

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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TOWN TOPICS

Trufant Jubilee was held last weekend and it was a success. Thank you to the festival committee for a great event.

This Saturday is 9/11 and the 20th anniversary of the attack on America. The Blue Star Mothers are once again sponsoring the 9/11 parade and remembrance ceremony. See page 4 for details and plan on attending.

The annual Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk was held on Monday after being cancelled last year due to Covid concerns. See details and picture on page 10.

September is Michigan Hispanic Month and National Voter Registration Month.

Have a good week.

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Lakeview Area News

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Summer Forecast

Thurs., mostly sunny, high 70, low 48; Fri., mostly sunny, high 75, low 54; Sat., partly cloudy, high 78, low 57; Sun., partly cloudy, high 72, low 49; Mon., partly cloudy, high 73, low 54; Tues., partly cloudy, high 75, low 55.



25 Years Serving Lakeview and Surrounding Communities



Community First Federal Credit Union CEO Tim Rasmussen

By Linda Huckins

For 25 years, Tim Rasmussen has been at the helm of the Community First Federal Credit Union, and through all of that time, he and his loyal employees have supported, uplifted, and given back to the communities where they live and work.

"One of my goals is to try to make the communities we serve better," he said. He doesn't just mean monetarily, although that is part of it. He means through volunteerism as well. He encourages his employees to give back to the community by participating in a minimum of five volunteer projects a year, which are tracked. "They can choose where

they want to volunteer," Rasmussen said. "It can be walking in a parade, volunteering at church, giving blood, whatever."

It is this caring attitude that carries over to the work place. In this day and age when employers are having a hard time getting employees, Rasmussen said that he doesn't have that problem. The reason is that he cares for his employees.

"I ask each employee what he or she needs," Rasmussen said. "What a young mother needs is different from what an older person may need. It is not cookie cutter; we tailor benefits to individuals."

His goal is to keep his employees and so far it is working. The credit

union has very little turn over. "I make sure employees' needs are met," he said. "My goal is to keep my employees. Why retrain new employees? That is expensive."

A good example was the Covid pandemic. Rasmussen said that it created uncertainty for sure, but he tried to meet his employees' needs where they were even in quarantine. For example, care baskets were delivered to employees at their homes. If a young mother couldn't get a babysitter, he let her bring the child to work. One special consideration that Rasmussen made involved teaching children.

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A Happy Story!



Owen Connor

By Linda Huckins

Last January, little Owen Connor was diagnosed with Aplastic anemia. This condition is rare with only 300 Americans getting it each year. Aplastic anemia occurs when your body stops producing enough new blood cells and can occur at any age. The condition leaves you fatigued and more prone to infections and uncontrolled bleeding.

Jacob and Coral Conner took their son Owen to Helen DeVos Hospital and tried different treatments. The only known cure was a bone marrow transplant. There were no 100% matches on the bone marrow transplant register to Owen, but there was a 90% match. Family members were also tested and Owen's dad Jacob was a 50% match.

"The doctors said they would rather have a 50% relative match than a 90% non-relative match," Jacob said.

So on April 29, 2021, Jacob donated his bone marrow to Owen. It

was successful! Today, Owen is a happy six-year-old.

That doesn't mean there aren't challenges. He still has a port in his chest for anti-rejection drugs, but overall his dad said he is doing great.

Last Tuesday evening, the family traveled to Grand Rapids so Owen could experience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It was the Helen DeVos Kids Can Conquer Night at the White Caps game. The hospital chooses kids who have conquered or overcome difficulties. They can follow any White Caps employee around for the night. Owen chose to follow the grounds crew.

In addition, they asked Owen to throw the first pitch. Can't beat that!

The Lakeview Area News will meet with the Connor family later this week and bring you a more in-depth story and find out how Owen enjoyed his White Caps experience.

Trufant Jubilee 2021



St. Thomas Lutheran Church's baked sale table. They also gave away free Bibles and tee shirts.

By Linda Huckins

This past weekend Trufant held its 49th Jubilee. The festival had to be cancelled last year due to Covid concerns so it was very nice to see it back in full swing and well

attended. The three-day event started on Friday with a Swiss steak dinner at the Masonic Lodge at 4:00 p.m. The carnival, pony rides and petting zoo opened at 5 p.m. and the softball tournament began

at 6:00 p.m. The rest of the evening included a Kiddie / Golf Cart Parade, children's games the fireman's parade and fireworks. The Hospitality Tent featured the Trixy Tang Band.

(continued on page 2)

Where the Lakeview Area News Has Been



Cindy Havens took the Lakeview Area News to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. Here she is pictured at the Munising Falls Visitor Center.

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