

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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TOWN TOPICS

Happy Valentine's Day!

Yes, it is Valentine's Day tomorrow. Remember to shop and/or dine locally.

Monday, February 17, is President's Day. The Secretary of State offices and most banks will be closed.

Lakeview Area News new office hours are as follows: Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Thursday, 3 -5 p.m.; and Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

March Madness Tournaments at Morley Community Center, starting March 7. Registration forms can be picked up at Lakeview, Tri-County and Big Rapids High Schools. See page 3 for more information.

Going Once, Going Twice, Sold!



Auctioneer Calling Competition Winner Jason Clark (left) and Ring Man Competition Winner Larry Harb

By Linda Huckins

Did you know that there is an Annual Conference of Auctioneers, and contestants compete for a very prestigious award and the bragging rights to call themselves champion? Well, there is, and an Alaman won this year's title. It was Jason Clark's fifth time competing. Last year he came in third and this year, he was the winner.

The competition is held annually by the Michigan Auctioneers' Association and is free to the public. Of course attendees can bid on the items being auctioned.

"I was very surprised that I won," Jason Clark said. "I competed against some great auctioneers, including the Mid-West Round-Up Winner [Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana]. He was the favorite to

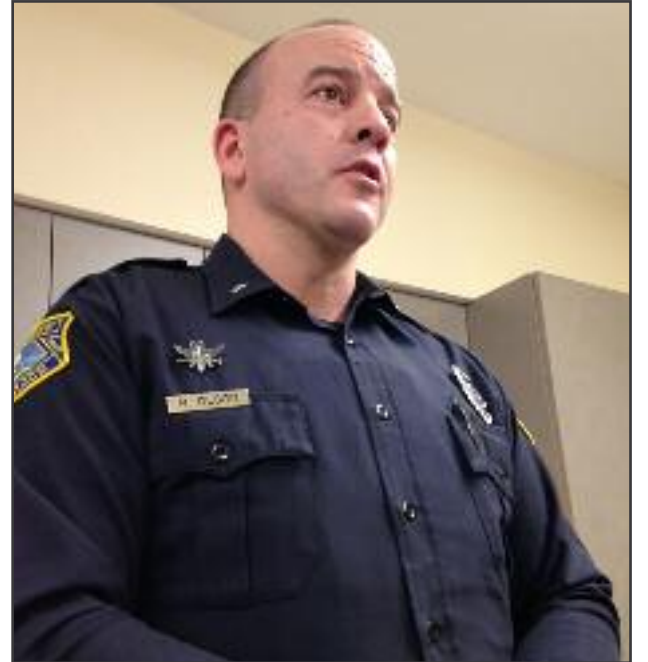
win."

The contest is a formal event. In the Preliminary Round, contestants have to sell two items that they brought with them. Jason brought a Craftsman Shop Stool and a Craftsman Ratchet Wrench Set.

"They auction everything from wine to tools to custom-made pieces," Jason said.

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Lakeview Council Report



Lt. Riley Olson addressing the council

By Joe Tilton

Village President Dave Lund missed Monday evening's council meeting because he is on vacation. Trustee Emily Griffith also missed. President Pro-Temp, Steve Case, chaired the meeting where Police Lieutenant Riley Olson was introduced to the council.

Police Chief and new Village Manager, Darin Dood, highly complimented Olson saying, "The transition has been smooth. Bringing Olson on board is definitely the right move."

Olson responded how he has been in supervisory positions before, but this is his first administration role.

Public Works Director Brian Bucholtz and Manager Dood discussed high water levels in the sewer lagoons and the need to seek permits to release some of the water, "or we'll not make it to April," as Dood expressed. The lagoons are at 88% capacity. A snow-removal plan is being considered, and Bucholtz was complimented for his excellent work in keeping Lakeview's streets drivable.

Manager Dood has met with representatives for the Right Place, the Grand Rapids Economic Development group working to bring industry to the region. Plans for property identification and evaluation are being made, which highlights properties for the Right Place to fill. Dood mentioned the Bollinger building, which is empty, but could be ideal for business placement. "If the properties are not identified as avail-

able, they won't be filled," Dood said.

The village budget was adopted as presented. The Finance and Personnel Committee met with Manager Dood on January 21st to carefully consider every aspect of the budget. One main feature is a savings of \$20,000, which comes out of the Police Department budget. During the meeting, the budget was approved for 2020 - 2021, supported by a property-tax millage rate of 14.9927, with consideration of the Headlee Roll-back. Details of the budget can be seen at the village office.

A detailed sewer-rate study was prepared and ready, but council members asked for the presentation in March when all members are present. The report will detail how there are 363 residential sewer hook-ups, with 105 classified as industrial, government or commercial. Former Manager Warren Rothe began the study, with the current manager completing it. Adoption of the study and possibly new rates will be approved in April. Increases are needed to keep up with equipment replacements and demands. The village billboard on M-46 promoting visitation is being upgraded with an aluminum face covered by car vinyl. The improvements will cost \$3,184, and last longer. The current sign has been in place for 10-years and is dramatically faded.

Server upgrades are to be made to village Internet equipment, provided by Big E Services.

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Where the LAN Has Been



Pastor Ruth Petersen of Blanchard with grandsons Titus and Zachary Petersen at Munising Falls in the Upper Peninsula. Ruth and Allen's son, James and Elishaba Petersen, pastor the Munising Wesleyan Church. Ruth spent a few days in Munising with the 4 grand-boys while James and Elishaba attended a pastors conference.

See another of Ruth Petersen's pictures on the back page.

Check out our Upcoming Events section on page 3 for all the events coming up in our area.

OPEN HOUSE

TRANQUILITY AFC

Saturday Feb 15 1 - 6 pm

231 4th Street Lakeview, MI
Snacks provided

PRIVATE Rooms
QUALITY Care
CARING Staff
ADULT Day Care
Mgr, Tracy Evans

For more information call Jodie at **989-560-9733**

Winter Forecast

Thurs., am snow showers, high 23, low 4; Fri., mostly cloudy with high 18, low 7; Sat., pm snow showers, high 31, low 29; Sun., am clouds, pm sun, high 33, low 22; Mon., pm snow showers with high 35, low 34; Tues., am showers with high 36, low 20.



20# Propane \$10.00

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Mr. Heaters

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Beef Tenderloin 1.00 off a pkg

Local Fresh Frozen Hamburger .50 off a pkg

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm
Saturday 8am-3pm
Sunday CLOSED