

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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TOWN TOPICS

The 2018 Winter Olympics start this week with the opening ceremonies on Friday at 8 p.m. in PyeongChang, South Korea local time. That's 6:00 a.m. here. There will be a prime time rebroadcast for U.S. viewers at 8 p.m. E.T. Look for interesting Olympics facts throughout this newspaper.

Valentine's Day is next Wednesday. Consider local restaurants when taking your sweetie out to dinner.

Lakeview High School's Winterfest is this week. Game and dance are tomorrow.

Montabella High School's Snowball dance is February 17.

Lakeview Village Winterfest is February 24. Fun for everyone!

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Winter Forecast

There is a 30% chance for snow for Thu. (H: 22; L: 8). Partly sunny skies for Fri. (H: 22; L: 12). Then there is a definite (100%) chance for snow for Sat. (H: 24; L: 8). Party sunny skies for the rest of the week, Sun. through Wed. (Valentine's Day).



The Joy of Quilting Comes to Stanton



Owner Pat Herbison (center) with daughters Jennifer Swan and Michele De Hann

By Linda Huckins

The place to be last Saturday was at the Grand Opening of Grandma's Thimble Quilt Shop in Stanton. The air was buzzing with excited customers that kept owner Pat Herbison and her two daughters, Jennifer Swan and Michele De Haan, hopping.

"It has been like this since we opened on Janu-

ary 3," Pat Herbison said. In fact excitement over the shop started long before they opened for business. Herbison bought the storefront in August 2017. "People kept stopping by asking what we were going to do with the building," she said. "They seemed excited about a quilt shop opening."

When asked why open a quilt shop, Herbison said it was a bucket list

thing! So far it was the right thing to do. Herbison said that the response has been overwhelming.

She is originally from Grand Rapids but met and married a Stanton "boy". They have been married for 50 years and have two grown daughters, one son-in-law, and four grandchildren.

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TDL Hosts Rock Painting Party



Family Time Rocks!!!

By Jim Zynda

Tamarack District Library hosted a rock painting party on Thursday the 1st of February. This is the second time the TDL has hosted such a party, and even though the weather was cold and dreary they had good attendance. There were twenty five people of all ages that came together to have some family time and to paint rocks. The program is linked with the 'Lakeview MI. Rocks' Facebook page. People paint rocks

and then leave them where ever they go. When another person finds the painted rocks they take a photo and post it to Facebook. Then they leave the rock in a new location and wait for the next person to find it and post. It is an interesting way to see how far the rock has traveled. It's like finding a present created just for you.

Due to environmental concerns the rocks were painted with acrylic paint left to dry overnight then sprayed with a sealant. The TDL said they will proba-

bly host another painting party leading up to the summer reading program. The program this year is entitled "Libraries Rock". The TDL also has books on rock painting to stimulate your creativity and teach you some techniques as well.

A spokesperson for the TDL also stated that they are always looking for creative ideas for people to become involved using local resources.

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Lakeview Village Budget



Village Manager Shay Gallagher showing Lakeview's budget

By Joe Tilton

You are welcome to come look at it. Lakeview's Village budget for 2018 is compiled, including explanations, in a notebook and available to any citizen wanting to look through it. And, another detailed explanation will happen at the Village Council meeting Monday evening the 12th.

Shay Gallagher, Village Manager, pointed to a new TV that will be installed at the airport meeting room so Village Council members can see numbers and pie charts of how income will be used for the upkeep and benefit of the village. "We want members and the public to know why we're doing what we are doing," Gallagher said.

Then, the Manager got into details. "Our water and sewer are enterprise funds, so they are specifically designed to make a small profit to set aside for future needs. This year we are depreciating our sewer system by \$65,000, and that is likely to go up because we're going to put some money into infrastructure and capitol improvements. We lose \$65,000 in value as things age every year. We're doing \$50,000 for water, and that is almost double because of improvements we are doing."

This process means some money is set aside for emergency situations, such as a water-main break, a sewer line collapse and painting the water tower. "That way

we are not bonding out for those sort of things." The plan is to pay for these events "as we go" rather than borrowing for emergencies.

Gallagher told us that if money is needed for streets, it cannot be taken from water and sewer funds. "Besides it's law," he said.

While the total budget is \$2.2-million, the carryover is around \$36,000. "We've got a six-year plan," the Village Manager said, "for water and sewer, and then we push that out for a 20-year forecast of what we foresee. Past six-years, it's a guess, but it's better to have those guesses than nothing." The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is wanting communities to have a 20-year plan, and Lakeview is complying. "We are thinking ahead of time, and showing DEQ that we are."

He continued, "If we are thinking that far ahead for water and sewer, why not do the same for the police department and public works. Why would we leave them behind? I'm pushing those departments to come to me with an assets-management plan, meaning they look at equipment now, estimating their remaining life and replacement costs." The point is avoiding going into debt for basic expenditures. "It's easier to pay for things when planning ahead and save rather than saddling ourselves with a 20 or 30-year bond."

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