

Sylvania's No. 1 Source for Community News

La-Z-Boy unveils new home décor at Spring Market

BY JENNIFER ALEXANDER RUPLE

La-Z-Boy recently unveiled a captivating array of new offerings at the Spring International Home Furnishing Market in High Point, North Carolina. At its showroom, La-Z-Boy featured two standout pieces, the “Emmons” reclining sofa and the “Tahoe” stationary sectional.

The La-Z-Boy Home Furnishings and Décor of Toledo design team members René Ackerman and Dalton Sheahan attended the market to get a first-hand look at the new collection of the company's fabrics and furniture. The market is a grand showcase of innovation and style in the world of home décor. Spanning 3.5 million square feet across 180 buildings, it draws representation from over 100 countries, making it a melting pot of design trends and inspiration.

La-Z-Boy's “Emmons” reclining sofa, a timeless piece blending classic design with the company's signature reclining comfort, features stylish track arms and impeccable craftsmanship. “It's a testament to the brand's commitment to quality and functionality,” said Matt Simpson, sales and marketing director for La-Z-Boy Toledo.

The “Tahoe” sectional embodies the essence of modern retreat style with its clean lines and versatile configuration options. The piece boasts wide arms with convenient storage and the flexibility to be arranged as a pit sectional, sofa, or chair and a half. “It's a perfect fusion of form and function,” Simpson offered.

Throughout the market, soft earth tones dominated the fabric palette, with neutral base colors setting the stage for a soothing and inviting ambiance. La-Z-Boy also noted a continued strong interest in leather and power options for its reclining furniture, reflecting consumers' desire for both luxury and convenience.

As La-Z-Boy Home Furnishings and Décor continues to expand its complimentary in-home design program, customers in Toledo will experience personalized service, expert guidance and all the decorating resources needed at its two convenient locations, 5178 Monroe St. and 5804



The La-Z-Boy team visits the Spring International Home Furnishing Market in High Point, North Carolina. Below are scenes from the La-Z-Boy showroom at the Market.



Airport Hwy. Ackerman and Sheahan are available to offer customers advice virtually, at store galleries, or right in their own homes.

During a scheduled in-home visit, Ackerman or Sheahan will begin the design journey by talking with customers to get a feel for their style. They will then take room measurements and help plan the layout of the room or rooms. Next, they'll assist customers with the selection of fur-



niture; accessories including decorative items, area rugs and lamps; color combinations; and fabrics. The last step is to re-create the room space using La-Z-Boy's 3D design planner and present options to the customers.

To begin a home design adventure with a professional designer, visit a Toledo La-Z-Boy gallery near you.

What's Inside



Ryan and Eric Shanteau share a fun take on the solar eclipse.

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10 am–2pm

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The Sylvania collection site for **Drug Take Back Day**

Convenient drive up and drop off

Kroger
7545 Sylvania Ave
(Sylvania & King)



Dana Open celebrates 40th year

The Dana Open is expanding the tournament's four-decade commitment to raising local and national awareness and support for the charities committed to improving the lives of children in the region.

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, the tournament announces "Champions for Children" to emphasize a holistic focus on children's health and the many factors that can impact a child's overall well-being. Throughout the tournament week, the Dana Open will be highlighting "Patient Champions" whose stories of success will be told.

Beginning in 1984, the Dana Open, which is the second longest-running tournament on the LPGA Tour, has raised nearly \$14 million for 215 northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan children's charities.

"Since inception, the tournament's mission has always been to focus on supporting children's charities," said Judd Silverman, tournament director. "A child's health is impacted by many factors—including where they live, learn and play—not just the care they receive at a health care facility. There has never been a more important time to focus on the health and well-being of children in our community."

The need for a holistic approach to children's health is greater than ever. According to local children's organizations:

- One out of every four kids in Lucas County is food insecure.
- Housing and shelter remain the number one requested category for the United Way of Greater Toledo
- The child poverty rate in Toledo is 36 percent
- In 2023, 32 percent of Lucas County parents reported their child had more than one health



condition

'24 Dana Open Beneficiaries

The tournament's beneficiaries for this year include the Jamie Farr Scholarship Fund of the Toledo Community Foundation, Maumee Valley Habitat for Humanity: Women Build, Nationwide Children's Hospital - Toledo, ProMedica Russell J. Ebeid Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House Charities.

"We are excited to be partnering with all of these outstanding organizations for this year's Dana Open" said James Kamsickas, Dana Incorporated chairman and CEO. "Our new beneficiaries, Nationwide Children's Hospital - Toledo and ProMedica Russell J. Ebeid Children's Hospital, have tremendous reputations for providing the most advanced care for children in our region. Please join us in supporting these great causes through the 2024 Dana Open."

The 2024 Dana Open will be held the week of July 15-21 at Highland Meadows Golf Club. All four rounds of the tournament will be nationally televised on the Golf Channel and streaming on Peacock (Thursday/Friday/Saturday) and on CBS (Sunday).

Linn Grant, the 2023 Dana Open champion is scheduled to defend her title.

Model railroad club open house planned

The Blissfield Model Railroad Club's monthly open house dates are Saturday and Sunday, April 20-21 from 10 am to 3 pm. The event is free and open to all ages. Several trains of various railroads and from different eras will be running. The club is located at 109 E. Adrian

St., Blissfield, Mich.

Free parking is available in front of the building and around the block in back of the building. The event is free and open to all ages however, donations are accepted and appreciated. For more information visit bmr.org.

Odds and Ends sale to be held at Senior Center

Connie Knestruck is the chairwoman of the upcoming Odds and Ends Sale to be held on Thursday, April 25 from 9 am to 3 pm at the Sylvania Senior Center, 7140 Sylvania Ave. This is the major fundraiser for the Participants Coun-

cil. The event is open to everyone as are table rentals. Card table rental is \$10 and eight-foot long tables are \$25. For information or to rent a table, call 419-885-3913.

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FOR MORE INFO: 419.536.2184
ChristianScienceNWO.org/1stToledo

First Church of Christ, Scientist
4647 W. Central Ave. | Toledo, OH

32nd annual Trout Derby set



Ryan and Connor Reyes-Holmann try their luck last year catching trout at Lake Olander during the 31st annual Kids Trout Derby.

Get ready for a day of fun and excitement at the 32nd Annual Kids Trout Fishing Derby, presented by Jann's Netcraft, at Olander Park in Sylvania.

The Derby is a fun-filled day for kids up to 15, accompanied by an adult. Every child can win raffle prizes donated by local organizations and businesses. Registration can be done in advance or in person on the day of the event.

There will be local food trucks, a raffle, door prizes, and, of course, fishing! This event is \$3 for Sylvania School District residents and \$5 for non-residents. It is open to all, rain or shine. Participants need to bring their own fishing poles. They are not available for rent or sale. The Bait & Boat Shop will be open to purchase bait and tackle at 9 am, and boats will be available to rent starting at 1 pm.



