

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

Thursday, December 1, 2022 (989) 352-5111 ... Fax: (989) 352-8286 www.lakeviewareanewspaper.com ... Price \$1.00

Town Topics

Christmas in Lakeview is coming up this Saturday, December 3. See the schedule of events on page ten.

Don't forget the Tree of Lights Holiday Parade on December 8 in Sheridan. See page four for more details.

Stay warm.

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Fall Forecast

Thu Mostly sunny, with a high near 34. West wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thu Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 23.

Fri Mostly cloudy, with a high near 45.

Fri Night Mostly cloudy, with a low around 30.

Sat Partly sunny, with a high near 42.

Sat Night Partly cloudy, with a low around 20.

Sun A chance of rain, snow, and freezing rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 38.

Sun Night A chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 27.

Mon A chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39.

2022 WILDCAT PRIDE TURKEY TROT



By Luann Koester

We would like to start by thanking our sponsors and volunteers throughout the 2022 race season. We could not offer our race series without the support of our community.

With your support Wildcat PRIDE can offer help to our local athletes by purchasing or helping to purchase athletic gear when needed. Last year we were able to help fund the startup of the 8th grade basketball program.

This year we offered a 1st prize cash award of \$500 to the LHS TEAM that brought the most athletes to our Wildcat PRIDE Runfest. We also offered a 2nd place and 3rd place award to two more

TEAMS. These TEAMS can buy new uniforms or use the money in any way needed to benefit that TEAM.

We want to keep kids and families active and moving. When you participate in our events you're helping too! So, thank you all!

This years Turkey Trot had more racers than any of our past events. We had a record 237 registered athletes to compete! That was so exciting for us!

It was a perfect morning to spend an hour or so outside getting a little exercise with friends and family before the big feast! Jackie Carpenter graced us with her voice as she sang our National Anthem, Michelle Outman gave a

prayer of thanks and our race began!

Our Overall Winners were Dane Bailey - age 17 with a time of 17:38.46 and Kimberley Proctor age 24, with a time of 18:12.82. Our Masters Division Winners were Kevin Sweeney age 49, with a time of 20:03.15 and Gail Shurlow age 54, with a time of 24:12.36. These winners took home a Turkey Trot Cutting Board and other first and second place winners took home pumpkin pie!

As a champion for Huntington's Disease Gail Shurlow, has committed to run 12 marathons in 12 months. She will be running her 2nd marathon solo in Lakeview during Christmas in Lakeview. Watch

for Gail and cheer her on as she runs around Lakeview and if you're able donate to find a cure for Huntington's Disease.

Other runners with amazing times under 21 minutes include:

Cooper Tiffany
Male, 13, 18:48.95

Jeryn Frisbie
Male, 14, 19:11.96

Hayden Gould
Male, 15, 19:29.12

Isaac Boire
Male, 16, 19:40.87
Joey Curry
Male, 17, 19:47.01

Kevin Sweeney
Male, 49, 20:03.15

You're as young as

you feel; check out these amazing times: Karen McKee age 70, with a time of 31:34.61 and Ginger Vanderkelen age 80, who finished with a time of 48:58! For the men Don Harp age 76, finished at 30:53.09 and Richard Wilson age 69, with a time of 36:10.77.

For a complete list of times go to RunSignUp.com

Thank you for another year of active fun! We look forward to seeing you next year for our 2023 race series.

The 2023 Vitality 5k on June 17, registration is now open on RunSignUp.com.

(more pictures on page 2)

Shoebox Collection Week Unhindered by Snowfall



Boxes of Shoebox Gifts are stacked and waiting for shipment at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Big Rapids.

By Bethel Larsen

Four shoeboxes filled with gifts for children somewhere in the world sat on my coffee table while snow piled up on my deck and driveway. My youngest three grandchildren and I had begun our shopping in early October, quickly dispatching the list of basic items: toothbrushes, combs, soap, washcloths, school supplies, and small toys. Even five-year-old Ella, who shopped in person for the first time last year, knows the routine. A final trip for a larger "Wow" gift a few days before had filled their boxes, and one that I fill each year in honor of a friend was ready to go. Most of them included summer shoes purchased at half the clearance price, bargains I celebrate when I

think of the hazards small feet can encounter in impoverished areas of the world. Collection Week for Operation Christmas Child, a Samaritan's Purse outreach, was running out as I stayed off hazardous roads. On Monday, November 21, the last day to deliver the boxes, I finally made it to St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Big Rapids, the nearest collection center.

It appeared that most donors had come bearing their gifts despite the weather, because I found the long hallway of the church already stacked two-deep with the square Samaritan's Purse boxes that hold fourteen or fifteen boxes each, depending upon size. Sturdy red and green cardboard boxes as well as plastic shoeboxes

are available from Samaritan's Purse, but many of us use empty shoeboxes from retailers or our closets, which can vary in size. Kathy Bailey was overseeing a crew of women who were receiving, recording, and packing the boxes as they were brought in, sometimes by the church vanload, often by twos and threes from families. Susan Truog, who chaired the project for many years, had turned over the task to able hands! At the end of the day, the boxes would be taken by truck to Mount Pleasant Community Church, another collection center that also hosts the next step in processing, and loaded into semis bound for Samaritan's Purse headquarters in Boone, North Carolina. When Collection

Week closed that Monday afternoon, a record number of 1,515 boxes had been received at St. Peter's!

Filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child is one of my favorite annual rituals. It helps our own children focus outside themselves to provide some basic items and a bit of fun to children who, in many cases, have never received a gift of their own. (A testimony I read a few years ago from a girl who had grown up in an orphanage told how she had especially appreciated receiving her own toothbrush, after formerly having to share. Are you cringing, moms?) The boxes are shipped to countries around the world, sometimes completing their journeys on the backs of donkeys or by canoe down remote rivers. Children on the often-overlooked Pacific Islands have received boxes in recent years. This year, many will be distributed to children displaced by the war in Ukraine. However, as welcome as the gifts themselves may be, Operation Christmas Child is not a mere distribution of "stuff", but a strategic way to introduce children and their families

to the Good News that Jesus came as God's greatest Gift to die for them. Each recipient hears a basic Gospel presentation and has the option of attending a follow-up Bible course called The Greatest Journey led by a trained local worker. In addition to the suggested shipping donation of \$10.00 per box, donors may support The Greatest Journey for \$6.00 per child. In some instances, new Christian churches have been formed in communities that formerly lacked them as a result of Operation Christmas Child.

Why not start planning ahead for Operation Christmas Child next year? Save the boxes from your shoe purchases or collect them from family and friends and set aside a plastic bin for hygiene and school supplies and other items you find on sale through the year. Plan a shopping trip with children. Invite friends to a packing party and enjoy snacks and conversation while filling boxes. You never know how far your gift may go! For more information, visit www.samaritanaspurse.org or cc.

JOIN US FOR
Christmas in Lakeview
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
Santa Will Visit 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Make-and-Take Bird Feeders Noon to 2 p.m.
In-Store Specials!

While you're here, pick out your
Christmas Tree!
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