



SYLVANIA ADVANTAGE

September 14 - September 27, 2026
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Sylvania's No. 1 Source for Community News

Ivy & Elm Co. brings creativity, personalization to Fall Festival

For Ivy & Elm Co., the Sylvania Fall Festival is more than an opportunity to sell handmade goods, it's a chance to connect with customers, showcase new creations and let festival-goers see the creativity behind the business.

Ivy & Elm will be among the many vendors welcoming visitors to the Oct. 17-18 festival.

Owners Kayla Yoshino Pittenger, a 2008 Sylvania Southview High School graduate, and Alli Cousino, a Swanton native, will bring an assortment of fall and Halloween décor, Christmas pieces, everyday home décor, cutting boards and giftable items, along with new designs created specifically for the event.

"The Sylvania Fall Festival is our favorite event of the year and one of the few opportunities for customers to shop a large selection of our work in person," Pittenger said.

This year, festival shoppers also will have an opportunity to add a personal touch to select pieces.

"We have an area where shoppers can select certain pieces and have them personalized on the spot," Pittenger said. "We are also planning a kids' creative area, giving younger festival visitors an opportunity to paint/decorate their own small wooden piece."

The partnership between Pittenger and Cousino began in an unlikely place for a future creative business, on a court.

The two met while coaching volleyball. After several years of working together, the friends decided to take on a completely different adventure and launched Ivy & Elm Co. on Etsy in January 2019.

The business name reflects both their friendship and their approach to their work.

"Ivy & Elm has special meaning to us," Pittenger said. "Ivy represents growth, connection and lasting relationships, while ELM stands for Every. Little. Moment. Together, they really capture what we love about this business."

That philosophy has become a central part of the company's identity.

"We get to create pieces for people through so many seasons of life, from births and first birthdays to weddings, new homes, milestone celebrations, 90th birthdays and everything in between," she said. "Big or small, we believe every little moment is worth celebrating."



Alli and Kayla, Ivy & Elm Co., Co-Owners, at last year's Sylvania Fall Festival.

The business experienced significant growth in 2020 as people spent more time at home and looked for ways to make their living spaces feel more personal.

Today, the Ivy & Elm partners create everything from wood signs and seasonal décor to cutting boards, personalized gifts, engraved pieces and one-of-a-kind custom projects.

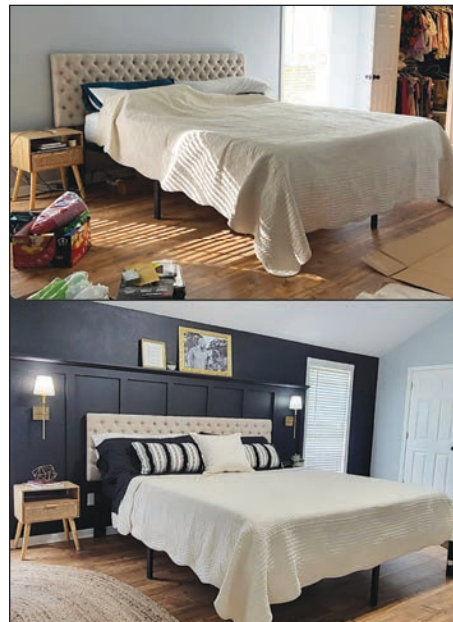
Many of the pieces combine several techniques. "With a graphic design degree, I enjoy designing each piece, while Alli is super handy with tools and cuts and builds our frames. We both engrave, paint, stain and finish pieces together depending on the project," Pittenger said.

Custom work has become a particularly important part of the business.

"We love when someone comes to us with an idea and gives us the opportunity to turn it into something tangible," she said.

That can mean creating pieces for weddings, housewarmings, new babies, birthdays, holidays, memorials, teachers and families, as well as everyday home décor.

The company also has expanded beyond individual pieces to tackle room-refresh and home projects, including bedrooms, bathrooms and



Bedroom refresh, before and after.

mudrooms. Projects can incorporate painting, board-and-batten and other accent walls, furniture refinishing, custom décor and finishing touches designed to bring a room together.

For Pittenger and Cousino, however, the most rewarding part often comes after the project leaves their workshop.

"One of our favorite parts of the business is seeing finished pieces 'in the wild' in customers' homes or learning that something we made was given as a meaningful gift," Pittenger said.

Since 2019, the duo has expanded with the addition of a laser. Customers can choose from crisp engraved signs, 3D cutouts, hand-painted pieces, or a combination of these styles.

While the laser has allowed for increased production, they have resisted the idea of turning into a mass-production operation.

"The goal has remained the same: creating pieces that feel personal, useful and special enough to keep," Pittenger said. "We don't really want to be a mass-production business. Some of our favorite projects start with someone saying, 'I have this idea, but I don't know if it's possible.' Those are usually the projects we have the most fun figuring out."

IVY & ELM CO. to 10

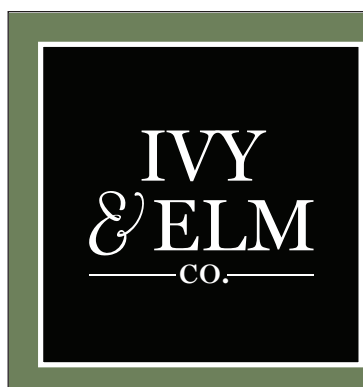
What's Inside



Jaxon Linehan, his mother **Jen** and dog **Murphy** are ready for the parade. Murphy is the winner of the Best Twinsies category.

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\$10 OFF
\$50 OR MORE!

Valid at the Sylvania Fall Festival
or in our Etsy shop: [TheIvyAndElmCo](https://www.etsy.com/shop/TheIvyAndElmCo)

Festival: Show this coupon or mention
The Sylvania AdVantage.

Etsy: Use code 10OFF50

EXPIRES 12/5/26 | **IVY & ELM co.**



Find us on Facebook!



Find us on Etsy!

Questions, custom orders & quotes: theivyandelmco@gmail.com

AUCTION

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2026 @ 10 AM
5921 Glasgow, Sylvania OH



Real Estate • Corvette • Tools
Antiques • Collectibles • More

REAL ESTATE OFFERED at 10 AM | Contents Auction to Follow

PREVIEW: Tuesday September 29 • 5-6:30 PM

REAL ESTATE: 3 bed, 3 bath brick ranch on 1/2+ acre
 with partially finished basement, large insulated detached garage & more!

PERSONAL PROPERTY:

1979 Corvette w/T-tops • 2022 John Deere Z335E zero-turn mower • Longaberger Baskets
 Craftsman riding mower • tools • antiques • collectibles • furniture • household & more!

Owner: Donald & Patricia Vineyard



WHALENAUCTION.COM

Auctioneers: Jason Whalen, Mike Murry, George Bly
419-875-6317 • 419-337-7653

Information herein deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Guild presents floral design show

The Serendipity Designer Guild, a local group dedicated to the art of floral design, is holding a flower show on Monday, Sept. 28, from 1 to 5 pm, at the Garden Club Forum house located on the grounds of the Toledo Botanical Garden, 5403 Elmer Dr. The show is free and open to the public.

Titled Celebrate America 250, this is a small standard flower show in accordance to the rules of the National Garden Clubs organization.

Sylvia Meiring, president of Serendipity, said, "There will be 12 original floral de-

signs and a display of horticulture specimens entered by members of Serendipity and members of the other groups that make up the Garden Club Forum."

There will also be information about joining any of the Garden Club Forum groups, which include Anthony Wayne, Corey Woods, Maumee, Perrysburg, PoppySeed, and River Road garden clubs, Serendipity Designer Guild and other at-large members.

Designer Purse Bingo to benefit Sight Center

The Sylvania Lions Club is hosting Designer Purse Bingo on Thursday, Sept. 17 at the Toledo Elks Club, 3520 N. Holland Sylvania Rd. Doors open at 4:45 pm and Bingo begins at 6:30 pm. Admission donation is \$50 per person or \$60 at the door.

The cost includes 16 games of Bingo and

one intermission coverall bingo game. The winner of each game will win a designer purse. Extra books of game cards are available for \$5 each or three for \$10.

Food trucks will be on site. Proceeds will benefit The Sight Center.

The Sylvania Senior Center is a happening place

In recognition of National Fall Prevention Awareness Week, the Sylvania Senior Center will offer two opportunities focused on helping older adults stay steady and independent. Stop by the SSC lobby on Monday, Sept. 21 from noon to 4 pm for fall-prevention information and tips. On Thursday, Sept. 24 from 10 am to 2 pm, free balance screenings will be offered in the lobby. No registration is required.

The Sylvania Senior Center's live performance series, CENTER STAGE, sponsored by Kingston of Sylvania, welcomes vocalist and actress Sharon Dendinger on Sept. 22 from 1 to 2 pm for an afternoon featuring songs from "The Sound of Music" and "Mamma Mia!" along with classic musical-theatre favorites. RSVP is requested. CENTER STAGE is sponsored by Kingston of Sylvania.

55 After 5: Understanding Medicare — Wednesday, Sept. 23, 5:30–7 pm

After 5 will offer an opportunity for adults to receive clear, practical information about Medicare benefits and important changes for 2026. Mikayla Becker, Insurance & Senior Benefits Consultant with Great Lakes Benefits, will present the free program. The event is presented by the Sylvania Senior Center in partnership with the United Way of Greater Toledo.

