

Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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Vestaburg Community Days are coming up next week July 18-20. See page 2 for a schedule of events.

Don't forget the Farmers' Market at the old Kelsey Hospital site every Saturday this summer. Garden produce is coming in now.

Spring Forecast

Thu Mostly sunny, with a high near 83. North wind 3 to 5 mph.

Thu Night Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Fri Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

Fri Night A chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66.

Sat A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 2pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 85.

Sat Night Showers likely, mainly before 8pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 64.

Sun Mostly sunny, with a high near 83.

Sun Night Mostly clear, with a low around 62.

Mon Sunny, with a high near 86.



Music in the Park - July 2nd



Members of the band, Glad All Over, "stepping out" as they played some of the oldies from the 1960s

By Stephen Charnley, MIP Team Leader

It was another beautiful Wednesday night at Lakeside Park for music, fun and community togetherness. There were over 350 attending, including mariners on half a dozen pontoon boats parked along the shore. I'm always impressed at the wide range of ages present: from a six month old to octogenarians. The playground was especially busy with a multitude of youngsters. Spread the word: Music in the Park is family friendly!

The evening's sponsor was the Lakeview Area Community Fund's Advisory Committee. Their leader, Ken Rader, perched on the tailgate of his pickup, handed out ice cream to members of his team who, in turn, passed through the crowd offering this complimentary cooling treat in vanilla, strawberry or chocolate flavors. As they did so, I highlighted the tremendous impact this fund has had in our community. The current balance of the fund is an incredible \$2,500,000, which provides, through interest earned, over \$100,000 in scholarships and grants every year! The team members also handed out a brochure detailing LACF's plethora of funds that have been endowed by community members. (Join them by either donating to an existing fund or creating your own!) More about this impactful local fund will be celebrated at the LACF Free Community Dinner on Tuesday, October 21st at the Lakeview High School (RSVPs can be made at our local library).

The park was graced with other volunteers as the Lakeview Community Church, led by Pastor Dave Hansen, passed out

the evening's program along with free water to help us keep cool. Also present was the 2025 Miss Lakeview, Ash Davis, along with her royal court: Jr. Miss Lakeview, Izzy Ghearing, Little Miss Lakeview, Emilee Baylor, and Mr. Lakeview Kiddie King, Sebastian Christiansen. They had set up a table to offer baked goods and lemonade, in addition to selling tickets for a 50/50 drawing. All the proceeds will go toward their plans to adopt a Lakeview area family for Thanksgiving and another for Christmas.

Being on the threshold of the Fourth of July, Dean Gilbert had invited members of the local VFW post to present the colors while Brianna Herzog sang the national anthem. Brianna remained up front and I invited other members of Free Flight, both band and sound team, to come forward, along with Dallas Lincoln. Free Flight is usually performing during our season, but unfortunately, the band has needed to end their playing days. Dallas noted how Free Flight, with their signature good humor and great oldies (music, not the band members!) has been a fixture for Music in the Park nearly since our inception. Dallas suggested to me that we create a "Music in the Park Hall of Fame," and that they and Gravel Ridge be our first inductees. That's a great idea! With sustained applause, the crowd offered the members of Free Flight an outpouring of gratitude for their years of entertainment by the lakeshore.

Then, it was time to meet a musical group new to us in Lakeview: Glad All Over, a 60's Tribute Band, named for the Dave Clark Five 1964 hit. Their leader, Dan Cosgrove,



Miss Lakeview, Ash Davis, along with her royal court: Jr. Miss Lakeview - Izzy Ghearing, Little Miss Lakeview - Emilee Baylor, and Mr. Lakeview Kiddie King - Sebastian Christiansen

made sure to shout out a thanks to Greg McKenna for feeding the band before the show. (McKenna's Pub and Restaurant is a terrific "in-kind" supporter of Music in the Park. Thank you, Greg and staff!!)

We were wonderfully entertained with a musical trip down memory lane with "I'm a Believer" by the Monkees, "Sweet Caroline" by Neil Diamond, "I Believe in Magic" by Lovin' Spoonful, "Ferry Cross the Mersey" by Gerry and the Pacemakers, along many others. As dusk approached there was a welcome breeze off the lake and clouds overhead, making for a perfect end to the evening. Please join us for the rest of our season and tell your neighbors and friends. There's room for one and all!

(See another photo on page 10.)

Where the LAN Has Been



On a recent trip to the Republic of South Africa to visit missionary friends and conduct some professional development for their Christian school teachers on Biblical Worldview Shaping, the LAN owner's sister, Norma-Jean Kaspersek, also visited Kruger National Park and saw many Cape buffalo, giraffes, zebras, warthogs, monkeys, and antelope.

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