Sharna Charlie, daughters **Lennon and Rowan**, and their friend **Laina Stroch** check in with **John Page** for the 2023 Derby.

State limits and length restrictions will be enforced on all fish except trout. The daily bag limit for trout is five per person.

To register, visit outdoorssylvania.com/programs. For additional information or questions email John Page at jpage@outdoorssylvania.com or call 419-882-8313, ext. 1004.

Quilters to meet

The Gathering of Quilters welcomes Katheryn Bartly of Oregon Ohio to its April 18 meeting at 7 pm at the Holland Free Methodist Church, 6605 Angola Rd. Bartly creates portrait quilts of animals. The Gathering of Quilters was in 1982 and promotes the art and craft of quilting. Membership is open to anyone interested in quilts, quilt making and sewing-related crafts.

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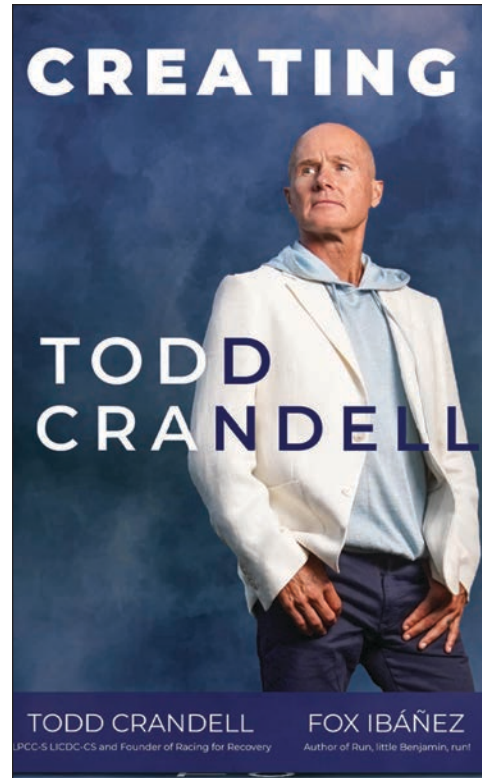
Kids of all ages can climb aboard, honk the horns, and pretend to drive anything that rolls, flies or floats!

We'll have treats, concessions, and LOTS of FAMILY FUN!

**Sensory Friendly Times from 11:00 – 11:30 and 12:30 – 1:00*

Bring your family and friends to this FREE event!

Epworth United Methodist Church | 4855 W. Central Avenue | Toledo, Ohio
 Across from Wildwood | 419.531.4236 | www.epworth.com



Local author publishes sixth book

Author **Todd Crandell's** sixth book entitled 'Creating Todd Crandell,' published Monday, April 15. This date also marks Todd's 31st year of sobriety, which propelled him into a life of self-betterment, personal growth, non-profit service and the world of Ironman. The book can be purchased in paperback and Kindle formats through Crandell's website racingforrecovery.org and on Amazon. This book is dedicated to those with a burning desire to build not just a business or organization, but a force for good in humanity. It's a candid story highlighting the passion, resilience, love, empathy, and commitment necessary to ensure that what "we receive is genuinely given back to others."

Sylvania Orchestra to perform

The Sylvania Community Orchestra presents a free community concert, "Mother's Day Tribute" at 4 pm on Sunday, May 12 at the Franciscan Center. The program will feature Amy Marcy Cheney Beach's Gaelic Symphony, the first symphony composed and published by a female American composer, and seasonal works such as Brian Balmages' Summer Dances. This concert is free however donations are welcome at the door to support the Sylvania Community Orchestra's work in the community.

nonprofit, volunteer-based organization dedicated to creating accessible musical experiences in the greater Toledo area. Through free performances, partnerships with youth orchestras, and multi-generational rehearsals, it strives to enrich the cultural life of our community and foster a lifetime of musical creativity for instrumentalists of all ages and levels of expertise.

About SCO

The Sylvania Community Orchestra is one of many programs of Sylvania Arts. The SCO is a

About Sylvania Arts

Sylvania Arts is a non-for-profit organization directed by a volunteer board of trustees and an executive director. The programs are funded in part by the city of Sylvania, Sylvania Township, the Ohio Arts Council and private donations.

Inclusive playground benefit planned

The Stranahan PTA will host an evening of food, games and fun to raise money for Sylvania's first inclusive and accessible playground on Friday, June 28 from 6-10 pm at the Ward Pavilion at Wildwood Preserve Metropark. Guests can enjoy dinner as well as silent auction items, raffles, a special guest and much more.

tion will be provided via email once payment has been received.

For more information about the inclusive playground project and sponsorship opportunities, visit [//sites.google.com/view/stranahanpta-inclusive-play/home](http://sites.google.com/view/stranahanpta-inclusive-play/home).

The Stranahan Elementary Parent Teacher Association of Sylvania is a registered 501(c)3 public nonprofit.

Tickets may be purchased individually or tables of six to guarantee seating. Confirma-

MAY 17 * 18 * 19 *
 6PM - 11PM 4PM - 11PM 11AM - 6PM

2024

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 Saturday, *the Skittle Bots*
 7p.m. - 11 p.m.
 Sunday, *Memorable Knights*
 12p.m. - 6 p.m.

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SATURDAY & SUNDAY
- ★

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THE BIG TO DO IN SYLVANIA

ACTIVITIES

Mondays*

Chess and Craft Beer • Upside Brewing, 6-9 pm, *last Monday of the month

Tuesdays

Upside Run Club • Upside Brewing, 6pm

April 20-21

Blissfield Model Railroad Club Open House • 109 E. Adrian St., free, bmrr.org

April 21

Moving past fear - to healing • Speaker Lisa Troseth, First Church of Christ, Scientist, Toledo, 2pm, free open

April 25

Odds and Ends Sale • Sylvania Senior Center, crafts, jewelry, home items, 9am-3pm to the public

April 27

Annual Kids' Trout Derby • Olander Park, Registration 8am-noon, Derby 9am-1pm, \$3 for Sylvania School Districts residents, \$5 non-

residents, register at outdoorsylvania.com

April 27

Tree City Market Craft Show • Tam-O-Shanter, 10am-3pm, treecity-market.com

May 2

National Day of Prayer Breakfast and Dinner • 7 am and 6:30 pm. The Premier. \$50 breakfast; \$55 dinner.

May 11

Touch-a-Truck • Epworth United Methodist Church, 10am-2pm, free admission, info. touchatruck@epworth.com, more on page 4

May 17-19

Festirama • St. Joseph Parish, admission \$5 Fri. and Sat., free Sun., more on page 4

May 25

Centennial Quarry and Plummer Pool Open

THE ARTS

Wednesdays

Ceramics • Sylvania Senior Center, 9-11am, fee waived

Senior Center Band • Sylvania Senior Center, new members always welcome, 1-3pm

April 20, 21

Fame The Musical • Southview High School, southviewtheatre.org

May 3

Red Bird Art Walk • downtown Sylvania, 5-8ish

Tree City Makers Mart • Heritage Sylvania, 5-8pm

May 12

Sylvania Community Orchestra Concert • Mother's Day Tribute, Franciscan Center at Lourdes College, Free event, donations 4pm

COMMUNITY

Thursdays

Sylvania Rotary Club Meeting • Highland Meadows Golf Club, 11:45am-1pm

April 15

Spring Cleanup • Brush and Leaves, Sylvania Township.

