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HomeShow 2020

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**Saturday, March 14,
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**Sunday, March 15,
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Biggest Home Show set for this weekend

BY ED PUSKAS

epuskas@starbeacon.com



WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

Nicole Sturtevant and her 1-year-old daughter Emily pet a sheep at the 2019 Ashtabula County Home Show at Ashtabula Towne Square. This year's Home Show begins Friday and runs through Sunday.

"In fact, as of a few days ago we were still hearing from people

who wanted to be here this year," Schultz said. "We've got a

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A record number of exhibitors await visitors to the Ashtabula County Home Show, which returns to Ashtabula Town Square this weekend.

Ashtabula County Chambers of Commerce Director Bob Schultz said a record 87 spots are reserved for the show, which begins Friday and runs through Sunday.

"This is the biggest show we've ever had," said Schultz, who has been involved with the Home Show for 10 years and has been its director since 2018.

"We had 62 exhibitors last year and we've got 25 more this year."

That puts this year's Home Show nearly at capacity.

"We have 90 spaces [for vendors]," said Sue Ellen Foote, Executive Director of the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce.

Businesses were still scrambling for spaces even as the start of show approached.

really good diversity of businesses who will be here."

Among them are four window companies, according to Schultz, all repeat vendors from the 2019 Home Show.

"Some of them reserved their spaces back in October," Schultz said, adding that the repeat vendors did well during previous shows.

"We didn't get any complaints about the show last year. I can tell you that anyone who came here with products to sell sold everything they had."

Schultz said a representative from one of Ashtabula Town Square's retailers told

him the store actually does better during Home Show weekends than during the Christmas season.

Foote said even after the annual show concludes, potential customers still want information about vendors they saw.

"I will get phone calls during the year and I will be asked about these businesses," Foote said. "Even after the show, people still want more information and want to contact these companies."

The show began as the Ashtabula County Home and Flower Show decades ago, but with fewer and fewer

nurseries in the area, the emphasis on flowers, plants and shrubs lessened.

But all is not lost for plant and flower lovers.

AshCraft Industries will supply 100 plants for the show.

"Each exhibitor will get a flower and we'll be giving potted plants away," Foote said.

In addition, the horticulture program at Ashtabula Technical and Career Center will be one of the record 87 exhibitors.

The show runs during normal Ashtabula Town Square hours — 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon-5 p.m. on Sunday.

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Helping Hands advocates for animals

BY MARK TODD
For the Star Beacon

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP — One of the area's newest animal advocate organizations hopes to make new friends at this weekend's Ashtabula County Home Show at Ashtabula Towne Square.

Representatives from Helping Hands Farm Animal Rescue, located in Plymouth Township, will attend the event to explain its mission and pass out literature, said Missy Townsend, who launched the rescue

service last summer.

"Our sole purpose (for attending the show) is to get the word out: You don't have to abandon your animals," Townsend said.

Townsend was motivated to launch Helping Hands by the many dogs and cats people would drop off along a rural stretch of Carson Road, where she lives. Some of those animals would find their way to her doorstep.

"People would do it with cats and dogs constantly," Townsend said.



Missy Townsend, left, owner operator of Helping Hands Farm Animal Rescue and volunteer Kendra Rodgers feed a rescue horse in Plymouth Township.

WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

She turned her out-

rage into action, and Helping Hands was the result, making its formal debut in August. Two months later, it became an official non-profit organization, Townsend said.

Townsend's operation is meant to be a humane option for owners who find themselves - because of health, finances or other reasons - unable to care for an animal.

Creatures great and small have been clients, including ducks, baby raccoons and a squirrel freed from a chimney, she said. Now in her care is a 26-year-old horse whose owner could not afford its upkeep.

"I will help anything," Townsend said.

All animals that come to Townsend's are given voluntari-

ly. The face-to-face arrangement gives her a chance to talk to the owner about the animal, a real boon to arranging proper care, she said.

