

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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The Lakeview Area News office will be closed next week, November 28 and 29 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Fall Forecast

Thu Rain, possibly mixed with snow, becoming all rain after 1pm. High 40. W wind 14 becoming N in the pm. Gusts to 24. Precipitation 90%. New snow accumulation of less than a half inch.

Thu Night Showers likely, mainly before 1am. Mostly cloudy, low 31. Precipitation 60%.

Fri Showers likely, mainly after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, high 44. Precipitation 60%.

Fri Night Showers likely, mainly before 1am. Cloudy, low 36.

Sat Chance of showers after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, high 42.

Sat Night Mostly cloudy, low 31.

Sun Mostly cloudy, high 42.

Sun Night Chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, low 31.

Mon Chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, high 44.



Fabulous Transformation



One section of the many displays in the new Fabulous Finds boutique

By Linda Huckins

It has taken two years, countless man hours, stress, challenges, lots of money, and a vision, but the result is nothing short of miraculous. The old building at 314 S. Lincoln Avenue in downtown Lakeview, which has been closed for at least a couple of years and filled to the rafters with junk and trash, has been transformed into a

beautiful, inviting, spacious trove of unique treasures and delightful gifts.

Welcome to the new location of Fabulous Finds, housed between Peddler's Patch and Cantwell Bros. Hardware. John and Gretchen VerPlank opened the original Fabulous Finds in 2020 in a 2000-square-foot building on the east side of Lincoln Avenue in downtown Lakeview. The new building, which they

purchased in December 2021, is approximately 3200 square feet, allowing them to spread out their displays and bring in more inventory, some of which had been in storage.

Why purchase the new building? John VerPlank said that he loved the architecture of the building, but it had been architecturally altered and he wanted to bring it back to its historic look.

"When I removed the mansard that had been added to the outside, I found amazing windows," VerPlank said. "The mansard was not the right style for the building and the windows were super cool."

He was able to purchase the building in a foreclosure package that not only included the building, but a house and a duplex as well. All structures

were in need of massive repairs and remodeling. He remodeled the house and sold it, but kept the duplex.

The most needy building was the store itself. The previous owners ran a used flea market-type store and when they vacated the building, they didn't get rid of anything. The place was full of trash and junk.

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Sheridan Community Hospital Looks Forward While Celebrating 80 Years

By Bethel Larsen

On the evening of Saturday, November 9, my granddaughter Camryn and I met in Remus and drove to Sheridan for the Eightieth Anniversary Celebration and Silent and Live Auction fundraiser for Sheridan Community Hospital. Held at the Sheridan Community Center from 5:00-9:00 p.m., the event provided a fascinating look backward at a community-based health care system that has served residents of Sheridan and surrounding communities for many years, as well as a look into plans for the future of the hospital. For this writer, the usual fascination with history was augmented when I learned that Dr. H. R. Seelye, co-founder of the hospital, was a brother to the family doctor I knew growing up in Central Lake. For my granddaughter, the evening afforded an informative glimpse into a rural health care system as well as an enjoyable respite

from her studies as a first-year medical student in the CMU College of Medicine.

Upon our arrival at the Community Center, we were provided with auction numbers. Those who wished to purchase tickets for a fifty-fifty raffle were invited to do so. Most guests had purchased dinner tickets in advance.

Donated items for the silent auction were displayed in zones, with no minimum bids required. Christmas porch decorations, handmade quilts, baby gift packs, specialty food baskets, gift certificates, and many other items appealed to a wide range of tastes. A number of handmade Rustic Twig Furniture pieces made by K.J. Lehman near Gowen were included; according to the information tag on one item, Mr. Lehman donates most of his handmade pieces to local fundraisers and charities.

An elevated area of the center held an interest-

ing historical display, with photos of the leased farmhouse in which the hospital was first established in 1944 by osteopathic physicians LeRoy E. Jagnow and H.R. Seelye, and later buildings and innovations up to the current facility, which opened on April 30, 1956. Though an administration building has since been added and substantial modifications have been made to the emergency department and other areas, the narrow doorways and other outdated features have become a hindrance to up-to-date care and convenience. Alongside the photos of buildings and memorabilia, the faces of doctors, nurses, and other patient care providers looked out from the past with dedication and determination as if to say, "Build on our legacy! Don't quit!"

After perusing the historical display and placing a few silent auction bids, we found seats at one



Sheridan Community Hospital CEO Lili Petricevic explains plans for the future of the Hospital.

of the round tables and lined up for the buffet dinner catered by Muffin Top Bakery and Deli in Carson City. Servings of baked chicken, pulled pork, green

bean casserole, cheesy potatoes, and homemade rolls were bountiful as well as tasty.

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