April 15-19

Special Green Yard Waste Pickup A • City of Sylvania, cityofsylvania.com

April 20

Shred Day • City of Sylvania, Municipal Court Parking Lot, 9am-1pm, cityofsylvania.com

April 22-26

Special Green Yard Waste Pickup B • City of Sylvania, cityofsylvania.com

April 27

Drug Take Back • Kroger, Sylvania and King, 10am-2pm

May 6-10

Spring Household Unlimited Pick-Up • City of Sylvania, cityofsylvania.com

FOOD & DRINK

Wednesdays

Wine Wednesdays • Georgio's Grill, 1/2 off all bottles, 11am-10pm

April 17

Wine Tasting • Sofo's 6-8pm, food and wine sampling \$20, RSVP 419-882-8555

TRIVIA/BINGO

Mondays

Village Inn • 6:30pm

Quarry Cantina • Music Bingo, 6:30pm

Tuesdays

My Way Bistro • 7pm

Sidelines Sylvania • 7-9pm

Bier Stube • 8-10pm

Frogtown Johnnie's • 9pm

LIVE MUSIC

Sundays

Bobby May and Friends • The Sodbuster Bar, 6-9pm

Mondays & Tuesdays

Chris Brown and Candace Coleman • Ciao!, 6-9pm

April 19

The Cheeks • Bier Stube, 6pm
Pop's Garage • Bar 145, 9:30pm

April 20

Skittle Bots • Bier Stube, 8pm
Traylor Park Ninjas • Bar 145, 9:30pm

April 26

Madison Ave. • Bier Stube, 6pm
The Skittle Bots • Sodbuster, 8pm

The Ladies Night • Bar 145, 9:30pm

April 27

Random Act • Bier Stube, 8pm
The Bridges • Bar 145, 8pm

May 3

The 25s • Bier Stube, 6pm
Distant Cousinz • Bar 145, 8pm

May 4

NTO • Bier Stube, 8pm
Hot Lunch Special • Bar 145, 8pm

May 10

Distant Cousinz • Bier Stube, 6pm

Master TC & The Visitors • Bar 145, 9pm

May 11

Distant Cousinz • Bier Stube, 6pm

Ketch Band • Bar 145, 9pm

May 17

56 Daze • Bier Stube, 6pm
Renegade Lemonade • Bar 145, 9pm

May 18

Letter Rip • Bier Stube, 8pm
Ryan Mundy • Bar 145, 9pm

May 24

Grape Smugglers • Bier Stube
Summer DJ Nights • Bar 145



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Township talk ...



Sylvania Township Police Chief **Sarah Toth**, second from left, congratulates the newly promoted Lieutenant **Lee McKinney**, Sergeant **Justin Brackett**, and Sergeant **Kurtis Myers**.

Sylvania Township Police Chief Sarah Toth's first official requests to promote Sergeant Lee McKinney lieutenant and officers Justin Brackett and Kurtis Myers to the rank of sergeant were granted by the Sylvania Township Trustees at their April 2 board meeting. Chief Toth assumed her new position on April 1 after serving on the police force for almost 28 years. McKinney joined the department in 1996 and was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2008. He has served as a Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Field Training Program Coordinator, and Accident Investigator. He is now the Operations Lieutenant.

Brackett joined the department in 2019. He has served as one of the department's Field Training Officers and Union Representative. He is one of the afternoon Shift Sergeants.

Myers joined the department in 2018. He has also served as one of the Field Training Officers and is on the Special Response Team. He is now one of the midnight Shift Sergeants.

In other business, the trustees approved the zoning change requested by Eastman Schwartz Building Co. for the property at 8827 W. Central Ave. from C-2 General Commercial and A-3 Agriculture to MU Mixed Use. The 7.3 acre elongated parcel is over 2,600 feet deep with 160 feet of frontage along Central Avenue and is within the Central Avenue Overlay. The owners had requested a zone change to MU to expand their existing commercial business and to develop additional commercial rental space. Their long-range plan is to develop the rear of the subject parcel as multi-family residential.

City beat ...

At the April 1 meeting, members of the Sylvania City Council gave their approval to Service Director Kevin Aller's request to accept the bid and award the contract for \$188,823.10 to Bowers Asphalt and Paving, Inc. for the Bentbrook Road, Burgess and Lynnhaven drives resurfacing project. Council also voted to accept the \$685,765 bid from Henry W. Bergman, Inc. and award the contract for the McCord Road resurfacing project. Council gave its ap-

In other business, the trustees approved the 2024 Sylvania Township Road Improvement Project and authorized Road and Service Superintendent Rob Nash to advertise for bids for the project. Nash was given approval to replace the road department's 23-year-old Interstate equipment trailer with a Diamond C Trailer from Bridge MFG & Equipment Co. who submitted the lowest and best price of \$17,000. Nash was also give the go ahead to offer the older trailer for sale on GovDeals auction website.

Turner's resolution to prohibit adult-use cannabis operators and medical marijuana cultivators, processors, and retail dispensaries within Sylvania Township was approved, but will consider longer-term planning on these issues.

There were no objections for a new liquor permit for Casey's General Store, 8257 W. Central Ave., and a liquor permit (transfer of ownership at the same location or TRFO) for Amie's Pizza Factory, 6710 W. Central Ave. Ste. 13.

Inclusive, accessible playground
Stranahan Parent Teacher Association President Tara Haye presented an overview of the inclusive, accessible community playground to the Township Trustees. She and her team of Stranahan parents continue to work to raise the needed funds for the community playground.

According to Haye, the playground will provide a space so that both typically developing children and children with special needs have a place to play alongside one another. Plans call for the playground to be located on the Stranahan school grounds but it will be accessible to the community.

proval for a change order to the city's agreement increasing the contract by \$21,664.19 with Geddis Paving and Excavating, Inc. for the Balfour Road waterline improvements and resurfacing project to reflect additional work. Council also approved Aller's request to accept the proposal of Tetra Tech to provide an estimate of \$4,000 for the Main Street and Convent Boulevard reconstruc-

CRAIG STOUGH

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Downtown planning process continues

The city of Sylvania is continuing the planning process started in 2022 for our Downtown Sylvania Main Street streetscape, paving and utility improvements. We continue looking for your review and input as the plans have now developed, evolved and become more detailed for bidding later this year. A public input meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17 at 5:30 pm in City Council Chambers.

Our downtown has grown and developed greatly during the last quarter of a century thanks to a great deal of community and business input and investment. There are new stores, more restaurants and many community activities that have improved the appearance of our downtown and the quality of life for all of Sylvania.