Kind Cards Club is set for Friday, Sept. 25 from 2 to 4 pm. Participants are invited to help spread encouragement throughout the community by signing, packaging and helping distribute homemade greeting cards for individuals in local care centers and those who are homebound.

Regular activities at the Sylvania Senior Center include Ballroom Dancing on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 pm; SSC Connect now meets weekly on Thursdays from 1 to 2 pm; and The Weekly Mingle welcomes adults for informal conversation and friendship on Fridays from 1 to 2 pm.

Additional upcoming special programs include Raja Yoga Meditation, a Sound Bath, and Movie Day. Art programs, health screenings, supportive services, exercise classes, games and discussion groups are offered throughout the month.

The center is located at 7140 W. Sylvania Ave., Sylvania, and is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. For program information, registration or appointments, call 419-885-3913. Programs and events are subject to change.

Daniel Tiger, Hartman to focus on kindness

The Neighbor to Neighbor Toledo initiative will host Daniel Tiger Day, Sept. 19, at the downtown Toledo Public Library.

The group will also hold 'An Evening with Steve Hartman,' discussing 'The Power of Kindness,' at the Franciscan Center on Oct. 6 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$20 and available at neighbortoneighbortoledo.com.

Toledo Rep opens 94th season

The Toledo Repertoire Theatre opens its 94th season with the Gilbert & Sullivan timeless classic, "The Pirates of Penzance." The show runs Sept. 18 - Oct. 4. For tickets and showtimes, visit the Toledo Repertoire Theatre's website at toledorep.org or call the Rep's box office at 419-243-9277.

Quilters gather

Gathering of Quilters meeting is Sept. 17 at the Holland Free Methodist Church, 6605 Angola Road, Holland. The entrance is at south end of building. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7 pm.

FALL INDOOR REGISTRATION

OPEN NOW!



PROGRAMS

AMAZING ATHLETES

BASKETBALL

GOBLIN GALLOP

HIP HOP DANCE

KARATE

LACROSSE

SOCCER



Sylvania Recreation District

playsylvania.leagueapps.com

Sylvania Fall Festival to be held at Centennial Terrace Oct. 17 and 18



Participants check out the many vendors at the 2025 Fall Festival.

The 40th annual Sylvania Fall Festival will be held at Centennial Terrace on Saturday, Oct. 17 and Sunday, Oct. 18. Organized by the Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce and presented by Dave White Chevrolet and Great Lakes Chevy Dealers, this year's event will feature over 75 vendor booths, representatives from local organizations, 10 food trucks and live music.

Festival hours on Saturday are 2 to 8 pm. Activities include craft and farmers market vendors, music from North of Nashville from 2:30 to 4:30 pm and Andi Jo Taylor from 5 to 8 pm. The annual cornhole tournament begins at 4 pm. To register for the tournament, visit sylvaniachamber.org.

Sunday hours are 10 am to 4 pm and feature a full day of events and activities including a kids

zone with a bounce house, pony rides, petting zoo and complimentary Pumpkin Patch; organization booths; music from Distant Cousinz from 2 to 4 pm; and craft and farmers market vendors. The parade will launch from Pacesetter Park at 1 pm and will feature the Northview and Southview marching bands, local dance and twirling groups, and the honoring of the 2026 Grand Marshal. Trick or Treat will be held at 2 pm.

A complimentary shuttle service will be available from 2 to 8:30 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4:30 pm on Sunday. Event-goers may park at the lot off Brint and Centennial roads, and a bus will shuttle people to Centennial Terrace operating on a consistent pick-up and drop-off loop.

SPA to host 'The Ultimate Quest'

Sylvania Prevention Alliance, in partnership with Outdoor Sylvania and other community organizations, will host The Ultimate Quest on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 10 am to 1 pm at Olander Park. This family friendly community event is free and open to the public. Come out to Olander Park and enjoy free games, crafts, and challenges.

The Ultimate Quest is designed to giving families the opportunity to "disconnect to reconnect." Healthy use of technology and screen time remains a challenge for families in 2026. Up to 95 percent of young people ages 13-17 report using a social media, with more than a third saying they use it "almost constantly." These patterns of behavior can trigger the brain to overly respond to high dopamine activities. These activities are defined by their instant gratification and constant stimulation. Examples include video games, social media, and gambling, among others.

Some of these behavior patterns are beginning to present themselves at an earlier age and

are making their way into elementary school buildings.

The Ultimate Quest is designed to provide families with a practical way to spend healthy time together. Families will also be provided with access to future opportunities and information to help build a healthy relationship with social media that can last over time.

Local partnering organizations include Outdoor Sylvania Community Parks, Imagination Station, Toledo Zoo, The Toledo Lucas County Library, Adventus Climbing, Toledo Museum of Art, Heritage Sylvania, Chick-fil-A, Sylvania Community Services, Checkmate, Goldfish Swim School, the YMCA, Metroparks Toledo, T-Town Burgers, Los Agaves, and KK Rolling.

Political meeting

The Sylvania Area Democratic Club will host Dessert with Dems on Sept. 28 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Sylvania Area Family Services, 5440 Marshall Rd.

Construction Update

According to the project liaison, Jamin Roe of American Structurepoint, road construction on the second block of Main Street will not begin until Buckeye Cable and Frontier finish their work on moving utilities from above ground to below. Roe noted this is the single issue now holding up the utility burry project on this block and preventing the Phase 2 Streetscape project from beginning.

FALL WELLNESS RESOURCE FAIR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

10 AM-1 PM

7140 Sylvania Ave | Sylvania, OH
419-885-3913

Plan to attend this **FREE** expo and discover services and resources to help you live healthy and well.

THE HOLOCAUST: HISTORY, MEMORY, AND MICHIGAN VOICES

A Traveling Exhibit Presented By The Zekelman Holocaust Center

On Display At Lion of Judah Church
September 1st – October 30th
Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Real People. Lasting Lessons.

A SPECIAL EVENING WITH
DR. IRENE MILLER
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR, AUTHOR, AND EDUCATOR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2026
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Lion of Judah Church
5732 Douglas Rd.
Toledo, OH 43613

Join us for an extraordinary evening with Dr. Irene Miller as she shares her story and experiences, offering a deeply personal perspective on the Holocaust and the importance of preserving survivor testimony for future generations.

It is a story of courage, determination, perseverance, and the power of the human spirit.

PRESENTED BY THE ZEKELMAN HOLOCAUST CENTER

HOSTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



SYLVANIA 40 YEARS FALL FESTIVAL

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



SATURDAY OCTOBER 17TH

2 PM - 8 PM

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18TH

10 AM - 4 PM

CENTENNIAL TERRACE

**LOCAL VENDORS,
FOOD TRUCKS, KIDS
ZONE, PARADE
& MORE!**



THE BIG TO DO IN SYLVANIA

ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY

LIVE MUSIC

Tuesdays
Upside Run Club • Upside Brewing, 6-7pm, rain or shine

Fridays in Oct.
Spooky House • Cooke-Kuhlman House, family-friendly, 6-9pm, \$5 entry, under 2 free, heritagesylvania.org

Sept. 20
Golf Outing • Giant Oak Golf Club, Temperance, to benefit ALS, register at charlineschampions.com

Mom to Mom Sale for Baby & Teens • Tam-O-Shanter, 12:30-3pm, \$3 cash entry

Sept. 26
Haus Fest • Beau Haus Salon, Grand Opening, 5758 Main St., 1-5pm, all are welcome

Sept. 27
Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure • Downtown Toledo, komen.org/nwohiorace

Celebrate the Senses • Psychic healing event, The Pinnacle,

8:30am-4:30pm, \$7 cash entry

Sept. 28
Flower Show • Toledo Botanical Garden, by the Serendipity Designer Guild, 1-5pm, free

Sept. 29
Sylvania Senior Center Resouce Corner • Practical information and resources for seniors, free, sylvaniacomunityservices.org

Oct. 1-31
Harvest Fest • Toledo Zoo, and Heritage Sylvania, toledozoo.org

Oct. 3-4
Apple Butter Fest • MacQueen's Orchard, more pg. 7

Oct. 17-18
Sylvania Fall Festival • Centennial Terrace, more pg. 3

Oct. 24
Halloween Hike • Olander Park, \$5 ages 3-12, free 2 and under, pre-registration begins Oct. 1, outdoorsylvania.com

Sept. 14-18
City and Township Unlimited Pick up • Items must be at curb by 7am

Sept. 15
Township Trustees Meeting • Trustee Hall, 4927 N. Holland Sylvania, 5pm, open to the public

Sept. 21
City Council Meeting • Council Chambers, 6635 Maplewood, 6:30pm, open to the public

Oct. 21
Sylvania Schools Town Hall Meeting • Sylvania Senior Center, 6-8pm

Sundays
Bobby May and Friends • The Sodbuster, 7pm

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

Tuesdays
Bobby & Frankie • Fuzzy's, 5pm

Sept. 14
Matt Goodrich • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 15
Something to Talk About • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 16
Baja Fog • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 17
Terry Cooper • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 18
Fender Bender • Bier Stube, 6pm

Razor Sharp Objects • Fairways, 7pm

FOOD & DRINK

Tues. thru Sept. 22
Sylvania Summer Market • Olander Park, 5-8pm

Wed. & Sat.
Toledo Farmers' Markets • Westgate at Frankin Park Mall - Wednesdays 2-6pm, Downtown - Saturdays 8am-2pm