"They can tell me something about the animals," Townsend said.

Ideally, the animals are just temporary guests. Townsend's goal is to match them with new owners.

"I want to find them their forever homes," she said. "I love getting them healthy."

Townsend is a self-described "stay-at-home nanny" to her furry and feathered charges. "Caring for them is a full-time job," she said.

Townsend said she is grateful to family and friends who lend a hand, and also is

thankful for donations that help defray the cost of the operation.

Helping Hands is planning a reverse raffle to raise money to build a barn, a project that will allow Townsend to accept more animals.

"I've had to turn down animals because of a lack of space," she said. "I don't have enough housing. Everybody has to have their own space."

Townsend's empathy extends to humans, too. Many people are already know her through her work with Relay for Life, the breast cancer awareness campaign.

An appearance at the Home Show, which runs Friday through Sunday, marks a major step forward for Helping Hands, Townsend said.

The organization, which participated in community Christmas parades in 2019 to good reviews, hopes to find a larger audience for its message.

"You don't have to put down an animal just to put it down," Townsend said. "Give them a chance. They've got feelings, too. Everything deserves some love."

For more information about Helping Hands Farm Animal Rescue, contact Townsend at 969-8603.

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Spring Tune-up Time

Cherry Valley Furniture has the goods

BY LORI PINELLI

For the Star Beacon

CHERRY VALLEY — Cherry Valley Furniture is bringing a large assortment of handcrafted Amish furniture to the Ashtabula County Home Show.

But that is just a small sample of the many items available at the vast store located at 5391 Hayes Rd., just west of Andover.

The store has served the area since 1997. Cherry Valley Furniture is owned and operated by husband and wife, Levi and Lizzie Miller, with help from other members of their family.

Daughter Ada Miller, said that the Amish, family-owned business likes to support the Home Show at Ashtabula Towne Square. She also said she wants Home Show visitors to know that the store will custom-make furniture to suit different preferences and needs in various colors, sizes and types of wood.

“Our store covers almost everything in furniture that you need for your house, both inside and outside,” Ada Miller said. “We have Amish-made solid wood furniture for every room of the house. Our display at the show will have a wood kitchen and dining room table and outside furniture.

The solid hardwood furniture lasts for many generations. It is high quality. We will also have outside furniture. Some of it is made of Poly Lumber. Poly Lumber is made from recycled milk jugs and has the appearance of wood. It will not splinter, rot or peel and it will never need to be painted or sealed.

“The Adirondack Glider is an example of Poly Lumber furniture and includes a fold-down tray with drink holders. It can be put any place outside, which is nice if you don’t have a porch for a swing.”

Miller said she recommends that outside furniture made of treated wood be painted, stained or sealed every couple years.

“We make a wood three-piece balcony set that is counter height. It is a bit higher. So it is easier to get in and out

of,” she said.

Cherry Valley Furniture also carries gifts and many bulk food items. Miller said that the store will not be bringing bulk food to the Home Show. She invites those interested in the large selection of furniture, gifts and bulk foods to visit the store.

In the tradition of Amish markets, Cherry Valley Furniture offers a large selection of bulk food. These include 90 different spices, flours, baking needs, snacks, chocolate wafers, maple syrup, honey, jams, candies, cereals, salad dressings, and more.

Cherry Valley Furniture is open 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and on from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information, visit the store’s website at cherryvalleyamishfurniture.com or call 440-293-6736.



SUBMITTED

The Adirondack Glider is an example of Cherry Valley Furniture’s line of Poly Lumber furniture. Cherry Valley Furniture will be at the Ashtabula County Home Show.



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Ziegler Heating can warm you up or cool you down

BY TOM WILLIAMS

For the Star Beacon

SAYBROOK TOWNSHIP — One again, Ziegler Heating Company will participate in the Ashtabula County Home Show, this weekend at Ashtabula Towne Square.