However, the downtown streetscape itself hasn't been updated since the 1980s when the current sidewalks, street lights, trees and focal points were installed. Those improvements are beginning to show their age, and we now have the opportunity to further im-

prove what our downtown looks like and how it can best serve the overall community. Our \$2 million share of the federal American Recovery Plan Act, and the creation of a Downtown Tax Incentive Financing District to direct existing taxes into the project, are making these improvements possible.

The formal visioning and planning process started in August, 2022 with a downtown Main Street stakeholders meeting of residents, business owners, property owners and downtown organizations to receive their initial thoughts, ideas, input and wishes. Over the past two years, the project has expanded to also include the Main Street block from Maplewood Avenue north to Erie Street, and now a total budget over \$6 million.

I thank all who have participated so far with their ideas, input and vision. The Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce, Red Bird Sylvania, Sylvania Arts and Heritage Sylvania have all played pivotal roles by working together to better our downtown over the years, and continue doing so now.

I know that two years from now our downtown will look different and better than it does today. Thanks to the input and planning that has been invested, it will grow, improve, and be ADA accessible. Sylvania is a great place to be, and your support and participation are what keeps Sylvania's quality of life moving ahead.



Main Street in downtown Sylvania.

City beat ...

FROM 6

tion and roundabout project and accept the \$10,285 proposal of DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC to provide professional surveying services for the Harroun and Holland-Sylvania roads roundabout project.

Aller's proposal to offer the Service Department's 2004 Chevy Impala for auction on Gov.Deals.com was also approved.

In addition, City Council authorized an agreement with Archer Energy to provide natural gas to residential and commercial customers beginning in October.

Autism designation

Sylvania's Economic Development Director Bill Sanford reported that the city of Sylvania has earned the Certified Autism Center designation granted by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards. Key city staff

members completed autism training and certification to help staff better understand autistic individuals and those with sensory sensitivities and assist the local business community to do the same.

By completing the CAC program, the city of Sylvania joins the Sylvania Chamber of Commerce to achieve the CAD designation, which IBCCES awards to cities with a variety of trained and certified lodging, entertainment, and recreation organizations to better welcome travelers to the area. Many communities around the U.S. and globally are working toward autism certification through IBCCES as a way to strategically improve the experience for visitors and residents, as well as attract travelers looking for more welcoming and accessible destinations.

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Ribbon cut to open Finding You Psychotherapy & Yoga



Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce Welcoming Committee members **Todd Woodard, Bud Crosby, Ken Wines, Amanda Boyd, Matt Simpson,** and **Jim Heller** join Sylvania Town Crier **Mike Lieber** to help owner **Emily Boston** and staff members cut the ribbon for Finding You Psychotherapy & Yoga on April 4.

Finding You Psychotherapy & Yoga, located at 6423 Monroe St., held a grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, April 4.

The new Sylvania business offers a unique and integrated approach to providing mental and physical wellness as both a positive, inclusive, and accessible Yoga Studio, combined with mental health psy-

chotherapy services.

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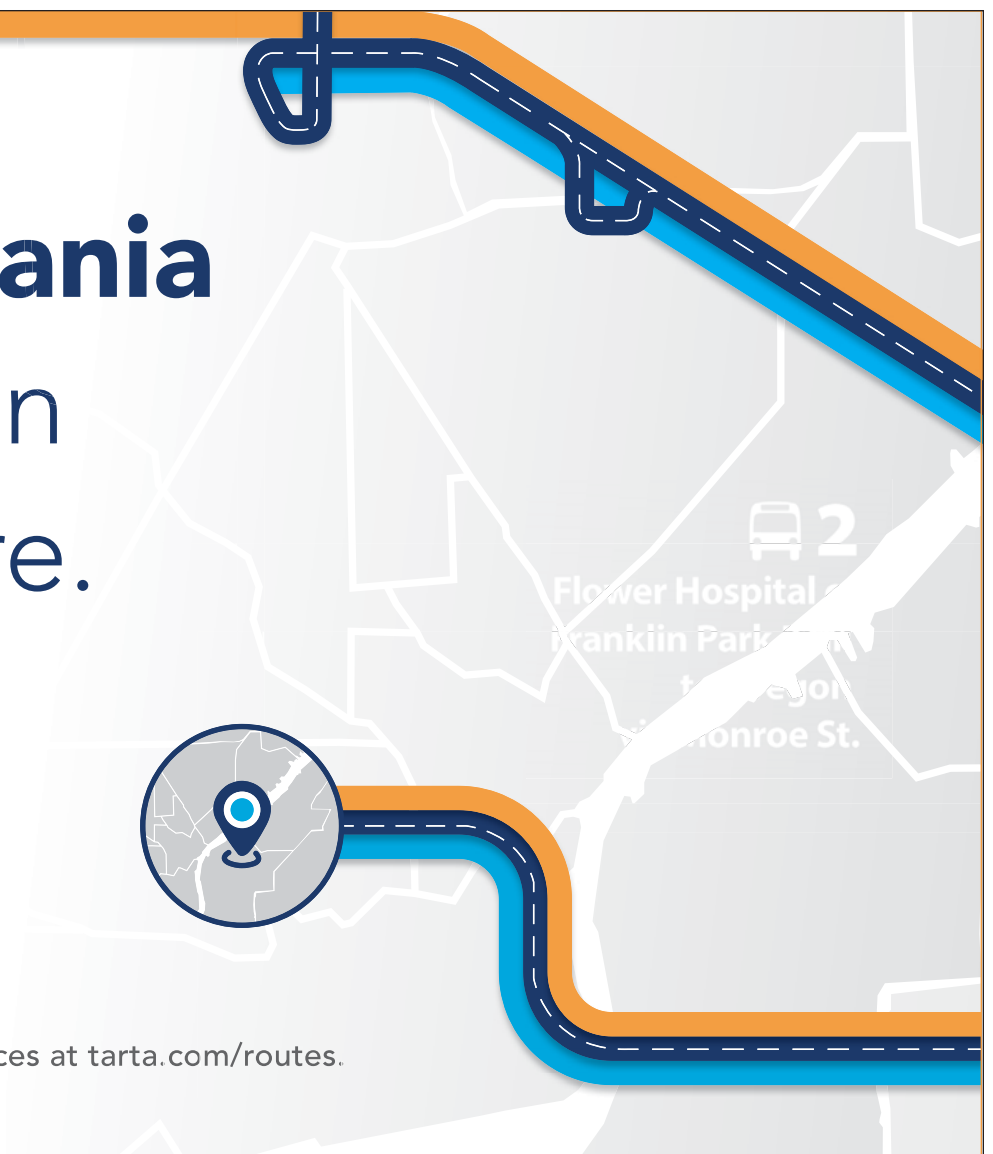
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SACIC recognizes achievements of local businesses/organizations