Sept. 16 & 30
Wine Tastings • Sofo's Market, 6-8pm; 6 pours, food and live music, \$25; RSVP at shopsofos.com

Oct. 2
ZOOtoberfest • Beer tasting event, Toledo Zoo, 7pm, tickets toledozoo.org

Sept. 19
NTO Band • The Barn, 7pm

Echo Chamber • Bier Stube, 8pm

Sept. 21
Gene Zuma • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 22
Double Take Music • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 23
Jean Holden • Fairways, 6pm

Night Sessions • Olander, 7pm

Sept. 24
John & Jenn • Fairways, 6pm

Sept. 25
Trez Gregory • Fairways, 6pm

Aftershock • Bier Stube, 6pm

Sept. 26
Deep Cuts • Bier Stube, 8pm

Oct. 2
The 25s • Bier Stube, 6pm

Oct. 3
Distant Cousinz • Bier Stube, 8pm

TRIVIA

Mondays
VI Pub Quiz • 6:30 & 7:30pm

Tuesdays
Voodoo Brewing • 6:30-8:30pm

The VI • Music Bingo, 6:30-8pm

Sidelines Sylvania • 7-9pm

Bier Stube • 8-10pm

Frogtown Johnnie's • 9pm

THE ARTS

Thru. Sept. 20
"Come From Away" • Hit musical based on a true story, The Croswell, tickets - croswell.org

Sept. 19-20
Glass Harvest • TMA Glass Pavilion, handblown glass pumpkins & glass-blowing demos, 11am-5pm, free entry & parking, toledomuseum.org

Sept. 26
Block Party • TMA campus, 3-8:30pm, free and open to all, toledomuseum.org

Oct. 2
Red Bird Artwalk • Downtown Sylvania, 5-8pm

COMEDY

Mondays
The Barn Bar & Grill • 7-9pm



SYLVANIA ADVANTAGE
Est. 1995

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TUESDAY NIGHT TRIVIA
7-9 PM
SYLVANIA LOCATION!

MacQueen's Orchards

APPLE BUTTER FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 3RD & 4TH • 10 AM - 6 PM



MacQueen's Adventure Land:
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Corn Maze • Pick Your Own Apples & Pumpkins
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Boots to Blooms

Fall is in bloom at the farm!



Fresh-cut flowers, pumpkins, and more!

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Bootstoblooms@gmail.com • Bootstoblooms.com
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram



Amy Bass, Owner



Our retail section is "choc full" of locally-made delights!

New Fall Hours: Mon-Sat: 8am-9pm | Sun: 10am-9pm
5661 Main St. Sylvania • erinanns.com • 419.517.8024

FALL

Boots to Blooms Flower Farm and Pumpkin Patch

**7364 Beck Rd.
Ottawa Lake, Mich.
bootstoblooms.com**

Fall brings some of the richest flowers of the year! Dahlias, zinnias, heirloom mums, celosia and more are blooming at Boots to Blooms Flower Farm located just minutes from Sylvania in Ottawa Lake, Mich.

The seasonal, hand-grown flower farm and pumpkin patch are bursting with colorful heirloom pumpkins, along with autumnal hand-tied bouquets.

Boots to Blooms Flower Stand is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11-7 pm. The Pumpkin Patch is available every day beginning Sept. 19.

Cash and Venmo are accepted at the self-service stand.

Erin Ann's Homemade Ice Cream & Juices

**5661 N. Main St.
Sylvania, Ohio
419-517-8024**

Enjoy homemade, dairy-free ice cream, cold press juices, coffee, cold brews, lattes, smoothies, smoothie bowls, protein bars and other light foods. A menu of healthy bites includes yogurt parfaits, overnight oats, avocado toast, protein bites, and granola bars.

All of the house-made ice cream is dairy-free; however, some flavors include honey so check with staff before ordering. Plant-based milk is available for drinks.

Check the schedule for dates and times for a variety of activities for children.

Hours are Monday-Saturday from 8 am to 9 pm, and Sunday from 10 am to 9 pm.

Erin Ann's was established in 2022.

Louis Keil and Sons

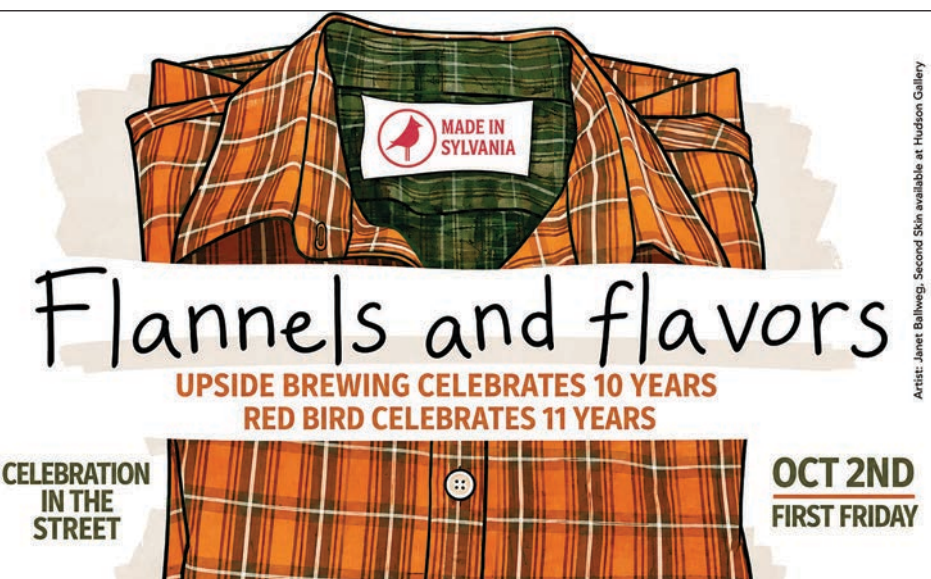
**9022 W. Central Ave.
Sylvania, Ohio
louiskeilandsons.net**

Celebrate autumn with a visit to Louis Keil and Sons. Established in 1955, the third generation, 80-acre family farm is well known for its plants, produce and pumpkins. During fall, the Keils offer everything needed for seasonal decorating and entertaining.

The farm is currently stocked with pumpkins, mums, gourds, corn stalks and straw bales.

Inside the farm's market, customers will find an array of seasonal produce such as zucchini, peppers, tomatoes, greens, herbs, potatoes, radishes, three types of sweet corn - yellow, white and bicolor - and several varieties of squash.

Louis Keil and Sons is open Monday - Saturday 9 am to 6pm and Sunday 9am to 5pm until Thanksgiving.



Flannels and flavors

**UPSIDE BREWING CELEBRATES 10 YEARS
RED BIRD CELEBRATES 11 YEARS**

**OCT 2ND
FIRST FRIDAY**

CELEBRATION IN THE STREET

Artist: Janet Ballweg, Second Skin available at Hudson Gallery

FUN 2026

MacQueen's Orchards
Garden and Gunn Roads
Holland, Ohio
419-865-2916

MacQueen's annual Apple Butter Festival is planned for Saturday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Oct. 4 from 10 am to 6 pm. Highlights of the event include apple and pumpkin picking, live music, barrel train rides, inflatables, a petting zoo, pony rides, a corn maze, and delicious food - barbeque,

donuts, funnel cakes, gyros, hot dogs, fries, pizza, kettle corn, roasted nuts and more.

On Saturday, musical entertainment includes Ben Beallas from 11 am to 2 pm and the JT Hayden Band from 2 to 6 pm. Sunday features Chris Brown from 11 am to 2 pm and Pure Country Band from 2 to 6 pm.

The farm market, Martha's Gift Shop, The Sweet Shop and The Bakery will also be open for all to enjoy.

Admission to the festival and parking are free.

Spooky House
Cooke-Kuhlman House
5717 Main St.
heritagesylvania.org

Let us tell you a story, a scary story! Spooky House is a fantastic way to celebrate the Halloween season. Brought to you by Heritage Sylvania and Taylor Automotive Family, the event is intended for a family-friendly audience. All spooks and no scares.

The Cooke-Kuhlman House will be overcome with the haunted spirits from iconic scary stories. Immerse yourself as you walk through the intricately decorated rooms. Our ghouls have hand crafted props, costumes and characters to cause a fright!

Spooky House is open every Friday in October from 6 to 9 pm. Admission is \$5 and includes a Halloween treat.

Red Bird presents
Flannels and Flavors

Red Bird Sylvania presents Flannels and Flavors during its First Friday Artwalk on October 2. Throw on your favorite flannel shirt, pants or jacket and join the street party in downtown Sylvania from 5 to 10 pm. The evening will be filled with live

music, food trucks, new art exhibits, store specials, a pumpkin contest, a wild witches walk, a beer run – and a celebration of Upside Brewing's 11th anniversary and Red Bird's 10th.



SYLVANIA
**40th FALL
FESTIVAL**

40TH ANNUAL SYLVANIA FALL FESTIVAL
CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS
Be part of what makes it special!

**SIGN UP HERE!**

Questions about volunteering?
Please reach out to Courtney Hiatt at
chiatt@sylvaniachamber.org.

