

# Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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The big fishing tournament is coming soon. Lakeview is getting international attention.

Eva Main is turning 102. We will have a story next week.

The Lakeview wrestling team had another really great week. Congratulations.

### Winter Forecast

**Thu** 30 percent chance of snow showers before 1pm. Cloudy, high 32. West wind 11 to 14 mph, gusts 25 mph.

**Thu Night** Mostly cloudy, low 22.

**Fri** Mostly cloudy, high 35.

**Fri Night** Chance of snow showers after 1am. Mostly cloudy, low 24.

**Sat** Mostly cloudy, high 29.

**Sat Night** Mostly cloudy, low 9.

**Sun** Chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, high 15.

**Sun Night** Chance of snow showers. Mostly cloudy, low 0.

**M.L.King Day** A chance of snow showers. Partly sunny and cold, high 9.



## Lakeview Hosting XXI World Ice Fishing Championship



By Lane Leppink

Lakeview, Michigan, USA (more specifically, Tamarack Lake in Montcalm County) has been chosen to host the United States Angling Confederation's (USAC) XXI WORLD ICE FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP this coming February 14, 15, & 16th. If you do a little bit of research, you'll discover that this prestigious event is the equivalent to the International Winter Olympics of Ice Fishing and has not been held in the United States since 2010 and 2013 when Wisconsin hosted the event. Since then, the World Championship truly traveled the world to destinations like Poland, Ukraine, Finland, Belarus, Bulgaria, and most recently Mongolia last year. Myron Gilbert, the USA Team's Captain and Michigan native, had been lobbying for the international event to be held in Michigan when the USA got their next chance. Having been affiliated with the ice fishing program since

USA was involved in 2008, Myron's wishes were heard, and Michigan was chosen. He narrowed the search to preferring the Western side of the state to be able to showcase Grand Rapids and some of the potential lakes that this side of the state has to offer. Once a survey of the area lakes was completed months ago, Tamarack Lake in Montcalm County (Lakeview) had checked off all of his boxes for topography, proximity to Grand Rapids (where the main fishing convention would be held), size of lake (330 acres), and variety and species of fish. Tamarack Lake had everything a fisherman would want, including one of the most charming villages you could ever visit: Lakeview. An event was borne and scheduled. For specifics on this tournament, visit U S A n g l i n g ' s website: <https://usangling.org/ice-fishing-worldchampionship-2025/>

The tournament will be taking place in Lake-

view on Valentine's week. There's currently 10 international teams (6 anglers from each country) registered to compete in the event, including: Estonia, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuanian, Mongolia, Norway, Poland, Sweden, and of course, USA. If there's a 'Winter Olympics' of ice fishing, this is it, and it's coming to our backyard!

HOW DOES AN INTERNATIONAL ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT WORK?

A quick rundown of the tournament for an understanding of how it takes place: A determined part of the lake will be sectioned into five separate half-acre zones where the fishing will take place. Each team will choose a member of their teams to represent their country to fish in each zone. At the start of the tournament, everyone will be organized and walked to the boundary of each zone (you should expect to see 10 fishermen at the boundary of each zone + a poten-

tial 'spotter' to assist the fisherman. Once the signal is given, all of the fishermen enter the zone, and begin hand-augering their hole (power tools and fishfinders are prohibited). A fisherman can auger more than one hole and 'flag' an alternate hole to move to and block the opposition from using. Opposing countries must stay at least 5 meters away from a fisherman's active or flagged hole. Ultimately this becomes a half-acre game of

international ice-fishing chess. It's worth watching a You-tube video or two to see past events to see how strategy works in all of this. When all is done, the team that catches the most WEIGHT of panfish is the winner. (Michigan has a catch limit rule, so the tournament is accommodating by having a runner system of weighing fish then catch-and-release throughout the tourney).

(continued on page 2)



## Lakeview Varsity Wrestling had a big week

By Jennifer Perez

Lakeview Varsity Wrestling had a busy yet successful week. Last Saturday both teams traveled to Allendale to compete in an invitational. Seniors Cam Perez and Landen Johnson were both tournament champions. Runners up were Junior Lucas Vail and Senior CJ Copeland. Senior Jack Zaborac finished 4th.

Last Wednesday the team traveled to Kent City for league competition. They improved their record to 4-0 in league over Kent City 53-18 and over Newaygo 71-7.

The Cats hosted a

ladies invitational this past Friday with both lady Cats Holli Painter and Hailee Hendry finishing in 3rd.

Capping off the week, an invitational this past Saturday at home proved to be a success. The team placed first over all by more than 100 team points at 311.5 and had 6 tournament champions. Champs included 120# Ayden Boyd, 138# Cam Perez, 144# Zach Schenden, 165# Lucas Vail, 190# Braxton Hill, and 215# Landen Johnson. Runners up 157# Bryson Banks, 175# CJ Copland, and 215# Jack Zaborac. Placing 3rd 132# Dylan Mazurek, 4th 150#

Omari Lane, 5th 106# Jon Soloway, 126# Kayden Bentham, 138# Zach Peasley, 150# David Vail, and 6th place 113# Kypton Moss, and 120# Hayden Johnson.

The team will be back in action at their last home league dual meet this Wednesday at 5pm hoping to better their league record versus Big Rapids and Reed City. Next Saturday the blue team travels to Reed City for an invitational and gold team will travel to Ithaca for a team dual.

(more photos on page 2)



Senior CJ Copeland receives his 150th Career win

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