Back row: **Darrell Wachowiak**, SACIC President, **Neal Mahoney**, Sylvania Township Trustee, **Melan Forcht**, Red Bird Plein Air Festival; **Brian McCann**, city of Sylvania, Silica Bridge; **Erika Buri**, Outdoor Sylvania Community Parks; **Mike McMahon** and **Brian Kezur**, SAJRD, Burnham Park; **Joe Shay**, Shay's Carpet; **Trent Orzechowski**, Innovative Handling; **Gavin Hackett**, H2Flow Controls; **Chris Boyd**, Handel's Homemade Ice Cream; **Nemesio Vasquez**, Clean Express Auto Wash; **Tiffany Bosch**, SACIC Secretary and **Craig Stough**, Sylvania Mayor. Seated: **Marcus Hansen**, city of Sylvania, Silica Bridge; **Ben Malczewski** and **Katie Cappellini**, Red Bird Plein Air Festival; **Nancy Cole** and **Sylvia Meiring**, River Road Garden Club, Blue Star; Gold Star monuments; **Robin Shay**, Shay's Carpet; **Paul Hackett**, H2Flow Controls; **Rianea Nemecek**, Clean Express Auto Wash; and **Amy Kinsel**, Domus Home Goods. Other businesses and organizations receiving awards are: Finch & Fern Book Company; Simply Stacked; Vitality Health & Wellness Center; Stronger, Longer, Better, LLC; Dallas Taproom; Lori Cannon, Edward Jones; Tamed Hair; River Tree Development; Gordon Food Service; First Apostolic Church; Dollar Tree, Sylvania Avenue and Whiteford Road; Belle Tire; Huntington Bank; PNC Bank; Wild Bill's Tobacco; Vibrant Chiropactic; Sofo Foods; Dental Excellence of Sylvania and Adrian Steel.

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Sylvania's Safety and Service Director **Kevin Aller** was given a plaque and special recognition for his years of service to the city of Sylvania from the Sylvania Area Community Improvement Corporation members at the April 10 meeting. Aller is retiring from his position on May 31 after serving the city for the last 13 years.

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Courtesy of Imagination Station

—Photo by Scott Grau



Mary Frey, Suzy Crawford, Maureen Kern, Mary Anne Shea, Mary Fitzgerald Lazzari, and Melissa Allen enjoy the eclipse together.



Courtesy of Imagination Station

—Photo by Scott Grau



John Weston, Sally Jo Nichols, Jane and Bill Wiciak, and Barbara Weston share the 'awe' of the moment.

Wildwood hosts many for the eclipse

GRACE ROONEY

Many people took advantage of a rare sunny day at Wildwood Preserve Metropark on April 8 as they waited alongside family and friends for the solar eclipse to take over the sky.

Though there was a partial eclipse on Aug. 21, 2017, the last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806 and the next one will be in 2099. Wildwood provided the perfect wide-open field for people to lie down and watch the sky and a playground for kids to enjoy the nice weather.

"I just came down here to ride [my bike]," said Scott Cook, who lives right over the Michigan line and traveled down to Wildwood for the day. "Of course, I'm going to watch it. Instead of going out in my driveway or something, I ride my bicycle while I do it."

Many people came to the park to observe the wilderness and to see if any animals were acting strangely due to the cosmic event.

"Whether that's animals settling down or frogs might be singing, they do think that it's night, so we might experience some of that," said Metroparks employee Hannah Calandra.

Some people said they didn't need to look at wild animals to observe bizarre animal behavior because their own pets were eliciting peculiar behavior leading up to the eclipse.

"He's always been my dog, but he will not leave my side. He is so attached. When I am leaving, I hear him crying and barking. He's more attached to me than normal," said local Pam Sanford.

Visitors and locals alike were able to view the solar eclipse clearly from their spot at Wildwood Preserve Metropark while also enjoying the warmth of the day together with friends and family.

Grace Rooney is a former SA Intern, and journalism student at BGSU.

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Global Studies offered at SV

MAYA ANG

Southview High School is currently in its fourth year of offering the Global Studies Diploma program, providing students an individually driven opportunity to connect with diverse cultures while benefitting the Sylvania community. Brought to Southview by Principal Kasey Vens and through the leadership of French teacher Lucas Hoffman and Social Studies teacher Katy Creecy, the program has continued to maintain student interest.

The diploma, offered by the World Affairs Council of Northwest Ohio, is an endeavor to be completed in three years of high school, where recipients are honored at graduation. The first year of the process centers around students building their global awareness—Creecy said, “You start kind of broad being exposed to a lot of different cultures, perspectives, and as you work your way through the program, you narrow it down to where your field of interest is.” The second year is dedicated to building up skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication in a global context. The first two years amalgamate in the third with the final project, hoping to take action within the community using the skills acquired in the previous years. Creecy continued, “So throughout the program, you’re learning about global perspectives. It could be different cultures or politics. It could be really anything that is global in nature, but you want to do something with that information.”

Topics and interests are not constrained by formal research. Hoffman stated, “One of the really fun things about the program is that students really get to decide how they want to consume information. So for some kids that’s reading articles, and books, more traditional. Then, we had a kid who consumed movies and TV shows as her research. That’s not the traditional way of doing research, especially pop culture, but there’s a lot of flexibility, and we can really work with

students and support what their interests are.” The ability to explore globalism creatively can be liberating for students, as an unconventional but more engaging instrument of education. Offering global concepts in a less strict, traditionally academic way makes becoming the intended “global citizen” inviting to students who are much more interested in creative expression.

As Southview’s program grows, students use their projects to benefit the community, as well as their careers. 2023 Southview alum Samantha Bernholtz had focused her “action piece” on offering a more diverse catalog of languages as Southview classes, in addition to the usual Spanish, German, and French. Dr. Vens told Sylvania Advantage, “When we brought up adding another language, like a Southeastern Asian or maybe a Middle Eastern language, I thought it was going to be an outright no, and it wasn’t. They let me finish my sentence, and finish what we’ve done so far. If you’re asking to add staff, you’re spending taxpayer money—somebody has to say no. And of course, as the building leader, I’m going to ask just in case they say yes, so I respect when they say no and I don’t even get to finish my sentence. This was different, and I told Sam, they are listening.” The benefits of being globally minded follow outside of high school life, becoming more important in the workplace, and even in day-to-day interactions. Even a basic level of understanding taught in high school language courses may be beneficial. According to Creecy, “I point to Alyssa Cruz. Because of her work with global studies, she was able to use her experiences for a study abroad scholarship.”

Those who possess the skills taught by the Global Studies program have been equipped with ways to operate in a world that continues to grow and connect across continents. These skills of communication, open-mindedness, and respect for others follow students long after high school in an individually driven way.

McCord students collect donations for Advent Center, Lutheran Services pantry

Students at McCord Junior High School are wrapping up a week-long service project called “Tartans Pitch In,” benefitting the Advent Lutheran Center, with a community donation event on Thursday, April 18. Students and volunteers will sort count the items, and add them to the overall school count.