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OPEN: Mon. - Sat. 9am-6pm | Sun. 9am-5pm

VISIT US:
Toledo Farmers' Market | Saturdays
Westgate Farmers' Market at Franklin Park Mall | Wednesdays



louiskeilandsons.net

A FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN HOUSE



**\$5
ADMISSION**

HERITAGE SYLVANIA'S
SPOOKY HOUSE
at
THE COOKE-KUHLMAN HOUSE
5717 MAIN ST SYLVANIA, OHIO, 43560
EVERY FRIDAY IN OCTOBER
6PM-9PM

**HERITAGE SYLVANIA**

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Township talk ...



New Sylvania Township Police Officers **Jacob Harrigan** and **Joshua Mohr** meet the Sylvania Township Trustees and Fiscal Officer at the Sept. 1 meeting. Sylvania township Police Chief Sarah Toth administered the oath of office during the meeting.



Sylvania Township Fire Chief **Chris Nye**, center, congratulates the newly appointed Auxiliary Chief **Jeff Bennett**, left, who will succeed Nye as chief upon his retirement next March and the new Assistant Chief **Mike Behan**, right.

Sylvania Township Police Chief Sarah Toth administered the oath of office to two new police officers, Jacob Harrigan and Joshua Mohr, during the Sylvania Township Trustees meeting Sept. 1. The additions bring the township's active police force to 43 officers.

In other action, trustees approved a request from Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Bennett for additional professional services from Colliers Engineering & Design for improvements at Fire Station No. 4. The cost is not to exceed \$35,000.

The proposal includes continued project coordination, support for industrial stormwater discharge permitting, and updates to stormwater reports.

Sylvania Township Fire Chief Chris Nye announced his retirement, effective March 19, 2027.

The Sylvania Township Trustees subsequently approved two resolutions appoint-

ing Bennett as auxiliary fire chief and fire chief, upon Nye's retirement, and Training and Safety Captain Mike Behan as assistant fire chief.

Following the legislative action, Bennett's wife, Audra, placed the official pin signifying his new rank on his uniform. Behan's wife, Jen, similarly pinned her husband's new rank.

New TARTA representative appointed

Township Administrator Oliver Turner told trustees that Joel Beren, the township's current representative on the Toledo Area Regional Transportation Authority board, plans to conclude his service when his term ends Oct. 1. The trustees appointed Ben Malczewski to represent the township on the TARTA board. His term will begin Oct. 1 and run through Sept. 30, 2029.

The next Board of Sylvania Township Trustees is set for Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 5 pm.

City beat ...

Sylvania City Council President Mary Westphal reported on a public meeting held before the Sept. 7 council meeting concerning a proposed car wash, convenience store and fueling station at the vacant Rite Aid building at Erie Street and Centennial Road.

Eight residents spoke during the meeting, expressing concerns about the proposed development. Westphal thanked the residents who filled the council chambers for taking the time to attend and share their opinions.

No residents spoke in favor of the proposal. The matter will be discussed at a future Zoning Committee meeting, with the date and time to be determined.

In other business, council members agreed to detach property at 5238 W. Alexis Road at the

request of Andrew Michalias, representing Alina's LLC.

The vacant lot is located within the city of Sylvania and is contiguous with Alina's residential property at 5252 W. Alexis Road, which is in Sylvania Township. Once the properties share identical jurisdictional boundaries, the petitioner will be able to construct a detached garage for the residence.

At the request of Sylvania Service Director Joe Shaw, a Zoning Committee meeting is scheduled for Sept. 21 at 5:30 pm to discuss proposed amendments to the Sylvania Codified Ordinances regarding the installation and operation of electric vehicle charging stations.

The Township Fire Department personnel

MARK FRYE

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



With Labor Day barely in the rearview mirror, it seems fitting to take a moment to recognize the people who keep everything in check — especially those who keep the city of Sylvania moving.

The core, essential functions of local government are straightforward: providing safety through police and fire services; delivering clean drinking water; collecting wastewater; maintaining roads; and collecting solid waste.

The list of other services provided by a city is long and tends to grow when these basic responsibilities are done well. But these five essential services are often the measuring stick residents use when deciding what makes a community a good place to live.

And Sylvania does them well.

Some of these essential functions are administered and performed directly by city and Sylvania Township employees. Our community is safe because of the outstanding 24/7 work of the Sylvania Police Department, under the leadership of Chief Danilynn Miller, and the Sylvania Township Fire Department, led by Chief Chris Nye.

And as anyone traveling through Sylvania can tell you by the number of orange barrels around town, our commitment to maintaining roads, water and sewer systems is not being shortchanged.

The city maintains more than 73.5 miles of streets and bridges and resurfaces four to five miles of roadway each year. Streets and Utilities Foreman Michael Elliott and his team also handle repairs and improvements to our water mains and sewer lines.

Service Director Joe Shaw and his staff work tirelessly — and successfully — to secure grants that help stretch our resources and reduce the burden on local taxpayers.

The Safety and Service Department also oversees solid-waste collection, which is contracted to Republic Services for our 6,028 residential accounts. Republic has provided the service to Sylvania since 2006 and also serves communities throughout the region.

Under the Safety and Service Department, Margie Ott manages the Parks and Forestry Division. The division is responsible for basic maintenance of trees growing in public rights of way and on city-owned property, including tree removal, trimming, stump grinding and planting.

The division also operates a 24-hour emergency service for downed tree limbs obstructing public rights of way.

And then there are Sylvania's parks — 54 acres of community green space that are outstanding examples of how natural beauty and outdoor recreation can make our lives better.

Behind all of these services is another important piece of local government: managing the city's finances.

Our newest administrative staff member, Finance Director and Treasurer Sullivan

Nicholls, and his staff oversee municipal budgets, financial reporting and the Income Tax Division. In other words, they take care of the money we collect and the money we spend, keeping a close eye on the budget to make sure we live within our means.

Bill Grimm keeps us up to date with technology while helping ensure open and transparent communication. He oversees the city's digital infrastructure, networks and technical services.

Law Director Leslie Brining provides legal opinions and advice to the mayor, City Council and department heads on matters ranging from economic development and disputes to city projects.

Her office prepares city ordinances and resolutions, works with the finance director on funding legislation and assists with municipal code revisions. Before the city buys, sells, rents or leases property or hires a contractor, the law director's office reviews and approves the necessary legal documentation.

She also oversees the city's Division of Prosecution, handling legal enforcement and related matters within its jurisdiction.

Human Resources/Communications Manager Laura Smith oversees personnel services, employee relations and staffing needs across city departments. She also manages official city communications, assists with administrative inquiries and helps distribute information between city government and the public.

Smith also coordinates public-records requests and supports the city's municipal governance operations.

Last, but certainly not least, is my administrative assistant, Claudia Witkowski, who helps keep everything running smoothly in my office. She manages daily operations and the general workload while handling communications and serving as a primary point of contact for residents, city officials and department heads.

She also serves as clerk of council, maintaining written records, minutes and documents for City Council and its committees. She keeps council-adopted resolutions, rules, regulations and bylaws available for public inspection and publishes official legal notices concerning council business and public hearings.

I have mentioned only a few of the people who work behind the scenes to make Sylvania the wonderful city it is. There are many more members of our city team whose contributions are just as important.

Labor Day may already be in the rearview mirror, but appreciation for the people who serve our community should never be limited to one day.

To every city employee who shows up, solves problems, serves a resident, maintains a road, answers a call, balances a budget, trims a tree or simply makes sure the job gets done — thank you.

You are the people who keep Sylvania moving, and we are grateful for all that you do.

As always, if you have questions about city services or would like to share an idea or concern, please call my office at 419-885-8926 or email cwitkowski@cityofsylvania.com.



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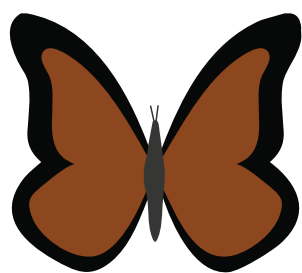
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Letter to the editor

I'm a conservative Christian father in the Sylvania school district. My wife and I chose this community because of its reputation for strong schools. We made that decision knowing that we, not the schools, are responsible for our children's faith and values. Private school was an option, but like most families, our income has its limits. We believed Sylvania's public schools offered a solid academic foundation while we built faith and character at home. We bought our house intending to stay for life — even choosing a first floor bedroom so we would never have to move again.

As Christians, we're called to live in this world but not be of it. Public schools reflect the reality of America: diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and values. About 82 percent of Ohio kids attend public schools*, so they're a cross section of the country our children will eventually work and live in. I welcome that exposure. I also respect parents who choose private schools — it's their right and their responsibility to make the best decisions for their family.

It has been challenging to watch the pushback to the Sylvania levies and see how quickly some people assume the district has been irresponsible. As conservatives, we're keen to be skeptical of government spending — and rightly so. But skepticism should lead us to examine the numbers, not reject them outright.

And the numbers tell a very different story.

Sylvania has one of the lowest administrative expenses per pupil and one of the lowest overall expenses per pupil in the region. They recently cut over \$2.6 million through salaries, contracted services, and materials/supplies. They also saved another \$9.7 million through health insurance negotiations. Since 2017, district revenue has increased only 19 percent** while inflation (CPI) and median household income have both risen about 36 percent*** in the same period. In other words, the district made do with revenue that grew about half the speed of the expensive world around them. That's not waste — that's conservative stewardship.