Tim Volpone, Ziegler president, says it's at least the sixth time his company has participated, adding that those with heating and cooling needs have an opportunity to unlock substantial savings.

"We've been working with Trane to offer a good deal on a heating/cooling system because of the home show," Volpone said. "We were able to negotiate exceptionally great deals because of the home show to get a good quality product into your home.

"And [customers can] save substantial money in doing so."

Customers who sign up for a home visit "could see savings of up to \$1,500 off on a complete system if you come and see us at the home show and we come out and talk to you at your home about a new system," Volpone said.

Volpone said the show gives homeowners the opportunities to get instant information.

"They can actually see the equipment on display that could be installed in their homes and they can talk to us specifically about their home comfort needs," Volpone said.

Ziegler Heating, which offers HVAC service and installation for residential and commercial customers, has been serving Ashtabula residents since 1939.

Volpone has 39 years experience with his company.

"My brothers [and I] own the company, so that's part of it," said Volpone of his longevity with the company. "I started right after high school and have been here ever since."

The company's staff includes: David Volpone, vice president/service manager; Mike Volpone, secretary-treasurer/service supervisor; Natalie Volpone, office manager; Christopher Carraher, comfort consultant; and Larry Thress, installation manager.

In addition to Trane, Ziegler Heating installs heating and cooling systems from a variety of manufacturers, including Lennox, Aprilaire, Armstrong Air, Honeywell, Mitsubishi HVAC, GeoStar Geothermal Heat Pumps, Allied Commercial Products, Generac Generators, Bradford White Water Heaters and Reznor.

With spring approaching, Volpone says the time is right for those considering a new air conditioner or furnace.

"Now is a great time to get that done," Volpone said. "There's virtually no waiting period because [we're] in-between seasons. Our schedule is very flexible right now.

"Plus, manufacturers work with dealers at this time of the year to give exceptionally great pricing for early spring specials," Volpone said. "That is what is going on right now."

The Ashtabula Home Show will be open during mall hours from Friday through Sunday.

One of the projects Ziegler Heating promotes is adding a zone system

SEE **ZIEGLER HEATING**, 7

ZIEGLER HEATING: Long-time Ashtabula County firm at Home Show

FROM PAGE 6

to a home as a way to lower fuel bills. Zoning can be installed on most forced air furnace/air conditioning systems as well as most hydronic (boiler) systems.

A zone system is like having an individual heating/cooling system in each room, rather than one thermostat controlling the entire house. Wi-Fi and Internet friendly thermostats, low energy alarms, emergency standby generators and UV lights are available.

Ziegler offers duct cleaning (residential and light commercial). Industry experts recommend removal of contaminants from an entire HVAC system as the most effective way to eliminate air duct pollutants.

Ziegler offers residential emergency service, preventative maintenance and equipment replacement.

Other products available are water heaters, geothermal heat pump systems, snow melt systems, garage heaters, space heaters and floor heat systems.

Among Ziegler's industrial services are 24-hour emergency service, dedicated response time and service agreements.

In addition to commercial emergency service, preventative maintenance and equipment replacement, Ziegler offers refrigera-



FILE
Tim Volpone, president and general manager of Ziegler Heating Co., (facing) talks with Lori Welch of Ashtabula during the 2018 Ashtabula County Home Show.

tion service.

Ziegler ventilation systems include air filtration, ductless, whole house fans, humidification and dehumidification.

The company is associated with Air Conditioning Contractors of America, the Better Business Bureau, the Ashtabula Area Chamber of Commerce, Ashtabula County Builders Association and the Ashtabula Arts Center.

Active in the community, the company is a corporate sponsor of the United Way of Ashtabula County as well as the Civic Development Corporation. Ziegler Heating is a trustee with LEADERShip Ashtabula County.

Among the honors Ziegler has received

was being named ACCA Ohio Contractor of the Year for 2005. The company was honored as Residential Contractor of the Year in 1991 and Best of the County in 1992.