The service project benefits the Advent Center, 3934 N. McCord Rd., and the Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio Emergency Choice Food Pantry. Throughout the week, McCord students are asked to bring in their donations, which will count toward their individual “houses” at the school. The winning “house” will be announced at the end of the week.

The Advent Center operates a program for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The clients collect items for the per-

sonal needs pantry and distributes them to those in need. The LSS food pantry serves approximately 900 individuals each month with a five-day supply of food, regardless of their zip code.

Items on the Advent wish list include: body soap; body lotion; deodorant; dish soap; laundry soap; paper towels; razors; shampoo; shaving cream; toilet paper; toothpaste; and toothbrushes. Advent is also collecting art and school supplies, such as colored pencils, crayons, Elmer’s glue, glue sticks and washable markers.

The LSS food pantry wish list includes: cake and brownie mix; frosting; canned fruit and vegetables; canned meat; canned soup and ravioli; crackers; peanut butter and jelly; cereal, cereal bars, oatmeal and grits; pasta and pasta sauce; and ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise.

Other School News

Children’s books needed

Southview High School Education & Training Students are collecting new children’s books for Austin’s Book Club. The organization provides parents and children at the Toledo Children’s Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with new children’s books for parents to read to their child and take home with them. Collections can be made through April 19 in the box in the office.

Donkey Basketball at NV

Donkey basketball is coming to Northview. The event will feature staff and students “attempting” to play basketball while riding on the backs of donkeys on Monday, April 22 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 at the door or \$7 if preordered. Visit <https://forms.gle/5Br5TtxRAXnJCwvm6> for more information.

'Dare to Dream' state poster contest winner

Darlene Roll and Sylvania Lions Club president **Carol Collins** congratulate Arbor Hills student **Emilia Garner**, center, whose art work was selected as the local, district and state winner in the Lions Club 'Dare to Dream' poster contest. Every year the Sylvania Lions club sponsors a Peace Poster contest for junior high students in Sylvania.



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SV's spring musical set

Southview's spring production, "Fame -The Musical" will be performed Thursday, April 18 through Saturday, April 20 at 7 pm and Sunday April 21 at 2:30 in the SV theater. Tickets are \$12 for adults; \$10 for students and senior citizens.

Based on the 1980 film and subsequent TV show, "Fame-The Musical" inspired generations to fight for fame and light up the sky like a flame! This high-octane musical features the Academy Award-winning title song and a host of other catchy pop numbers.

Through song and dance, "Fame-The Musical" follows a class of students at New York City's High School of Performing Arts from their admission through graduation. We meet the fame-obsessed Carmen (senior Gabby Dunn), the ambitious actress Serena (senior Skyler Hall), the quiet musician Schlomo (senior Bradley Wright), the talented but illiterate dancer Tyrone (sophomore Truth McCadney), the determined actor Nick (senior Leo Roehl), the wisecracking comedian Joe (junior Quinn Bourell), and the financially strapped dancer Iris (senior Anna Danszeisen). Leading the students is their no-nonsense English teacher Ms. Sherman (junior Brooke Seddon). The audience shares the ambitions, successes, challenges and failures of this class of highly talented and versatile students, who experience racial prejudice, drug abuse, and sexual exploitation in their journey to becoming stars. With a little bit of "Hard Work" and a whole lot of "Dancin' on the Sidewalk", they finally learn what it means to achieve "Fame."

Director and choreographer Brandi Shepard, Southview drama teacher, said "I performed in this show when I was in high school and it's been on my radar to do for a while. We were halfway through the rehearsal process in 2020 when it was canceled due to the COVID shutdown. All of those students have since graduated, but I had the right fit of students this year. I love that this show has the big, bright production numbers, but also deals with some serious issues."

Shepard is assisted by Southview Theatre alumni Youseff Baddar, assistant director; and teachers Samantha Olrich, vocal director; Megan Fitzpatrick, orchestra director; Laurie Huebner and Emily Zunk, tech directors. Student leadership includes stage manager Jillian Arledge, senior; set crew chiefs Ryleigh Rahman and Eleanor Megeath, seniors; and tech crew chief Valdis Welsh, junior.

"Fame -The Musical" is produced with special permission from Music Theatre International. Conceived and developed by David De Silva. book by Jose Fernandez, lyrics by Jacques Levy, and music by Steve Margoshes.

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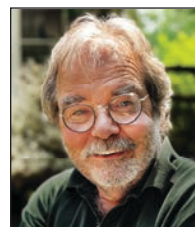
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PERENNIAL VEGETABLES?

SCOTT: Mike, you helped me out the other day with a customer asking about wild lettuce. I noticed you mentioned that it's perennial. Wait... what? Perennial? Now in my defense I don't grow veggies, but I never considered that perennial veggies existed in the Midwest Region.



MIKE: Correction Scott, I said that wild lettuce is a biennial as opposed to perennial and annual vegetables. By definition, biennials tolerate cold weather better than annual vegetables. Annual vegetables have a life of one growing season in the Upper Midwest, such as tomatoes and peppers. Biennial vegetables are planted, grown through the year, then grow the following season. They flower during the next new season. Biennial plants sometimes skip a season and return during the following growing season.

Most gardeners consider Wild Lettuce a weed. However, it has some remedial attributes. It grows the first year as a rosette (by definition, a circular pattern of leaves). Then the second year it produces flower.

SCOTT: But there are perennial vegetables, who knew? What kinds do well in our backyards?

MIKE: Since we live in the Great Lakes region, we are stuck between growing zones 5 and 4. If you are interested in growing them, I would recommend you find perennial veggies hardy enough to tolerate our frigid winters. For example; rhubarb, kale, asparagus, horseradish, onion, leak and garlic. Culinary herbs such as thyme, parsley, mint and sage can tolerate zone 5 winters.

SCOTT: How much sooner does a perennial vegetable produce a harvestable crop compared to starting with annual plants?

MIKE: Most perennial crops take a few years growth for them to give you a bountiful harvest. One must take into consideration that perennial vegetables must maintain a constant mid-to late season harvest routine in order to stimulate new growth.

SCOTT: Is there an easy perennial veggie to grow?

MIKE: Rhubarb, in my opinion is the easiest to propagate. It is hardy from zones 8 to 3. Canada Red, Crimson Red, MacDonald and Valentine are popular varieties. Just find a full sun environment with loamy soil conditions. Pick the plant or plants you like, and drop them in the ground. Give it a light "NATURAL" garden vegetable fertilizer with MYCORRHIZAE. It assists the plants roots to accelerate in growth and absorb much needed micro-nutrients. Water lightly and leave it alone. The leaves will tell you when it needs a drink. It's a super easy plant to grow. A comfortable plant will produce years of happy stalks.

SCOTT: I guess a con of doing a perennial is you have to plan your beds carefully... you also give up crop rotation. So, amendments become more important, yes?