Despite these challenges, Sylvania continues to earn 4+ star performance ratings. They offer 15 career tech programs in fields conservatives consistently champion such as engineering, financial management, construction trades, and fire/EMT. They provide special education services that most private schools do not. They offer dozens of AP classes that save families thousands on college tuition. And they support a multitude of clubs and organizations beyond just athletics where kids experience real life lessons in discipline, teamwork, resilience, and responsibility.

I don't look at these extracurricular programs and see administrative waste. I see a community investing in the next generation of responsible and capable adults. I see teachers who could earn more in the private sector but choose to serve as the village that helps raise our kids — even while their pay freezes or slowly limps behind inflation.

Here's my hot take. When it comes to federal taxes, I say go ahead and pay as little as legally possible. Washington wastes money, grows bureaucracy, and rarely rewards responsibility.

But local communities are different and local taxes stay in our backyard. Senior centers, police, libraries, parks, zoos, and schools — these are the things that make a community strong and will get my vote nine times out of ten. These are the things conservatives can get behind because they build stability, safety, and opportunity close to home.

Meanwhile, Washington is downsizing the Department of Education. Columbus is cutting public school funding in favor of vouchers. Whether you agree or disagree with those moves, the message from the top is clear: local communities must decide for themselves whether they want strong schools and the ball is in our court.

The original property tax levy divided the cost among nearly everyone: homeowners, renters, retirees, workers, and businesses. Many seniors responded by saying they were being taxed out of their homes. The district listened — which is something government should do — and proposed an income tax instead.

Is an income tax ideal? No.

Does it hit working families harder? Yes.

Does it allow seniors to stay in their homes? Absolutely.

Am I willing to take on that extra burden? 100 percent.

I plan to live in this community forever, just like many of you. I want my retired neighbors to stay here too. I want the schools that drew us all here to remain strong. And I want Sylvania to rise to the challenge instead of crumbling because we refused to invest in our own backyard.

This isn't about more taxes. It's about local control, fiscal responsibility, and protecting the community we chose.

Join me as a CONSERVATIVE FOR SYLVANIA SCHOOLS.

Dan Kramer

*Pew Research

**U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

***Federal Reserve Economic Data

Ivy & Elm Co. at Fall Festival

FROM 1



Home decor from Ivy & Elm Co.

In many ways, that spirit of creativity is rooted in the friendship that started it all.

"We went from coaching volleyball together to running a creative business together, which probably says something about us," Pittenger said. "We both enjoy creating, problem-solving and taking an idea from 'What if we tried this?' to a finished piece someone gets to take home."

The creative partnership has earned Ivy & Elm recognition beyond its Etsy success. The business was a runner-up in the Best of Toledo 2025 DIY Business category.

And at this year's Sylvania Fall Festival, visitors will get to see that creativity up close, with plenty of opportunities to take a little bit of Ivy & Elm home with them.

Raisin' Cane at the Senior Center



The Raisin' Canes from Parma, Ohio perform at the Sylvania Senior Center on, Aug. 28. **Susan Crawford**, third from left, is a Sylvania native who brought the group to dance on the same stage where her mother performed in the SSC Follies years ago. There were 115 people in the audience.

Art in the Garden



Jewelry maker and artist **Margaret Mazur** talks about her work with **Carol Lehmann** while potter **Ann Tubbs** and **Paul Lehmann** share stories about art during the sale she hosted in her Ottawa Lake garden adjacent to her studio on Aug. 28 and Aug. 29.

City beat ...

have requested that Sylvania City Council and Sylvania Township trustees adopt similar language regarding the stations.

Sylvania Police Chief Danilynn Miller and Sgt. Brad Clay presented information to council about the department's need for a new breath-testing device. Council accepted a \$14,994.25 proposal from Intoximeters Inc. for the purchase of an Intox DMT.

Council also authorized the mayor and finance director to enter into a memorandum of understanding with Clark, Schaeffer, Hackett & Co., selected by the state of Ohio auditor's office, to perform the city's audit through Dec. 31, 2030.

Council members also approved several requests from Service Director Joe Shaw.

A \$5,516 change order to the city's agreement with Bowser-Morner will provide supplemental professional geotechnical engineering services for the Sylvania Avenue Pumping Station. According to Shaw, the additional work could help save construction costs by further understanding seasonal ground water conditions and bedrock depth at the new wet well.

Shaw also was authorized to submit applications for Ohio Public Works Commission grants for the Sylvania Avenue Pumping Station and the Brint Road/Main Street/Holland-Sylvania Road roundabout.

FROM 8

At Shaw's request, T&J Excavating & Tree Removal Clearing LLC will remove vegetation from Schreiber Ditch for \$28,850 and J. Cunningham Ditch for \$14,200 as a part of the Tenmile Creek Ditch Petition.

Council also approved right-of-way acquisitions associated with the Erie Street/Monroe Street roundabout.

An agreement with property owners Kyle and Alicia Keever, totaling \$80,130, covers property at the northeast corner of the Erie Street and San Reno Drive intersection. The agreement also includes partial driveway removal on the San Reno side of the property, a temporary construction easement for grading and driveway reconstruction.

Council members also agreed to acquire a simple title appropriation of 0.006 acres at the corner of Old Post Road and Monroe Street for the roundabout project at the appraised value of \$2,995.

Shaw said the city and property owners James and Ann Magers have not reached an agreement on the property over several months of negotiations. The appropriation is necessary to maintain the project schedule and for the City to certify control of the right-of-way for construction to the Ohio Department of Transportation by Dec. 4.

School leaders address SACIC members



Sylvania Schools Superintendent **Tim Ziroff** and Treasurer **Adam Koch** outline the district's financial status at the Sept. 9 meeting of the Sylvania Area Community Improvement Corporation.

Beyond a "new normal": A new era of hearing healthcare.



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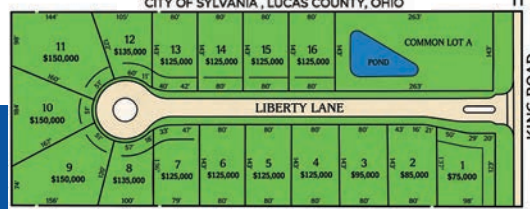
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Educator publishes his first work of fiction, ‘Transcendence’



Mark Pugh

For years, the story lived in Mark Pugh’s head. Last summer, the Sylvania educator finally decided it was time to put it on paper.

The result is “Transcendence,” Pugh’s first young adult science fiction novel — a futuristic tale of survival, relationships and the challenges young people face when they are pushed into unfamiliar territory.

Pugh, Sylvania Schools’ new director of student services and former Northview High School principal, said the story draws inspiration from his longtime fascination with history, particularly the settlement of the American West.

“I have always loved history and have been especially fascinated with those who settled the American West and how that settlement could have been better,” Pugh said. “The theme of ‘Transcendence’ is reminiscent of that exploration, only with a futuristic focus.”

In the novel, the characters find themselves

stranded after crashing on an unknown planet. Their struggle for survival becomes only part of the challenge as they learn to navigate their relationships and discover how to work together.

While “Transcendence” is geared primarily toward readers ages 18 to 22, Pugh said its themes can resonate with readers of any age.

The book is available through Amazon and the TikTok Shop and has been accepted by Goodreads. It also is available through the Sylvania Library.

Pugh’s own journey to Sylvania began 12 years ago when he was hired as principal of Highland Elementary School. A graduate of Indiana University, Pugh spent seven years at Highland before becoming principal of Northview High School, where he served for five years.

Throughout his career in education, Pugh said, he has encouraged students to pursue their passions. Eventually, he realized it was time to take his own advice.

“I have always read a lot, and I have had this story in my head for many years,” Pugh said. “Finally, in summer 2025, I decided to follow the advice I have given to students my entire career, and I put pen to paper, chipping away a little at a time.”

Little by little, the story that had occupied his imagination for years began to take shape.

“The result was I finished, and ‘Transcendence’ was published this year,” Pugh said.

For Pugh, the book represents more than a first venture into fiction. It is a reminder that the advice he has shared with students throughout his career applies to everyone — including educators.

Sometimes, following a passion simply means taking that first step and putting pen to paper.

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From cleaning ducts to building a business



Kelly King and Kim Hill

When Kim Hill started cleaning air ducts and dryer vents nearly 30 years ago with Clean Air Systems, she never imagined the skills she was developing would eventually lead to a business of her own.

But experience has a way of opening doors, and sometimes, those doors lead to an unexpected career path.

After Clean Air Systems closed, Hill and her daughter's father-in-law, Jerry Dunn, put their heads together and decided to take a leap of faith. They purchased a truck equipped with duct-cleaning equipment and the specialized tools needed to dislodge dirt and debris from duct-work.

In 2010, Dunn-Hill Duct Cleaning was born.

When Dunn later decided to retire, Hill acquired his share of the business and continued building the company with help from her sister, Kelly King.

Nearly three decades in the industry have given Hill more than technical experience. She has developed relationships with HVAC companies, builders, property management companies, Realtors and others, relationships that have helped the business grow through the years.

Along the way, Hill and King have discovered

that no two jobs are exactly alike.

"We have found everything from mice to bugs to birds and more in addition to just dirt, dust and mold," Hill said. "Our finds can be rather interesting."

While the unexpected discoveries may provide an occasional surprise, the work itself serves an important purpose.

Dunn-Hill Duct Cleaning provides duct cleaning, sanitizing and dryer vent cleaning. Hill said clogged ducts and vents can force heating and cooling systems, as well as clothes dryers, to work harder. They can also contribute to poor indoor air quality and may aggravate respiratory problems such as asthma and allergies.

