with the Kettering Police Department. Matthew has served exclusively as a road patrol officer during his time with Kettering PD, until his assignment to the Community Relations Section in 2016. In this assignment, his primary responsibility is to serve as a School Resource Officer. Additionally, Matthew is involved with any community-related program in Kettering that collaborates with the Kettering Police Department, such as: National Night Out, Go 4th Celebration, Holiday at Home, and the Kettering Safe Senior Program.

Matthew graduated from the Sinclair Police Academy in November 2007, where he was ranked second overall in his class, and during which time he achieved a Level 3 standard of physical fitness, which completely redefined the method in which all subsequent cadets were evaluated and distinguished in that regard. Additionally, he has received post-academy training and certification in: Traffic Crash Level 1 Investigation, Criminal Patrol and Drug Interdiction, Pharmaceutical Abuse, Asset Forfeiture, Narcotics Recognition, NIK Polytesting System of Narcotics Identification, Emergency Vehicle Operation, SRO Basic Training Academy, and is an ALICE safety instructor.

Matthew holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Franklin University. Prior to that, he graduated with honors from Trotwood-Madison High School. He currently teaches in the Criminal Justice Program at Clark State University.

Matthew resides in Kettering with his wife, Devon. They have been married for 18 years. They have a 16 year old son, Peyton, and a 13 year old daughter, Zoe, both of whom attend Kettering City Schools. Matthew also serves the community as a soccer coach for Metro FC, as well as a Grade 7 USSF referee. Matthew enjoys playing, coaching and officiating soccer, playing softball, running, reading, following the Reds and Bengals, and spending time with his family.

Matthew is excited for the recognition he has received, regarding his work with youth in the Kettering community, and very pleased to receive the Dorwood Optimist Friend of Youth Award.