MIKE: Absolutely! Seasonal applications of compost will aerify your soil and add nutrients that have been used up by the plant. Do this each autumn to ensure the plant has everything needed to kick start the following growing season.

SCOTT: After this discussion, I think annual veggies are the way to go. Why you ask? Sounds like the cons outnumber the pros in this case. But to each their own garden! Until next time Sylvania, green thumbs up!

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BY JENNIFER ALEXANDER RUPLE

With Cinco de Mayo on the horizon, thoughts of traditional Mexican foods come to mind – tacos, guacamole, Pico de Gallo, and chile con queso are all splendid choices to serve.

Cinco de Mayo commemorates Mexico's victory over the French on May 5, 1862; however, it is not as widely celebrated in Mexico and is more of a ceremonial celebration. In the United States it has become a day to honor Mexican American culture and heritage. So go ahead and enjoy the foods of Mexico on Cinco de Mayo starting with, of course,

creamy Chile con Queso and fresh Pico de Gallo.

PICO DE GALLO

This bright and flavorful salsa is made from tomatoes, onion, cilantro, jalapeños and lime juice. Its colors - red, white and green - mimic the colors in the Mexican flag. The key to a good Pico de Gallo is to use the freshest ingredients available. While it can be prepared a day ahead, it is best served shortly after preparing.



- 4 Roma tomatoes, diced
- 1 small white onion, finely diced
- ½ cup cilantro, chopped
- 1-2 jalapeños, seeded and diced
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- Salt to taste

In a medium size bowl, add all ingredients and stir gently until well combined. Chill Pico de Gallo in the refrigerator for about 1 hour before serving.

CHILE CON QUESO



Chile con Queso, or affectionately known as “queso,” is a chile-cheese dip which hails from Mexico, with Southwestern states such as Texas and New Mexico creating regional versions of their own. It's velvety, rich and the ultimate comfort food to share with friends.

If you cannot locate Anaheim or New Mexico chiles, a 4-ounce can of chopped green chiles equals about 2 roasted and peeled fresh chiles. For better melting quality, opt for brick-style cheese from the deli and shred it yourself rather than using packaged shredded cheese.

- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter • ¼ cup diced yellow onion • 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 cup whole milk • 1 cup water • 8 ounces white American cheese, shredded
- 4 ounces Monterey Jack cheese, shredded • 4 ounces white Cheddar cheese, shredded
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin • ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 Anaheim or New Mexico green chiles – toasted, peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 jalapeño, diced • ½ teaspoon kosher salt

In a medium saucepan, melt butter over medium-low heat. Add onion and jalapeño and cook until softened.

In a medium bowl, whisk together cornstarch, milk and water until well combined. Pour into saucepan. Bring to a simmer, stirring constantly until mixture begins to thicken.

Add American cheese, reduce heat to low, and cook stirring until cheese has melted. One handful at a time, add Monterey Jack and Cheddar cheeses, stirring until melted before adding more. When the mixture is smooth, stir in cumin, cayenne pepper, chiles and salt.

Transfer queso to a bowl or small slow cooker. Serve warm with tortilla chips.

(Recipe adapted from Queso! by Lisa Fain, Ten Speed Press, 2017)

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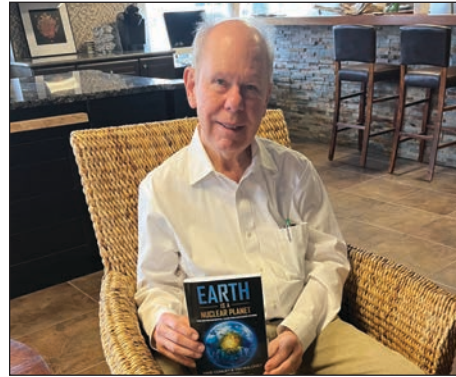
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Authors offer climate change solutions



Tim Maloney

Professor, engineer, inventor, author Tim Maloney is on a mission to refute the fear of nuclear energy. "I have a keen interest in our climate crisis and have spent several years researching potential solutions," the retired Monroe Community College professor of electronics and author of several text books noted.

"It was at a thorium energy conference 12 years ago, that I met screen playwright and novelist Mike Conley who shared my interest. We both had concluded that wind and solar cannot replace fossil fuels by themselves," he stated. Maloney said that in his opinion, nuclear energy is key to solving society's energy needs and thorium could be a big turning point for nuclear technology. Thorium is much more abundant in nature than uranium and can be used as a nuclear fuel. However, it is currently more challenging to extract from the earth but Maloney is hoping those challenges will be overcome with new methods.

"We collaborated on our book, 'Earth is a Nuclear Planet' to present nuclear energy in a non-

threatening way. People think of nuclear technology as a weapon and we hope to change that by removing the fear. People have been misled that nuclear electricity production is dangerous. That is not true. For example, the death rate from nuclear energy is lower than that of all other generation technologies, including wind and solar. Even ordinary granite produces natural radiation and those who work in New York City's Grand Central Station with its walls of granite are at greater risk than from any nuclear technology," Maloney observed.

Published by Carus Books, Peru, Ill., "Earth is a Nuclear Planet" is available directly through the publisher, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Target.

According to reviews, "Earth Is a Nuclear Planet" is a book on nuclear energy unlike any other. It makes the reader feel like a genius by clearly explaining all the relevant basic science in a fun, entertaining way."

About the Authors

Toledo native and Lambertville, Mich. resident Tim Maloney, is a graduate of Case Institute of Technology and the University of Toledo. He has been a start-up engineer, a professor of electronic technology and is the author of the textbook, "Modern Industrial Electronics."

As a lifelong science nerd, Mike Conley became interested in nuclear power in 2010, and quickly saw that the field was in dire need of writers who could explain the technology to the average reader. He joined the Thorium Energy Alliance, met dozens of scientists and engineers, and made them an offer: "You explain it to me and I'll explain it to the world." He lives in Los Angeles, Calif.

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The lights and blaring siren generate a sense of urgency, but right now Life Squad 6 is moving at a crawl through afternoon rush hour

traffic at Brint and Holland-Sylvania Roads. It's the second leg of a nursing home call for firefighter-paramedics Derek Meyer and Andrew Douglas. First, they help stabilize a patient experiencing a cardiac emergency at a care center; now, they're rushing him to the ER at Flower Hospital.

It was one of 13 calls that day out of Fire Station 1 in downtown—one of four companies that comprise Sylvania Township Fire/EMS. For the care center staff, the fast response was expected, and for the patient's family it certainly was a tremendous relief.

"No matter what, our citizens are confident that when they call our fire department, we will show up," says Acting Chief Chris Nye. "Just walking in the door when someone is having an emergency has a calming effect."

This expectation of quick and professional response—and the community resource that supports it—is a far cry from firefighting when the Village of Sylvania and Sylvania Township established their first volunteer fire departments in the early 1870s. In fact, it was 137 years ago this month that half of our downtown was destroyed by fire, as recently reported by my colleague Gaye Gindy in the Advantage.

