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TIMES RECORDER

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026 | ZANESVILLE, OHIO | ZANESVILLETIMESRECORDER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Muskingum 250's grand event, a dedication for the Trailblazers & Founders monuments, was held July 4 at Zanesville's Confluence Park. The event was also a celebration of America 250 and included a festival with live music, cake, food trucks and historical demonstrations. SHAWN DIGITY/ZANESVILLE TIMES RECORDER

Records reveal little info about Siders family

Bethany Bruner
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

Publicly available records provide minimal information about four adults accused of keeping 16 children in conditions likened to a third-world country and abusing them for years.

Gary Siders Sr., 73, Gary Siders Jr., 36, Elizabeth Siders, 33, and Catherine Siders, 67, are each facing 16 counts of felony endangering children in Vinton County Common Pleas Court.

The charges accuse the Siders of child endangerment involving the children, who range in age from about 18 months old to 18 years old.

The filings against the Siders do not detail specific allegations. Each charge is connected to a specific child, who is identified by their initials and date of birth.

The language used by prosecutors to detail the charges is language taken straight from the Ohio Revised Code.

Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson and Vinton County officials said the children are believed to have lived in an approximately 12-foot by 12-foot space inside the five-room, wood-frame home where they've spent the majority of the last four years.

Did anyone track the Siders children being born?

Wilson said there were no indicators that any of the 16 children were born inside the Ohmer Street home. He said third-party information helped them to confirm birth dates, but he did not specify what that information was.

See **RECORDS**, Page 2A

'We still feel the impact'

Time capsule and memorial link Zanesville's past, present and future

Shawn Digity
Zanesville Times Recorder
USA TODAY NETWORK

ZANESVILLE – From sea to shining sea. From trail to town. From bank to bank across the Muskingum River.

Local patriotism was undeterred by the Fourth of July heat. Several dozen community members turned out for Muskingum 250's grand event at Confluence Park for a formal dedication to the Trailblazers & Founders Memorial and a celebration of America 250, right where the Licking and Muskingum rivers merge.

Muskingum 250 members pulled back the veils on the three granite monuments, honoring Zanesville's founders

See **250**, Page 3A



Muskingum 250 and Muskingum County History unveiled the three granite monuments for the Trailblazers & Founders Memorial at Confluence Park.

New Concord plans celebration for nation's 250th

Jane Imbody
Zanesville Times Recorder
USA TODAY NETWORK

A full day of activities capped by a concert and fireworks display celebrating the nation's 250th birthday is

planned in New Concord.

The event, scheduled for July 11 in Village Park and surrounding locations, features a lineup of free activities organized by local partners, according to a community announcement.

Organizers say the celebration brings

together the Village of New Concord, Celebrate New Concord, Muskingum University, the Museum Association of East Muskingum, New Concord Area Arts and Recreation District, the New Concord Area Board of Trade, local churches, businesses and volunteers to

mark the milestone.

The festivities begin with a kickoff event July 10, when arts and recreation district hosts a free outdoor showing of "Monsters, Inc." at the park. Pre-movie

See **CELEBRATION**, Page 2A

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