

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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TOWN TOPICS

Celebration of the Seasons is this week at Tamarack District Library. Stop in and check out their silent auction, but hurry. It ends tomorrow at 5 p.m.

This Saturday is Christmas in Lakeview. There are lots of fun activities for the whole family. See page 11 for a schedule of events.

Congratulations to Community First Federal Credit Union on officially opening its new branch in Morley.

Don't forget the Christmas Lighting contest for residential homes in Lakeview. Turn to page 10 for details. \$500 to the lucky winner! Judging is tomorrow evening, so there's not much time to tweak your display.

Shop locally this holiday season.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Celebrates Opening of New Morley Branch



From left to right: Dawn Bartell (COO), Sally Nieto (Howard City Branch Manager), Jennie Mayfield (Lakeview Branch Manager), Michelle Archibald (CFO), Courtney Mourer (MSR), Matthew Aldridge (MSR), Robin Olmstead (Trufant Branch Manager), Courtney Troost (MSR), Lynnsey Ellafrits (Morley Branch Manager), Timothy Rasmussen (CEO), Terry Stilson (Morley, Board Member), Henry Petersen (Morley Board Member), John Schwandt (CFFCU Board Member), Bob Jusino (Morley Board Member).

By Emily Larsen | Marketing Specialist, Community First Federal Credit Union

Board, staff, and community members joined Community First Federal Credit Union (CFFCU) for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new branch opening in Morley, on Monday, No-

vember 26th. Cutting the ribbon was Morley Branch Manager, Lynnsey Ellafrits, and assisting her was CEO, Timothy Rasmussen.

Two weeks prior to the ribbon cutting ceremony, the new Morley branch opened on Monday, November 12th, under the management of Lynnsey Ellafrits. Ellafrits has been

with CFFCU for 5 years. "I am honored to have been offered this position. If you would have asked me 5 years ago where I would be, I would say here. My hard work and dedication to Community First Federal Credit Union is really paying off. I am excited to see where things go from here. This is just the beginning of a new journey," de-

scribed Ellafrits. This is CFFCU's fourth branch. The main branch is located in Lakeview and the other two are located in Howard City and Trufant. Rasmussen explained, "I am thrilled to be opening our fourth branch in Morley. I cannot wait for us to start and continue servicing the Morley community."

The Morley branch is located at 101 E 4th St, Morley, MI, 49336. Business hours will be Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Turn to page 2 for a picture of the Morley branch staff.

MCC Students Collect and Distribute Thanksgiving Dinners to Area Families



Montcalm Community College students Emily Petersen, left, of Greenville, and Vivian Ridgeway, of Sheridan, sort donated food items that were distributed to 11 area families for their Thanksgiving dinners.

By Shelly Strautz-Springborn, Communications Director, Montcalm Community College

Eleven area families were provided all of the ingredients for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, due to the efforts of students in Montcalm Community College's American Politi-

cal System class. Vivian Ridgeway, of Sheridan, is a student in the class taught by Social Science Instructor Ken DeLong. She led the effort to conduct a food drive to gather non-perishable items for food baskets and worked with Christa Jerome at EightCAP, Inc., to identify families in need. "I am poor, so I know

what it's like to struggle and wonder if you're even going to have Thanksgiving dinner," Ridgeway said. "I wanted to do this to help area families be able to enjoy the holiday. Knowing they would have food for their family can at least help take away that worry for a day." Collection boxes were placed in various lo-

cations on MCC's Sidney and Greenville campuses, and the students asked for donations of non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, stuffing, boxed potatoes, French fried onions, macaroni and cheese and others. They also collected monetary donations and purchased a 20-pound turkey for each family. On November 16, the families visited MCC's Sidney campus where they were given a box containing dinner items, as well as an extra bag of groceries and they enjoyed cider and donuts.

Emily Petersen, of Greenville, who also is a student in the class, and her daughter, Ellie, and son, Malachi, as well as Vivian's daughter, Ivy Ridgeway, helped sort the donated items and put them together in the distribution boxes. "This is a project that spoke to me," Emily Petersen said. "We just want to help people in our community." DeLong is known for incorporating service

learning projects into his curriculum. "I am big on citizenship, and I try to pass along to my students that citizenship carries with it responsibilities as well as rights," DeLong said. "You participate in your community in a lot of different ways besides voting. Educating and informing yourself is one of those responsibilities. Being informed is not just knowing what Proposal B is, it is also knowing about what is going on in your community. "Sometimes the only way to be informed is to be involved," he said. "I like to call that civic engagement. Projects like this, when they're dreamed up by a student, and they use connections that they have, build leadership skills, and there are a lot of ways for other students to get involved. DeLong said being informed often simply makes people think about what other people do in a particular situation and helps them have a better understanding of others' circumstances. (continued on page 12)

Stoney Creek Tannery



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Fall Forecast

Thurs. (today), a.m. snow showers with high 30, low 28; Fri., cloudy with high 37, low 29; Sat., rain/freezing rain with high 39, low 37; Sun., cloudy with high 39, low 30; Mon., cloudy with high 35, low 29; Tues., snow showers with high 32, low 24.



Saturday December 1st
Santa & Mrs. Claus
will be here 11:30-1:30

Join us for
Hot Chocolate
and Cookies

Lakeview ELEVATOR

FARMS • FEEDS • PET SUPPLIES

Ph: 989-352-6886

M-F 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-3pm, and Sunday Closed

Christmas Tress & Wreaths are here