"In April 1887 all of the buildings on the west

side of Main Street between Monroe and Maplewood burned to the ground," Gindy wrote. "Even the boardwalk in front of the stores were ashes." Historian Tedd Long separately reports that--absent a pumper wagon--men with buckets had to slop water from a wooden pump at the livery stable to quench the flames.

But today, firefighting in the city and township is consolidated into a single department under the jurisdiction of the Township Trustees. Based on incident calls, ours is the second largest fire department in Lucas County (behind the City of Toledo) with 8,000 calls and 16,000 apparatus responses last year.

Sylvania's fire service now consists of 74 full-time uniformed firefighters plus three fire inspectors, a fire marshal, a captain responsible for safety and training, and three administrative staff. Volunteer and part-paid personnel were discontinued in the early 2000s.

Not only has the department become more professional since the early days, but the nature of its duties and call volume have changed dramatically since Chief Nye became a full-time firefighter with the department in 1994. "Back then we had 1500 calls for the entire year," he said. "Today--driven by the growth of the community--call volume has gone up consistently at 10 percent each year."

But Nye points out that population growth is only part of the equation. "Another big driver has been the addition of emergency medical service to the department ... 80 percent of our calls are now EMS. And nearly a fifth of our volume is to the 18 senior care facilities in Sylvania," he said. "Today, we may get one significant house fire a month. Still, because of the more highly flammable building materials in new construction, they tend to burn hotter and faster. Each fire is definitely more serious now."

It's clear that the men and women who staff our fire service are committed to their profession, the department and the community. For example, Lt. Craig Koperski grew up in Sylvania,

graduated from Northview, and found college to be "not what I expected." He returned home to become a volunteer firefighter when he was 20 and "fell in love with the job instantly."

"I got my EMT and became a paramedic, then got hired 21 years ago at the end of a hiring spree that doubled the size of the Sylvania department. I do not regret that decision. The fire service is really unique because you develop a sense of family with the people you work with. I get to spend time with some of my lifelong friends on every shift."

Joining the family three years ago is Alyeska Sturt, who received a degree in marketing and sales from the University of Toledo but "hated" her first post-graduation job. And then: "Even though I always liked the medical field and considered being an anesthesiologist, I didn't want to face another 12 years of school. I always played sports and enjoyed being part of a team. So, I got my EMT and Fire certificates, started working part-time at various suburban departments, then got my full-time assignment here."

"I like it in Sylvania because it's small enough

that I know everybody's name. Plus, no matter if you are assigned to the medic unit or an engine, you're always busy. I did a shift recently where we had 15 runs and 12 transports ... a long day. But it's the right fit for me."

Clearly, Chief Nye relishes his team's commitment. "The profession is not for everybody ... there is a strength and mentality that has to come with being a firefighter, and if you don't have it, it's not the job for you."

"We see our department as a positive public service, an all-hazards 24/7 operation. We work hand-in-hand with our law enforcement partners, zoning staff, and other government officials to make sure the community is safe. We never forget this is a problem-solving business ... and there is not one particular situation ever that we as a team cannot solve."

(Special thanks to Lt. Rod Standiford and the firefighters at Station 1 for their help in reporting this story.)

Longtime Sylvania resident Mark Luetke has served on city council, the board of education, and numerous foundation and community boards.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING/HEARING

The Sylvania Township Zoning Commission will hold a Meeting on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Township Hall, 4927 Holland-Sylvania Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560 for consideration of the following:

Zone Change Request from C-2 (General Commercial) to RA (Low Density Residential) for the property located at 5629 Whiteford Rd. (Parcel No. 78-50151)

Notice: Upon receiving recommendations from the Lucas County Plan Commission the Zoning Commission will conduct hearings on all zoning issues published for legislative consideration within this agenda. All persons interested in or affected by said requests will have the right and opportunity to be heard on the question of granting or denying of said requests. Information concerning said matters is on file in the Sylvania Township Zoning Office and may be seen Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After the Zoning Commission takes action on zoning matters before it; said actions will be referred to the Board of Trustees for final determination.

By Order of ZC Chairman Mary Himmelein

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING/HEARING

The Sylvania Township Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Meeting on **Monday, May 6, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.** at the Township Hall, 4927 Holland-Sylvania Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560 for consideration of the following:

1) Variance Request for fencing within a front setback from 35' required to 0' provided for property located at 5555 W Central Ave. (Parcel No. 78-69201) STZR – SECTION 1307 C

2) Variance Request for allowable signage in an A-3 District from one (1) sign per lot required to two (2) signs provided for the property located at 4255 Mitchaw (Parcel No. 78-03044) STZR – SECTION 1412

3) Conditional Use for a Home Occupation within a Residential District for the property located at 5171 Comstock Dr. (Parcel No. 78-10616) STZR – SECTION 600

Notice: The Board of Zoning Appeals will conduct hearings on all issues published within this agenda. All persons interested in or affected by said requests will have the right and opportunity to be heard on the question of granting or denying of said requests. Information concerning said matters is on file in the Sylvania Township Zoning Office and may be seen Mon., Wed. Thurs., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

By Order of BZA Jason Levine, Chairman

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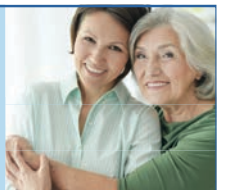
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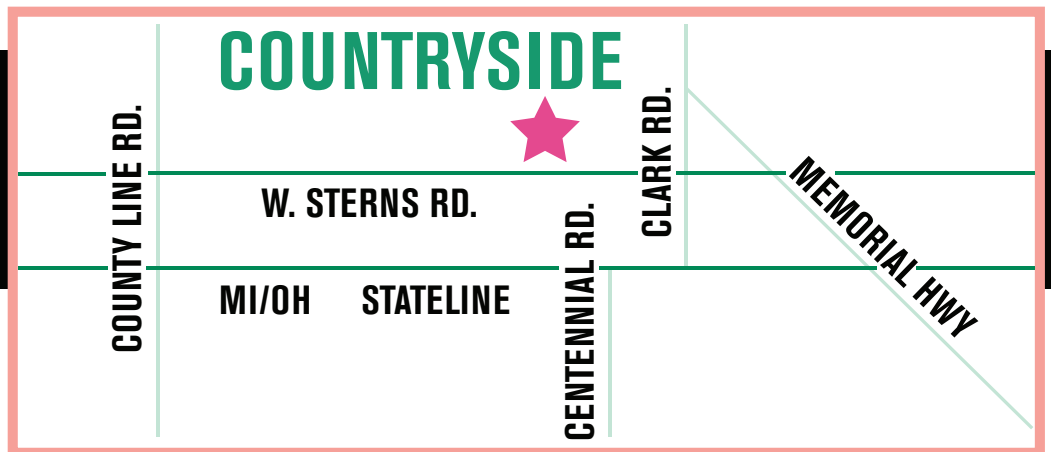


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