Among organizations Ziegler supports are Ashtabula YMCA, Children Services, Ashtabula County Senior Center, Catholic Charities, Ashtabula Red Cross, Ashtabula County Animal Protective League, Goodwill Industries and Samaritan House.

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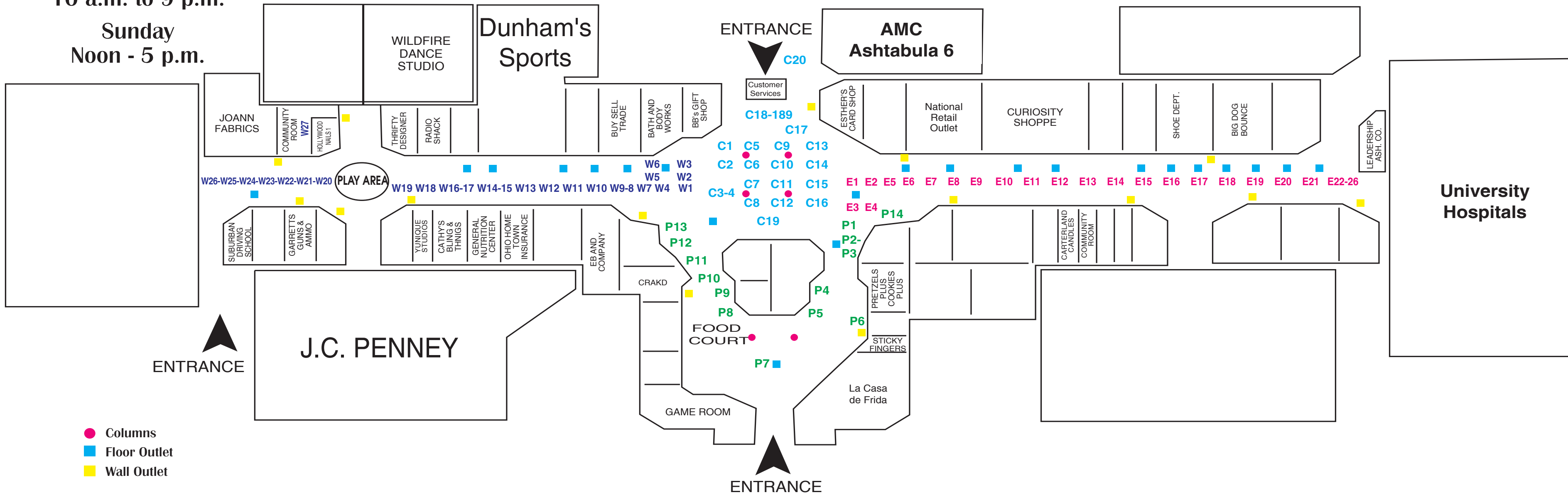
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Ashtabula County Home Show 2020



West Wing

W-1 Crystal Clear Water	W-14-15 Universal Window Direct
W-2 Window Depot	W-16-17 Ashtabula County Community Action
W-3 McDowell Homes Real Estate Services	W-18 Conneaut Fish & Game Club
W-4 Lowes	W-19 Ashtabula Township Fire Fighter #2710
W-5 Scheid's Enterprises of Middlefield	W-20 Ashtabula Self Help Group for MS
W-6 Ashtabula Co. Community Services & Planning	W-21 Ashtabula Lions Club
W-7 Cutco Cutlery	W-22 American Cancer Society Relay for Life
W-8-9 WSA, Inc.	W-23 Animal Welfare Center of Ashtabula
W-10 Assured Real Estate	W-24 Gateway Elementary Outdoor Learning Center
W-11 Holly's Hearing Aid Center	W-25 Helping Hands Animal Rescue
W-12 Canters Classic & Weedman Lawn Care	W-26 Girl Scout Troop #80671
W-13 Ohio State Waterproofing	W-27 Lakeview Federal Credit Union (Saturday ONLY)