Clean ductwork can improve air quality, reduce allergens and irritants, enhance HVAC efficiency and help eliminate musty odors, Hill said.

Dryer vent cleaning can also help reduce the risk of fire associated with lint buildup and restricted airflow causing an inefficient drying operation.

Today, Dunn-Hill serves customers within approximately a 50-mile radius throughout northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. The company's service area extends south to Bowling Green and Findlay, east to Fremont and north to Monroe, Michigan.

For Hill, however, the business is about more than cleaning ducts. "It is about knowing what we are doing, trust, and taking care of customers' homes."

"We are certainly experienced," Hill said. "And we are very careful with our clients' belongings as we work in their homes."

The company offers free estimates, but Hill said she is selective about the jobs she accepts.

"We will only take on a job if we know we can do it correctly," she said.

It is a philosophy Hill has carried with her since she first started in the duct-cleaning business nearly 30 years ago, one that has helped turn a leap of faith into a lasting family business.

SAJRD BOARD OPENING

Looking for an opportunity to serve the Sylvania community?

If so, the Sylvania Township Board of Trustees is accepting applications for an appointment to the Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District (SAJRD).

The appointment will be for the remainder of a three-year term lasting through December 31, 2027. To be appointed, applicants must be a Sylvania Township resident and at least 18 years old.

For more information on the appointments please contact

Sylvania Township Hall at 419-882-0031.

If you would like to apply, fill out the online application by

September 30, 2026, via the following link: sylvaniatownship.com/board.

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Lunara Micro Bakery brings European-style pastries to Sylvania

"I have the taste of a 5-year-old," pastry chef Lucy Essi said with a chuckle. "I started baking at an early age because of that. Baking became my passion."

Now, Essi and her husband, Southview High School graduate Alex Essi, are bringing that passion, and 10 years of baking experience, to Sylvania's Haymarket Square, where they are operating Lunara Micro Bakery.

The couple's bakery specializes in European-style laminated pastries, artisan

bread, croissants, danishes, pastry puffs, seasonal fruit pastries, custard tarts and doughnuts.

"We make everything from scratch, using only the highest quality ingredients," Lucy Essi said.

Lunara Micro Bakery has grown from a homegrown passion into a small business with an ever increasing customer base. Before moving to Haymarket Square, the Essis shared a commercial kitchen where they prepared baked goods for customers at the

Downtown Toledo Farmers Market and for porch pickup orders.

The move to Haymarket Square came at just the right time.

"We had been sharing a commercial kitchen where we did all of our baking for customers at the Downtown Farmers Market and for our porch pickup orders," Lucy Essi said. "It was perfect timing to learn about the availability of this space just when we found out we had to leave the kitchen in June."

The new Haymarket Square location currently serves as the pickup spot for online bakery preorders. The couple uses the commercial-grade kitchen for all of their baking, while the front deck provides a convenient location for customers to pick up their orders.

"Everything about this place is great," Lucy Essi said. "We were so lucky to find this space. The ovens are top of the line and are perfect for us, making everything we do so much easier."

For now, Lunara Micro Bakery operates primarily as a preorder and pickup business, but the Essis have plans to eventually open the front of the bakery to customers.

Although Lucy Essi is the primary baker, Alex Essi has found his own niche in the business. A mechanical engineer by profession, he has become the chief doughnut maker while lending a hand with other baking projects.

"Alex and his family have been so willing to help with everything," she noted.

Lucy Essi's love of baking began long be-

fore Lunara Micro Bakery. She and her mother moved to the United States from Spain when she was 13. "While I certainly had a sweet tooth, I became very homesick for the crusty breads and croissants I had loved growing up, so I taught myself how to make them," she recalled.

By the time she was 17, she had developed a substantial repertoire of baked goods and began selling them from a corner of the restaurant her mother owned at the time.

After she and Alex married, the couple moved to Toledo, where Lucy began selling baked goods to neighbors. Eventually, she found a commercial kitchen and joined the Downtown Toledo Farmers Market.

Flying Rhino Coffee became her first wholesale client.

Her thriving business quickly demonstrated that there was an appetite for her pastries.

"When we first started at the market, I would bring a few hundred pastries," she recalled. "I took 600 pastries and sold out."

That kind of response has fueled the Essis' enthusiasm as Lunara Micro Bakery continues to grow.

"It is so gratifying and joyful to see the business grow and to see customers appreciate my baked items," she said. "I love to make people happy."

For Lucy Essi, each pastry is more than something sweet to eat. It connects her to the flavors she remembers from childhood and lets her share her passion with a growing community of customers in Sylvania.



Lucy and Alex Essi are happy to have their new location in Haymarket Square.

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A stable sanctuary for veterans



Crossroads Community Church Pastor **Keith Luke**, General Manager of Stoneco Michigan **Dan Sniegowski**, Combat Air Force Veteran, Little Blessings Executive Director and Founder **Jamie Paxton**, CW4 Army Combat Veteran, Board President, State Representative and Owner of Visiting Angels Monroe **William Bruck**, EAGALA-Certified Spouses Group Co - Leader, Veteran Spouse **Natalie Bruck**, Army Combat Veteran, Community Liaison for Little Blessings Veteran and Community Outreach **Sean Curtis**, Veteran Gold Star Children: **Zoe, Landon**, and **Dustan Slinger**, and Community Support members - **Amy** and **Bob Caris** - The Justen Caris Foundation break ground for the new stable.

For many veterans, the transition from military service to civilian life can be one of the toughest battles they face. At Little Blessings Veteran Outreach, horses are helping them find a path toward healing.

Now, there will be a new home for those four-legged "Battle Buddies."

Ground was broken Sept. 1 for a new stable at Little Blessings' 18-acre horse ranch at 5725 Sterns Road in Ottawa Lake, Mich. Miller Diversified serves as general contractor for the 4,350-square-foot facility anticipated to be completed by the end of December.

According to Executive Director Jamie Paxton, the new stable will feature seven spacious stalls with proper ventilation and enhanced protection from extreme weather.

"These improvements also allow us to monitor the health and well-being of each horse," Paxton said.

During good weather, the horses will have access to individual fenced run areas. The stable's main aisle also will be designed as a multipurpose space for wellness activities such as yoga, community dinners, open houses and other gatherings.

Little Blessings has raised about two-thirds of the funds needed for the project and continues to seek donations and sponsors. "Contributions to our stable project help us create a sanctuary where veterans and their families can find hope, healing and a renewed sense of belonging," Paxton said.

This mission is personal for Paxton, a 25-year military veteran who retired in 2017. She soon discovered that leaving the military could be almost as challenging as serving in it.

"Your life changes from the minute you begin basic training," she said. "You learn that no matter what, it is mission first, and this is a tenet you live by."

Military life provides structure, clear expectations and a defined mission, Paxton said. Leaving that environment can create a difficult transition, particularly for veterans who have experienced trauma.

"Once you leave that environment, the transition can be very difficult and even impossible for many who also suffer some kind of trauma

along the way," she said.

For Paxton, horses provided a source of comfort and healing. "I had horses for the past 23 years and knew how much it helped me to be around them," she said.

That realization eventually led her to Randy and Patti Mandrell of Refuge Services Inc. and an EAGALA Model workshop in Lubbock, Texas. The experience provided the framework for what would become Little Blessings Veteran Outreach.

Paxton initially launched Little Blessings Veteran and Community Outreach at Duke Petting Farm in Temperance, Mich., where she rented horses and facility space.

In 2022, her dream took a major step forward when she was offered an 18-acre horse ranch in Ottawa Lake.

"Thanks to the generosity of the Stoneco leadership team who believes in our mission, we have a long-term lease on the property," Paxton said. "This is the answer to a prayer and the realization of my dream since Little Blessings began."

Today, the ranch is home to a growing herd of horses that Paxton affectionately calls "Battle Buddies:" Journey, Blessing, Sebastian, Bjorne, Sonny, Maggie, Tango and Foxtrot, along with Scooter, the goat.

But the horses are more than residents of the ranch. They are partners in Little Blessings' mission to help save lives and strengthen families by providing veterans in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan with healing, hope and belonging through equine-assisted therapies and meaningful community connections.

The organization's Warrior Equine Empowerment Program combines the intuitive behavior of horses with the expertise of licensed mental health professionals and EAGALA-certified equine specialists. Programs also are available for military spouses and children.

With the new stable taking shape, Paxton sees more than a building rising on the ranch.

To learn more about the programs, vision, how to get involved, and how to contribute, visit lbveteranoutreach.org or call Paxton at 419-779-0342.

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SYLVANIA'S STREAM

District champs



Standing, L-R: Athletic Trainer **Scott Carver**, Assistant Coaches **Jaden Bloomer** and **Josh Meek**, **Johnny Mielcarek**, **Landon Bernard**, Head Coach **Tim McCarthy**, **Pierce Bittel**, **Derek Delrue**, **Evan Truman**, **Cash Fielding**, **Ashton Beebe**, **Max Rhodes**, **Chase Gable**, **Will Colyer**, **Ben Dykhuis**, Assistant Coaches **Adam Knaggs** and **Austin Ritson**. Kneeling, L-R: **Gabe Green**, **Brady Holman**, **Adam LePla**, **Tyler Rachko**, **Ben Kotnik**, **Lucas Girle**, **Jacob Huss**, **Payton Welling**, **Aiden Connolly**. The Southview baseball team wins the district championship earlier in June defeating Lexington High School 5-4. This is the first SV baseball team to do so since 2019.

