

## **Sylvania Township Transport Service Begins**

The Sylvania Township Fire Department now has a transport unit. It went into service at 7 a.m. Jan. 22 at the fire station on Monroe Street in downtown Sylvania.

Chief Jeffrey Kowalski reiterated to the township trustees that the unit is meant to augment the use of private ambulances only when those vehicles are not readily available. Too often, patients have had to wait for private ambulance transportation and now the Sylvania Township department will be able to get people to a hospital in a timely manner.

Until now, when delays became apparent, the department relied on neighboring fire departments to transport patients and in some instances private vehicles were used to get people to the hospital. The situation not only resulted in delays for the patient, but township personnel had to remain at the scene and was unavailable to take additional calls.

The vehicle in service now is the same one which the department had used prior to an earlier board of trustees decision to get out of the ambulance business. The chief said it has been fully upgraded and equipped.

He again thanked the voters who passed a levy in 2014 which has allowed for the service to resume.

The purpose of the transportation unit is to provide better service to the community including improved continuity of care, he said.

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