

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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TOWN TOPICS

We hope you had a nice Mother's Day.

This week starts our high school graduation coverage. This issue features Central Montcalm grads on pages 10 and 11. Next week we will feature Montabella and Lakeview.

If you have a loved one graduating, send us a congratulations announcement. For \$15, we will print your message along with his or her picture.

Our tribute to Juanita Butler is on pages 12 and 13. Her obituary is on page 4.

The last Lakeview band concert conducted by Dean Gilbert will be on May 19, 2 p.m., at the high school. A reception for Gilbert will follow the concert.



Send your Graduate a special message!

Do you have a child or grandchild graduating?
For \$15 send your graduate a special message with picture.



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Spring Forecast

Thurs., p.m. showers, high 67, low 53; Fri., partly cloudy, high 65, low 49; Sat., mostly cloudy, high 70, low 52; Sun., showers, high 73, low 54; Mon., partly cloudy with high 67, low 50; Tues., scattered thunderstorms, high 68, low 51.



On the Montcalm Roads



Greg Herd patching a county road

By Joe Tilton

A morning with the manager of Montcalm County's road service, via the Road Commission, proved every effort is made to give this county's citizens the most for their \$18.4-million annual investment. That sounds like a lot, yet the job is huge in covering 1,125-miles of roads in the county. The time in Mark Christensen's truck was in anticipation of the Public Safety Celebration this Saturday morning at the courthouse complex in Stanton.

Last Thursday morning we found crews hard at

work on projects to improve roads and bridges in the county, and a boss who is capable of squeezing every last penny available to keep transportation moving as effortless as possible. The time was spent with Mark to let us know crews are well managed, productive and work in a positive environment.

On the 730-miles of gravel and dirt roads in the county, grading activity was in motion, as was filling potholes, cutting new ditches and paving new streets. Expert knowledge of everything from heavy equipment to patching and surface materials was evi-

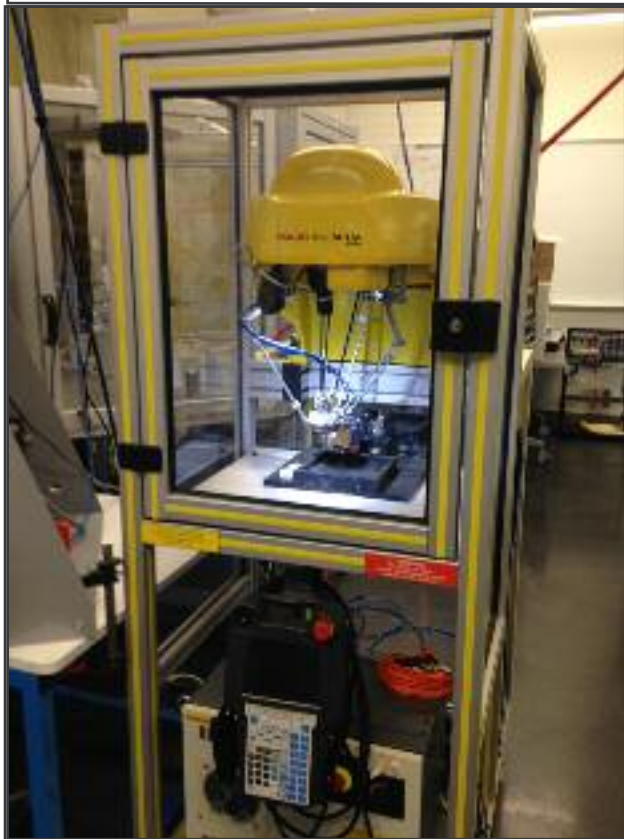
dent as was planning and response to citizens.

Montcalm County's Road Commission receives state funding to help keep the budget manageable, plus partnering with townships for their road maintenance and repair responsibilities. However, the job is huge since duties include working with EMS and sheriff's operations for emergencies, even in the worst weather conditions.

Snow removal to bridge construction and mowing keeps their eight trucks and full time staff constantly working.

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Discover Your Tomorrow



By Joe Tilton

Montcalm County's eighth grade students, all 850 plus, were bussed to the Greenville Camps of MCC on Wednesday of last week from all Mont-

calm Independent School Districts. The event was the annual Discover Your Tomorrow display, intended to inspire with choices for careers.

Shelly Springborn and Mel Christensen as-

sisted with the program that occupied both buildings on the campus. The program is in its second year and loaded with displays from robots, law enforcement, health care, welding and more.

A robot (pictured) was set up near the door to welcome students, while an adjoining room expanded on the robot theme. The Fanuc Robot captured a lot of attention while it recognized colors and shapes and carried out routine tasks ideal for manufacturing to replace a human labor in sorting parts or recognizing damaged pieces.

A display of welding instruction, also in the Tech building, used the Lincoln VRTEX 360 computerized teaching system that displayed a virtual weld. Welding has room for 12-students in each class, where they also weld steel and aluminum.

(continued on page 4)

Special Olympics at LHS



The Standing Long Jump

By Linda Huckins

People awoke last Friday, May 10, to cold temps and wind, but at Lakeview High School's Kos Field, no one seemed to notice. The weather took a back seat to what was happening on the field. It was the annual Special Olympics Summer Games for Michigan Area 6. Participants came from Greenville Public Schools, Lakeview Community Schools, Montabella Community Schools, Montcalm Intermediate School District and Adult Program for Ionia/Montcalm Counties.

As people entered the field, they were met with beautiful music performed by the Lakeview High School Band. Their repertoire covered a vast variety of pieces from "Sweet Carolina" to "Bad Romance" by Lady Gaga.

Fred Gradisher welcomed everyone and thanked Lakeview High School for hosting this year's event. The band then played the National Anthem. Athlete of the Year and Area 6 King, Dylan Christensen led everyone in reciting the

Special Olympic Oath: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Then it was time for the games to begin.

Games were set up throughout the field with some outside the gates, and spectators roamed from event to event cheering and encouraging the athletes. The events included: running long jump, standing long jump, 50 meter dash, softball throw, 100 meter dash, javelin throw, shot put and 200 meter dash. In addition, there were bocce ball toss, horseshoes, and arts & crafts.

Awards were given out after each event. Following the games, participants took part in a victory dance as per Special Olympics tradition.

Special recognition goes to: Athlete of the Year and Area 6 King Dylan Christensen, Coach of the Year Gayle DeVree, Volunteer of the Year Dave Massey, and Area Queen Cathie Merchant.

Congratulations to all the Special Olympics athletes, coaches, parents, and grandparents. Good job.



The 100-Meter Dash

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