Center Court

C-1 Shepp Electric	C-12 MC Lawn Care
C-2 All American Gutter Protection	C-13 Andover Bank
C-3-4 ZIGLER HEATING	C-14 King's Sanitary Services
C-5 Wilkinson Paving & Excavating, Inc.	C-15 Gutter Logic of Ohio
C-6 Gutter Helmet Systems	C-16 USA Installation
C-7 Bath Fitter	C-17 WKKY Radio 104 Country
C-8 NEO Waterproofing	C-18 Total Foundation Solutions
C-9 Crawford Insurance Agency	C-19 Window Nation
C-10 Leaf Home Safety Solutions	C-20 4-H Ashtabula County (cinema entrance Saturday only - petting farm animals Sat. noon to 2 p.m.)
C-11 Kitchen Saver	

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P-1 Ashtabula County CHAMBERS of Commerce	P-9 Ashtabula County Young Republicans
P-2 Gazette Newspapers	P-10 Ashtabula County Sheriff Department (VEHICLE)
P-3 Ashtabula County District Library	P-11 Star Beacon
P-4 Ashtabula County Auditor	P-12 Rose Society of Ashtabula County
P-5 Ashtabula County Covered Bridge	P-13 Ashtabula Co. Technical & Career Campus
P-6 Leaffilter North	P-14 First United Church of Christ of Austinburg
P-7 A-Tech Horticulture	
P-8 Ashtabula County Republicans	

East Wing

E-1-4 Cherry Valley Furniture	E-14 Mary Kay Cosmetics
E-5 Raymond Builders	E-15 Scentsy
E-6 Trapper Bob, LLC	E-16 Avon
E-7 Larry Reloading Supplies	E-17 Love 4 Legos Jewelry Design
E-8 Savvy Sisters	E-18 Dipped by Grace
E-9 Better Than Greens	E-19 Kal's Custom Cuts
E-10 THIRTY-ONE GIFTS	E-20 K & J Alpacas
E-11 Signature Home Styles	E-21 Handmade Crafts by Nah
E-12 Party Lite	E-22-26 Geneva-on-the-Lake Chamber/CVB
E-13 Tupperware	

Raymond Builders Supply rock solid

BY LORI PINELLI
For the Star Beacon

GENEVA — The round, brick fire-pit will attract Ashtabula County Home Show visitors to the Raymond Builders Supply display.

The piece has been a fixture in Ashtabula Towne Square for a couple of years, but Raymond Builders has been a fixture here for 74 years.

The Raymond family business started out as a cut stone dealer in 1946 in Geneva. They soon expanded to include brick, block and other masonry

specialty items. Their first location was on East Broadway Street. In 1959 Raymond Builders Supply moved to their current location, 4680 N Ridge Road East in Geneva.

“It has been a privilege to serve our customers,” said owner Widd Raymond. “We have return customers that have been coming back for decades. I am proud of our reputation in the community.”

Raymond Builders offers a large supply of pavers, brick and block, including products for both inside and outside home improve-

ment. Customers will find building material supplies for fireplaces, outdoor kitchens, septic, drainage, retaining walls, insulation, masonry, wall reinforcement, patios, paved walkways and much more.

The products include cast stone, stone veneer, concrete block, brick, natural stone, patio block, masonry sealers, compounds and accessories, architectural block, split-face block, patio block, mortar and cement, colored mortar, pipe, drainage, septic, glass block, insulation, pavers, retaining walls,



SUBMITTED

Raymond Builders Supply's eye-catching round, brick fire pit will be on display this weekend at the Ashtabula County Home Show at Ashtabula Town Square.

wall reinforcement, tools and fireplaces.

“We are also available to help customers with tips on installation and answer their questions,” Raymond said. “We employ a very knowledgeable and professional sales staff as well as expert delivery personnel. Our office staff is here to assist you with any questions regarding your new home or project.