Receives OHSAA scholarship



Sylvania Southview 2026 graduate **Dylan Walerius** is the recipient of an OHSAA's Scholar-Athlete Scholarship. The Ohio High School Athletic Association and its six District Athletic Boards have awarded \$198,000 to recent high school graduates as part of the OHSAA's Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Program. While at Southview, he helped lead the varsity soccer team to a 9 - 1 conference record and ran for the track team. Walerius is a student at The Ohio State University.

NV powerlifters capture medals

NV graduate Josh Marquis captured first place, winning gold in the Men's Raw Junior division in the US Powerlifting Summer Showdown in Cleveland on Sept.

5. NV Powerlifting team captain Brady Coulter also competed in the US Powerlifting Summer Showdown and qualified for Nationals to be held in March.

Schools Cross Country Series scheduled

Northview and Southview High School cross-country teams will host three cross-country meets, Sept. 17 at Central Trail; Sept. 24 at Northview stadium; and Oct. 1 at Timberstone Stadium. The K-third grade race is 1/2 mile and fourth - sixth race is one mile. Individual and team results will be provided by Dave's Running Shop.

K girls begin at 5:30 pm; boys, 5:40 pm; first grade girls, 5:50 pm; boys, 6 pm; second grade girls, 6:05 pm; boys, 6:10 pm; third grade girls, 6:15 pm; boys, 6:20 pm;

fourth grade girls, 6:25 pm; boys 6:35 pm; fifth and sixth grade girls, 6:45 pm; boys, 6:55 pm. All times are approximate; Runners should arrive at least 15 minutes before their event. To register visit runsignup.com or contact David Briggs at jbriggs@sylvaniaschools.org.

The Sylvania Public Schools Cross Country Series is free for any Sylvania Public School student K-6th grade. Cross Country t-shirts are available for \$12, and can be purchased when registering. This event began in 2009.

SV Orchestra students honored



Southview Orchestra members accepted into the 2026 OMEA Northwest Regional Orchestra are violinists **Gavin Chan, Nehemiah Chen, Dylan Coleman, Annette Kim, and LyAnn Samkari**; violist **Yuxin Zheng**; cellists **Akosua Brenya, Nathanael Chen, Karen Chou, and Julia Hutchinson**; and bassist **Lilly Knuckles**. In addition, Nathanael Chen and Lilly Knuckles were also chosen as 2027 OMEA All-State alternates. In addition, violinists Annette Kim, LyAnn Samkari, and Dylan Coleman will represent Southview at the 2027 OMEA All-State Orchestra in Columbus. Eddie D'Amico has been accepted to the OMEA All-State Band and Mason Brown has been accepted to OMEA All-State Jazz Band.

AALC announces scholarship opportunities

The African American Leadership Council (AALC) of United Way of Greater Toledo is offering the I Invest in ME Scholarship. Four \$1,000 scholarships will be given to eligible college juniors and graduating seniors in northwest Ohio. Applications are open now through Sept 30.

Eligibility requirements include being a current college junior (third-year by credits) or graduating senior (Spring 2027) with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and enrollment at an accredited college or university in northwest Ohio. Applications are available at unitedway-toledo.org/iime-scholarship. The deadline to apply is September 30.

The I Invest in ME Scholarship builds on AALC's growing legacy of community invest-

ment. Over the past three years, AALC has invested more than \$7,000 in leadership and youth development initiatives across the region.

"AALC is committed to building the next generation of leaders," said Amanda Davis, chair of the African American Leadership Council. "We know that students are working hard, often juggling school, jobs, and personal responsibilities all at once. The I Invest in ME Scholarship is our way of saying we see you, we believe in you, and we want to help you move forward."

The scholarship is funded by proceeds from the AALC's annual I Invest in ME Leadership Conference and Fundraiser. This year's conference will take place on Nov. 12 at Owens Community College.

Young artists invited to enter contest

Children ages 12 and under are invited to put their creativity on display through the Motor City Comic Con Kids Program Cover Art Contest, giving one young artist the opportunity to have their original artwork featured as the official cover of the November 2026 Kids' Program Guide.

Contest entries are accepted through 11:59

pm on Monday, Sept. 28.

Children are encouraged to create an original piece of artwork inspired by their favorite elements of comics, superheroes, anime, or pop culture for a chance to see their creation featured throughout Motor City Comic Con's Fall 2026 event, taking place Nov. 13-15 at the Vibe Credit Union Showplace in Novi, Mich.

SV student part of collaborative theater

Jayden Armltage of Southview was a member of the cast of the Northwest Ohio Theatre Educators Network's production of the award-winning musical, "Come From Away," at Maumee

Valley Country Day School.

This was a special collaboration of 11 area high school theatre programs.

NV/SV Homecoming!

Northview's Red Carpet Homecoming, "A Night in Hollywood," will be held Saturday, Sept. 26 from 7 to 9 pm at the Cat's Stadium. Three food trucks, yard games, and a night of dancing will be featured.

Southview's Homecoming Dance, "Under the Lanterns," is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 26 from 7 to 10 pm at Southview.

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SYLVANIA THEN & NOW

GAYLEEN GINDY

In 1925 Lloyd M. Dewey of Metamora, Ohio, purchased the property known as Lots No. 13 & 14 of Hubbards Addition to Sylvania. In July of that year he obtained a building permit to have Fetterman & Young Co. of Metamora construct a new "hollow tile" and stucco gasoline station on Lot 13, known as 6417 Monroe Street, for \$2,000.

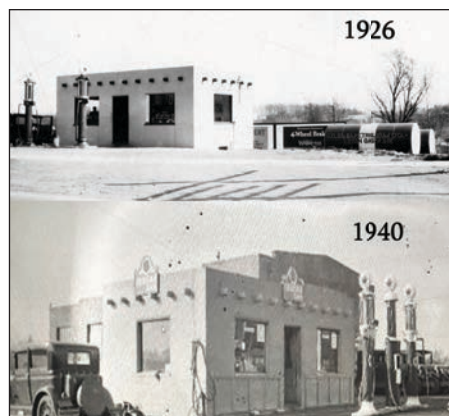
In the earlier years the address of 6417 Monroe St. for Lot No 13 and 6419 Monroe St. for Lot 14 were used, but somewhere along the way the addresses changed to 6419 Monroe St. and 6423 Monroe St.

Dewey owned both lots until 1946, and he operated Dewey Oil and "The Indian" gas station on

6417 and 6419 MONROE ST.

Lot 13. Then he purchased property on the east side of Holland-Sylvania Road and was selling bulk gasoline and oil at that location. Thanks to the Eugene Paul family members, who donated a stack of "very old" unknown slides to Heritage Sylvania, this wonderful 1926 photo of Dewey's new gasoline station on Monroe Street was found. The 1944 photo shows Fern Bartlett Paul Dewey and her husband Lloyd Dewey with their son Eugene Paul. Eugene, better known as Gene, started his career driving and delivering gas and oil for his step-father Lloyd Dewey.

In 1944, during World War II, Dewey continued operating his bulk gas and oil business on Hol-



land-Sylvania Road and began renting the old gas station building. Advertisements all throughout 1944 show Marty's Texaco Service here, but after the war ended Dewey was once again operating Dewey Gas Station here.

The Sylvania Sentinel dated Nov. 29, 1945, reported: "Robbers broke into two business places on Monroe Street breaking windows, but failed to find any money. The B.H. Elden Coal Co. and the Dewey Gas Station across the street were victims. The safe in the Dewey Oil Co. was removed through the front door and found by the golf course with the door smashed, but again no money was kept in the safe."

In 1946 Dewey sold both lots to Jesse F. and Louise Crandall, who sold the lots that same year to The Super Penn Oil Corp. An article on Aug. 1, 1946, reported that Super-Penn Oil Corp. with Mr. Foster Price as president, was operating an assembly industry of making vehicle accessories in the building to the west at 6423 Monroe St., while Bob Wilcox Motor Sales was renting the old gas station and vehicle service bay from The Super-Penn Oil Corp.

In 1950 both properties transferred into. Price's wife's name, Gertrude M. Price, and then in 1963 transferred into the name of J. Foster and Gertrude Price. In 1968 it transferred back into Gertude's name. Price died in 1966 and his obituary notice said he had been the owner of the Price Sales Co., an automotive equipment firm. Records show that he still owned the building to the west. Gertrude passed away in 1970 and that same year both lots were sold to Renworc Inc., an Ohio Corp.

The first published Suburban Directory was in 1957 which listed Z & C Sheet Metal Company, heating contractors, occupying both 6419 and 6423 Monroe St. In September 1957 Reynolds Water Conditioning Company, with James Koester, obtained a sign permit for 6419 Monroe St. The 1960 through 1963 directories listed this building as vacant, and as of the 1964 directory, the address was no longer listed and seems to be incorporated into the 6423 Monroe St. building.

In 1970 Renworc Inc. purchased the property and in November, 1971 Dr. David Crowner/Renworc Inc., obtained a permit to have C.S. Burge Inc. demolish the old service station. In December 1971 Renworc, Inc. was issued a building permit to construct a new building to be used as a dental office. The builder was Paulen Smith Inc. and the architect was Robert F Seyfang, both of Toledo.

