

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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We attended the Wild Game Dinner at Sylvester Community Church. Cindy is right. It was a great success. We even won a shirt.

Winter Forecast

Thu Sunny, high 38. SSW wind 7 to 15, gusts 29.

Thu Night Chance of rain showers between 1am and 4am, then a chance of freezing rain after 4am. Mostly cloudy, low 27. Precipitation 30%.

Fri Chance of snow showers and freezing rain before 7am, then a chance of rain and snow showers between 7am and 1pm. Partly sunny, high 35. Precipitation 30%.

Fri Night Partly cloudy, low 12.

Sat Partly sunny, high 25.

Sat Night Chance of snow showers after 1am. Mostly cloudy, low 18.

Sun Chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly cloudy, high 37.

Sun Night Chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly cloudy, low 21.

Mon Mostly cloudy, high 28.



Moose and Goose and Bears, Oh My!



By Cindy Havens

Moose meatballs were just one of the many offerings last Saturday night when over 125 people enjoyed an array of wild game selections. Sylvester Community Church hosted its annual Wild Game Dinner and Gospel Outreach with Tim Grant and Jay Fettig as the after-dinner speakers. There was also a large selection of door prizes for those attending the dinner.

People arrived early to get their tables and enjoy hors d'oeuvres that included venison sausage, pickled pike, smoked venison sticks with crackers and smoked salmon dip, to name just a few. Dinner began promptly at 6:30 pm. with Pastor Emeritus Richard Taylor offering the blessing over the food.

Overflow seating had to be set up out in the foyer – a nice problem to have. The blustery snowy weather did not keep many people from coming out to enjoy the unique meal. It took about 45 minutes for everyone to get through the buffet line. Many first-timers were seen taking their time and eyeballing closely the dishes, before deciding which ones they wanted. It wasn't an easy decision. The wide variety included goose, bear, roast elk, wall-eye, corned venison with sauerkraut, rabbit egg rolls and venison Swiss steak. In addition to the wild game, the buffet included potatoes, rolls and several salads. And then of course there were the desserts. Pies, sheet cakes, homemade candy and cookies were enjoyed by all. There was not a lot of food left

over and in spite of everyone getting their fill, most people managed to enjoy one or two desserts as well.

After dinner people moved into the sanctuary to hear the keynote speakers for the evening. They did not disappoint. Tim Grant, Executive Director of Montcalm/Mecosta Youth for Christ, as well as Jay Fettig presented personal experiences from their own lives. They talked about opportunities that are available to all of us, as we grow both in our relationship with Christ, as well as grow our wildlife properties. They shared about how we feed our bodies with God's Word and how we feed the deer on our property. They presented on how we have great access to God, and how creating good access to our deer blinds will make our

hunting more successful. They closed their talk emphasizing that our bodies are sanctuaries of the Holy Spirit, and our property is a sanctuary for wildlife. When we put in the work, we can have the John 10:10 experience – inside and out! *"...I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."*

Door prize tickets were drawn after the speakers finished. A wide selection was available to choose from, including several specifically with the ladies in mind. Prizes included choice of several \$50 gift cards, six outdoor wildlife prints by local celebrity artist Dan Lee, a cellular trail camera, a tool set, pellet gun, a girls' fishing pole including tackle box, a lovely basket containing an array of home-

grown lavender products by Cindy Lee, a certificate for dinner for two at Two Hats Supper Club in Big Rapids, and a handmade Amish wall clock.

Years ago, these wild game dinners were traditionally all male events. But more and more women and girls have gotten into wildlife outdoor sports including hunting, fishing and more. The local wild game dinners are attended by moms, dads and the whole family. It is a great way to introduce the next generation to the glories of the Lord in the great outdoors. If you missed this year's dinner at Sylvester Community Church, mark your calendar for 2026. It is always the last Saturday of January. Hope to see you then!

(more photos on page 2)

Lakeview Varsity Wrestling

By Jennifer Perez

Lakeview Wrestling improved its CSAA record to 6-0 two weeks ago against Big Rapids (59-15) and Reed City (51-19). After having a weather delay last week, the team will vie for the title at Chip Hills this Wednesday, January 29th vs Chip and undefeated Tri-County at 5pm.

On January 18th, the team split sending Gold team to Ithaca placing 3rd over all in team points. Braxton Hill was tournament champion, runners up Amari Lane and Kayden Betham, placing 3rd David Vail, 4th Zach Peasley and Jack Zaborac, 5th place Jon Soloway, and 6th place Tevis Strecker and Mason Miller. Part of the blue

team went to Reed City with Runners up Cam Perez and Landen Johnson, placing 3rd CJ Copeland, 4th Zach Schenden, and 6th Easton Fryover.

On January 25th, the team split again sending Gold team to Montabella going 2-2 on the day. Coach Barton had this to say about the teams effort, "We had a really good showing at Montabella. Some of the younger kids had the opportunity to step into the lineup and get some great mat time. I am proud of all of them. They continue to get better as they progress and seem to enjoy doing it! We wrestled well, but definitely have some more work to do before districts next week."



Senior Zach Schenden receives his 100th career win

The lady cats also competed on Saturday at a women's tournament in

Hastings with Holli Painter finishing 3rd going (4-1) and Hailee Hendry finish-

ing 4th going (2-2).

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