“Our skilled delivery personnel have the ability to place your material in the most convenient place possible at your job site. With the contractor and homeowners needs in

mind, we are constantly changing and growing to provide the highest quality of customer service.”

The company's website (www.raymondbuilderssupply.com) offers information for those looking to remodel or build. It gives detailed descriptions and pictures of products.

“One of our most

popular products right now is Veneer stone,” Raymond said. “The cost is a good value and it is easy to install. It is very long-lasting and there is no maintenance. To see all of the building supplies we carry, visit our beautiful brick and stone showroom as well as our outdoor paver and retaining wall display.”

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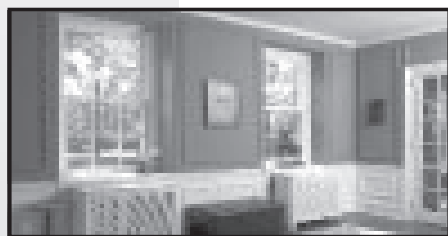
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Get some outdoors indoors with OLC

BY BRIAN HAYTCHER

bhaytcher@starbeacon.com

CONNEAUT — A staple of Conneaut's outdoors community will be present this weekend at the Ashtabula County Home Show.

The Gateway Outdoor Learning Center will be an exhibitor at the Ashtabula County Home Show, raffling off a kayak and paddle and

offering information about the area to the public. Memberships to the Outdoor Learning Center will also be available.

Tickets for the kayak raffle are \$2, or 3 for \$5.

Families, businesses, or individuals can purchase a membership to the Outdoor Learning Center for \$20. For that fee, they will receive

four newsletters a year and an Outdoor Learning Center magnet.

The Outdoor Learning Center was founded in 2012 by Matt Crawford. The center consists of a trail, outdoor classroom, and a pollinating garden and bee hives.

"When they walk the trail, everything is identified. All the flowers, the ferns, the trees, the nesting habitats, everything's identified," Crawford said.

The center hosts two major events every year, a cleanup in the spring, and Discovery Day near the beginning of the school year. This year, Discovery Day is set for Sept. 12, Crawford said.

The center has an outdoor classroom,



WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

Mike Mainhart, left, of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, watches as Colton Woodworth, 10, of Conneaut, as he works on his archery technique during Discovery Day 2018 at the Outdoor Learning Center at Conneaut Middle School. The Outdoor Learning Center will have a kiosk at this weekend's Ashtabula County Home Show at Ashtabula Town Square.

equipped with white boards, digital cameras, GPS units and water

testing kits. There are also solar and wind power generators on the site, as well as a weather station that takes nine different measurements from the area.

The center has recently received a large telescope as a donation. In the future, Crawford hopes to have nights where people can use the telescope at the center.

"We're planning on utilizing that donation," Crawford said.

Last year, a potential partnership was announced between the Outdoor Learning Center and the Ashtabula County Metroparks. Indian Mounds Metropark sits near the Outdoor Learning Center.

Crawford was recently recognized as Conneaut's Citizen of the Year. He volunteers with numerous organizations throughout the Conneaut area, including the Cable Advisory Board, Conneaut's Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Outdoor Learning Center.

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Holly's Hearing Aid Center right at home



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Holly's Hearing Aid Center will be one of the vendors at the Ashtabula County Home Show this weekend at Ashtabula Town Square.

BY JON WYSOCHANSKI

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This year's Ashtabula County Home Show isn't just about homes — those attending will also have the chance to learn about a number of businesses.

One of those local businesses that will display products and services is Holly's Hearing Aid Center. The business, located at 2845 North Ridge Road East, Ashtabula, was founded 10 years ago by Holly Johnson.

Johnson, president of the company, oversees five locations — Ashtabula, Chardon, Concord, Mayfield and Willoughby — where

they sell hearing aids and assistive devices. They also provide hearing tests and other services.

Johnson said she got her start in the hearing industry when she was 18. More than 20 years later she is still helping the hearing-impaired, just under her own business name.