The 1973 Suburban Directory was the first to show occupants, Renworc Inc.; David W. Crowner, and David R. Ryerson, dentists in the 6419 Monroe



Fern and Lloyd Dewey with her son Eugene Paul, center.

St. building. The 1974 directory listed the same occupants and the 1975 directory no longer listed Dr. Ryerson but added Eric J. Hires, dentist.

In May 1975 Renworc Inc. was issued a building permit to replace and change some of the windows and doorways in the building, and in October, 1975 Renworc was issued a building permit to replace the front of the buildings at 6419 and 6423 Monroe St.

In 1976 the property transferred into David W. Crowner's name and he occupied the entire building. In 1990 he transferred the property into David W. Crowner, John D. Crowner and Barbara A. Crowner, and that same year into Crowner Family Partnership.

Dr. Crowner died in 1993. His obituary notice said he was 57 years old, graduated from DeVilbiss High School in 1953, attended Purdue University, University of Toledo, and Ohio State University where he obtained his D.D.S. He was married in 1958 to Barbara Prickman. He was a Naval Veteran from 1960-1962 where he was a commander in the U.S.N.R. Dental Corps and received the Navy Commendation Medal. He started his dental practice in 1962 in Toledo and in 1972 moved to this location. He was also survived by his son John and daughter, Susan L. Herrett.

The 1994 Suburban Directory shows the building was vacant. The 1995 directory listed Chrapliwy Creative graphic design and the 1996 listed the building vacant. The 1997 through 1999 directories listed Hot Spot Tanning & Nail Center occupying the building.

In February, 1999 a permit was granted for a new sign for Electric Sun Tanning. In August 2003 a sign permit was issued for a new sign at the front of the building for the use of tenants at 6419 and 6423 Monroe St. The 2003 through 2006 directories listed Electric Sun Tanning and Healing Massage Hands Inc. occupying the building. In July 2007 James House of Canaan Construction NW Fire Stop was issued a sign permit at this address. The 2008 through 2019 directories listed Canaan Construction, general contractors; Electric Sun Tanning salons; and Northwest Firestop Inc., contractors occupying the building.

In 2020 the property and building transferred into the name of Ten Mile Ventures LLC, and that same year transferred into the name of James K. House, Trustee.

Today signs on the front of the building read Sylvania Studios entrance in rear and Solis Studio.



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Late-Summer Vegetables, Roasted to Perfection

Sizzle Simmer Sauté

SYLVANIO



BY JENNIFER ALEXANDER RUPLE

As September settles in with warm afternoons and cooler evenings, the kitchen begins to crave the savory comfort of roasted vegetables. Cabbage wedges turn tender and caramelized under a glossy herb-balsamic glaze, carrots roast to honeyed sweetness with rosemary and thyme, and peppery radishes mellow into buttery, golden bites finished with parsley and sea salt. Each recipe is simple enough for a weeknight yet polished enough to share, bringing color, texture and warmth to the table with little fuss. These roasted sides capture the best of the in-between season: rustic, fragrant and irresistibly delicious.

Roasted Cabbage with Dijon and Herbs

~ 6-8 SERVINGS

1 head green cabbage, cut into 8 wedges
3 tablespoons olive oil • 4 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
1 clove garlic, minced • 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
1 teaspoon mixed dried herbs such as thyme, marjoram and sage
1 teaspoon salt • ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
Fresh parsley, chopped

DIRECTIONS | Heat oven to 400 F.

Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a large bowl, whisk together oil, vinegar, garlic, herbs, mustard, salt and pepper.

Add cabbage wedges to the bowl and toss until well coated.

Place wedges on baking sheet and drizzle with remaining sauce from the bowl. Roast for 20-25 minutes or until cabbage is tender. Garnish with parsley and serve.

Honey Roasted Carrots with Rosemary and Thyme

~ 6 SERVINGS

- 1 pound carrots, peeled and trimmed
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon honey
- ½ teaspoon fresh thyme, chopped
- ½ teaspoon fresh rosemary, chopped
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS |

Heat oven to 400 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a large bowl, toss carrots with oil, honey, herbs, salt and pepper. Spread carrots out onto the baking sheet. Roast for 30-35 minutes, flipping halfway, until tender and caramelized.

Buttery Roasted Radishes with Sea Salt and Parsley

~ 6 SERVINGS

- 1 pound fresh radishes (16-18 medium)
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- ½ teaspoon sea salt, plus more for finishing
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon fresh parsley, chopped

DIRECTIONS |

Heat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Wash, trim, and cut each radish in half lengthwise.

Place radishes in a large bowl, drizzle with melted butter, and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Toss until evenly coated.

Spread radishes out onto baking sheet, cut side down in a single layer.

Roast for 20-25 minutes, flipping halfway through, until fork-tender and edges are golden.

Remove from oven. Sprinkle with more salt and parsley.

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Laurie and Denny Pool meet **Shelly and Chad Albert** at the silent auction tent at On Tap & Uncorked.



Chryst Peterson takes time out from her emcee duties to relax with her husband **Tom Rennels**.



Jane Hankenhof Curry talks with **Larry and Jill Johnson** at the event benefitting Sylvania Area Family Services.



Barb Nye and SAFS Executive Director **Dottie Segur** take note of the food available to On Tap & Uncorked participants.



Allan and Audrey Gindy, Samantha Ayres, Melissa and Nick Dallas, Collin Ayres, Tracy and Brent Tober enjoy being together at the event.



Steve and Jane Wurth are successful bidders on several items in the silent auction tent.



Drew and Deb Chany make the rounds greeting friends at On Tap & Uncorked Aug. 28.



Samantha Didion talks with **Marcus Hansen** about the township and city at On Tap & Uncorked.

LIVES CELEBRATED

Janice Lynn Sass



Janice Lynn Sass, 61, of Brevard, NC, went to be with the Lord Jesus Christ on Saturday, August 22, 2026. She was born in Toledo, OH, on April 3, 1965, to the late Dale Joseph and Lois Marie Sass. She is a 1983 graduate of Northview High School. She is survived by her brothers, Thomas E. Sass (Eileen), of Painesville, OH, and her loving brother, Larry A. Sass, of Toledo; several sisters; niece, Ashley M. Washing, along with several additional nieces; nephews, grand-nieces and

nephews; and most importantly, she is survived by Spencer and Garrett Frei. Along with her “Tribe,” she is also survived by Ricky C. Adams. Jan’s message to all: “I wrote this long before my passing. I wish all of my cherished friends and Tribe a loving goodbye for now. Please know that I am now at peace and in no pain, in the loving arms of my dear parents. I’m finally dancing to the music I love and having that last motorcycle ride I never rode. May you all rejoice in the lives you have on earth, in all God’s glory, may you comfort one another and be kind to one another, bring laughter and joy whenever you can. Jesus Christ is my Savior as I pray He is yours. I look forward to seeing each of you again. If you remember anything of me, remember I loved and truly appreciated each of you. Love to each of you, Sass.” A gathering of friends and family will be held on Friday, October 2 from 4 to 6 pm at Groce Funeral Home on Patton Ave. The Celebration of Life Party will be held the following day, Saturday, October 3 at 1 pm at the Confederate Iron Motorcycle Clubhouse, 300 Blooming Laurel Drive, Hendersonville, NC 28792. Her ashes will be scattered at Lake Erie, Put-in-Bay Island, OH. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING/HEARING

The Sylvania Township Trustees will hold a Meeting on **Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.**, at the Township Hall, 4927 Holland-Sylvania Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560 for consideration of the following:

- 1. **Text Amendment - Article 8 – Supplemental Regulations (Section 803**
- 2. **Text Amendment - Article 19 - Definitions (Section 1900)**

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 David Simko, Fiscal Office

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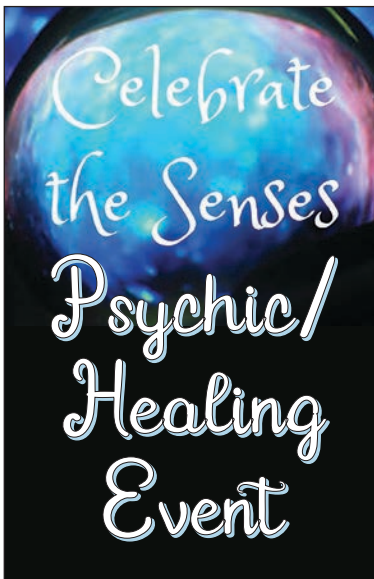
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Red Bird's September Art Walk goes to the dogs



Tripp and **Vera Burnett** have fun playing with all of the fun stuff in front of the Village Candy Shoppe.



Shawn and **Rachael McCarthy**, their daughters **Lennon**, **Palmer**, and **Eloise**, are ready for the dog parade.



Juliana Soli's dog **Han** is a buck-eye fan.



Matt Reineck congratulates his dog **Raym** for being the Most Distinguished.



Brad and **Mary Crown** meet **Mia Sirakonda** and her mother **Candy** at the September Art Walk.



Bud Crosby and his dog, **Marty**, lead the dog parade with the sound of his kazoo on Sept. 4.



Paul Miller with two of his children, **John** and **Jenny**, show off their dog **Murphy**.



Phil and **Janice Edinger**, and their daughter **Ellena**, bring their three dogs **Lola**, **Betty**, and **Dash** to the parade.

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