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# Shelby - Utica News

# Group unveils Shelby Township- themed mural

Piece slated to hang in  
community center

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SHELBY TOWNSHIP — A brightly colored mural full of symbolic images encapsulating Shelby Township will hang in the current Shelby Community Center for now. It is scheduled to move when the township solves its building problems.

The Shelby Community Foundation, a local nonprofit organization specializing in endowment distribution, unveiled the mural at the June 21 Shelby Township Board of Trustees meeting.

The SCF commissioned Royal Oak-based artist Daniel Cascardo to create what Cascardo calls a “Cascardo art action experience” for its May 13 fundraiser, Paint the Township, at the Packard Proving

Grounds.

“Basically, I come up with a black line (image) and allow other people to add color, patterns and shapes,” Cascardo said. “I edit it to make sure everything comes together in the end.”

He said he gleaned inspiration for the Shelby Township-themed mural through web searches and by talking to community members.

Some elements incorporated in the mural include trees, housing, a downtown area, parks, bike trails, the Clinton River, a golf course, families, pets and different seasons.

Cascardo estimated that 100 people put some sort of mark on the mural, including a paw print by a local dog business owner, at the event.

“We invited all the community members to join us and paint a mural for our new community center,” SCF Executive Director Lynn Wilhelm said. “We had ven-



A Shelby Township-themed mural sits on display in the lobby of the Shelby Township municipal building June 21. Artist Daniel Cascardo created the black outline, and community members colored in the images at a May 13 fundraiser.

Photo by Sarah Wojcik

dors there. It was a great turnout.”

The SCF invited participants to color in black outlines drawn by Cascardo in paint-by-numbers style and sign the back of the canvas.

“It’s a really great historical piece,” Wilhelm said. “It’s very colorful and very representative of our community.”

Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis thanked the SCF on be-

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Photo by Sarah Wojcik

**Shelby Community Foundation Executive Director Lynn Wilhelm, left, and Chairwoman Nancy Bates, right, unveil a Shelby Township-themed mural as artist Daniel Cascardo discusses the creation process at a Board of Trustees meeting June 21.**

## Mural

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half of the Board of Trustees and township residents.

“This will hang in the community center, hopefully the renovated one, but right now, the community center,” he said at the board meeting. “We will obviously continue to support (the Shelby Community Foundation) and ev-

erything (it does).”

The Shelby Community Center, located near 23 Mile Road and Van Dyke Avenue, currently houses the 41-A District Court, library, senior center and Shelby TV offices. Addressing the building’s needs has been the township’s No. 1 priority for the last several years.

The Community Center Advisory Board has looked into expanding the current building and

remodeling the vacant Ewell Elementary building, located near 23 Mile and Shelby roads.

Now in its 20th year, the SCF has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants and scholarships, SCF Vice Chairman Jim Andary said.

For more information about the Shelby Community Foundation, visit [www.shelbycommunityfoundation.org](http://www.shelbycommunityfoundation.org) or call (586) 909-5305.