"About 10 years ago I decided to go out on my own and I opened up two locations," she said. "We had such an overwhelming response. My family and friends believed in me so much that some of them decided to even work for me."

At the Home Show, Johnson said there will be hearing aids and

educational information on display along with some giveaways.

Johnson said what she enjoys most about the business is helping to change lives by helping people hear everything they are missing from the birds in the trees to the sound of family voices.

"Having your hearing tested annually after you turn 50 is recommended to ensure you are hearing the best as you can," she said. "Untreated hearing loss can lead to a quiet isolated life and even affect your relationships and your place of employment."

For more information on the business or to schedule a hearing test, call 1-888-4HOLLYS.

Learn from library at Ashtabula County Home Show

BY SHELLEY TERRY

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ASHTABULA — The Ashtabula County District Library will be showcasing a variety of library-related, life-long learning resources at

this weekend's Ashtabula County Home Show at Ashtabula Towne Square.

There will be books on room design and remodeling, home repair, car repair, hobbies, crafts and gardening, as

well as online resources.

"It's important for our library to have a community presence outside the physical walls of our buildings," said Penny Neubauer, library director. "Not only do we want to

showcase freely available resources, we want to support the efforts of our local Chambers of Commerce in seeking to bring about positive change to our county. It's also a lot of fun!"

The library also will

highlight its Books to your Door program and a variety of digital resources, including video and music streaming, electronic books and audiobooks, and online comic books.

"The Ashtabula

County District Library brings excitement to every home it enters, through a variety of mediums," Neubauer said. "Stop by our booth and learn all of the places a free ACDL card can take you."

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Wilkinson Paving cements 50 years

BY SHELLEY TERRY
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ASHTABULA — Celebrating more than 50 years in business, Wilkinson Paving will be at the Ashtabula

County Home Show this weekend at Ashtabula Towne Square.

Al Wilkinson started the company in 1968 at 1911 Virginia Ave., Ashtabula. He worked with his brother, Archie

Wilkinson, who had an excavation company in Ashtabula for years, most notably, he developed the land around the mall area. Then Archie Wilkinson moved the company south and Al stayed in town, got a loan from the bank and bought a paver, roller and dust control truck.

Today, Al Wilkinson's son, Ron, and grandson, R. Jay Wilkinson, run the company offering customers many services, including demolition, excavation, parking lots, driveways, drainage systems, removing and replacing old parking bumpers with new concrete or plastic bumpers, park-

ing lot striping, crack fill with hot sealant, seal coating and snow plowing.

The company employs 15 people.

"I have done the Home Show before and I enjoy when older people come up to me and say, 'I know the guy who started this company, he did my driveway in the '70s' or '80s,'" R. Jay Wilkinson said. "Then I say, 'Yeah that's my grandfather,' and then people will tell me stories about my grandfather."

Wilkinson said everyone who comes by their booth at the Home Show compliments their grandfather's work.



SUBMITTED

Wilkinson Paving will have an information booth at the Home Show this weekend at Ashtabula Towne Square. Here, a Wilkinson crews applies asphalt to a street.

"Many people say he did the best work possible and their driveway still holds up very well to this day," he said. "Some of them knew him personally, from the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the boat club down in the harbor docks. They tell me stories about him that I would never have known about."

Folks unfamiliar with Wilkinson's work don't

need to look any further than the parking lots at Aldi, Ashtabula Towne Square, Edgewood Dairy Queen, Nassief's or McDonald's restaurant in Ashtabula.

Wilkinson said he likes his job and hopes to meet new customers at the Home Show.

"I like being outside, traveling all over Ashtabula County, meeting customers from all walks of life," he said.

"I go down back roads in this county that I would never go down or didn't know existed before. It's always nice meeting fellow veterans and hearing where they were stationed and what war they were in."

For more information on Wilkinson Paving, call 440-998-7283.

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