

# Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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Summer is in full swing. We have summer squash and cucumbers. The elevator has Carr sweet corn, and the Farmers' Market is going strong.

Stanton Old Fashioned Days are coming August 9 through 11.

The Danish Festival in Greenville, MI, will take place on August 15-16. Montcalm County has the largest concentration of Danes of any county in Michigan.

## Summer Forecast

**Thu** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. East northeast wind 7 to 10 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Thu Night** Mostly clear, with a low around 51.

**Fri** Sunny, with a high near 77.

**Fri Night** Mostly clear, with a low around 49.

**Sat** Sunny, with a high near 80.

**Sat Night** Mostly clear, with a low around 53.

**Sun** Sunny, with a high near 82.

**Sun Night** Mostly clear, with a low around 55.

**Mon** Mostly sunny, with a high near 84.



## Fire Damages Garage on West Spencer Road



By Mindy Raglin

In the United States of America, fire departments respond to 1,504,500 fires annually. There are, on average, about 344,600 house fires per year.

On Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:57 pm, a fire started at 8304 West Spencer Road, Greenville, Michigan. It was a hot summer afternoon, and Mr. George Anderson, decided to mow his lawn. After he was finished, he placed his mower in his garage, still hot, with dry grass on it. As time went on, Mr. Anderson noticed smoke billowing out from under his garage door.

Neighbors also noticed the smoke and called it in.

The Montcalm Fire Department was first on scene. Clifton Dickinson, the Fire Chief, upon arriving saw the 20 foot flames, and attempted with the fire department to put the fire out. The firemen began getting ill due to the extremely hot summer day and the heat from the garage fire. Four departments, including Auto Aid from Stanton, Michigan were called in. Kent County, a neighboring fire department to Montcalm Fire Department was also on the scene. The fire was eventually contained after causing more than half the

garage to be damaged. The total cost of the damage was 100,000 dollars. Mr. Anderson and his wife Diane, are in fact insured but who can put a price on sentimental items? The good news is that everyone was safe, and the home of Mr. Anderson and his wife, was in no way affected by the garage fire. Mr. Anderson did want to mention his appreciation and praise of how well each fire respondent put out the garage fire, eliminating the total loss of the entire garage and without damage to their home.

Fire Chief, Clifton Dickinson of the Montcalm Fire Department offered a safety tip. After mowing

your lawn, be sure to blow any dry grass off of the lawn mower, including the mower deck, using a leaf blower or another alternative. Also, make sure the lawn mower is fully cooled off before storing it inside a garage or shed. Clifton Dickinson practices this routine each time he mows at the fire department.

If you are without a fire alarm, your local fire department or American Red Cross, has them available free of charge. Your local fire department offers three per household and will install them. Each fire alarm has a ten year battery life.

Mr. Anderson and his

wife Diane would like to send out their thankfulness for each fire respondent that effectively put out the garage fire, ensuring their safety and the containment resulting in no damage to their home. The contained damage to the garage was severe, but the safety of Mr. Anderson and his wife Diane and their home was saved by the brave acts of every fire respondent that day. May each and every person, who played a part in helping the Andersons know just how thankful they are. It goes to show, together we can all make a difference each and every day.

## What Does it Take to Be a Winner?

By Marian Stockwell

I know who to ask, London Eldridge. Not only did she receive honors at Central Montcalm school (Stanton), receiving all A's for all four years, but also receiving all A's at her four years at Olivet University! This is a great accomplishment, but might I add that she also was on the track team for the University of Olivet, where she won back-to-back in the 400-meter hurdles at the 2024 and 2025 MIAA (Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association) Field Day. She is a winner academically, in sports, AND also happens to be a win-

ner showing pigs and steers.

Winning is good; it is okay to win, and to be proud of your accomplishments and hard work. That's what it is, hard work and sacrifice. If you want to be a winner, you must make up your mind at a young age that your goal is important enough to give up time with friends and sometimes family events. Support from family and friends is also important. Who else is going to drive you all over, out-of-state, make lunches, sacrifice vacations, and their personal time? It takes dedicated parents, and often grandparents as

well.

When everyone gets a prize, I'm not sure if that rewards the child who put in extra hours practicing. Does that encourage that child to try harder next time to be a winner, if there is no winner? Competition and competitiveness are good tools for building character and self-worth. Parents and coaches help instill in the competing students that not everyone wins, and this is what our plan is to be winners next time.

(continued on page 2)



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