

# Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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Topics

Korson's Tree Farms of Sidney has been chosen to provide a Christmas tree for the White House after winning a National Christmas Tree Association competition.

Stanton Old Fashioned Days are coming this weekend, August 8-10. See the preview by Cindy Havens on page 4.

Next week is the last Music in the Park for this year. Enjoy.

## Summer Forecast

**Thu** Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. Calm wind becoming south 5 to 7 mph in the morning.  
**Thu Night** Partly cloudy, with a low around 66.

**Fri** Mostly sunny, with a high near 89.

**Fri Night** Mostly clear, with a low around 68.

**Sat** Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 91.

**Sat Night** Partly cloudy, with a low around 69.

**Sun** Mostly sunny, with a high near 87.

**Sun Night** Partly cloudy, with a low around 66.

**Mon** A chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 85.



## The Historic Montcalm Heritage Village



By Marian Stockwell

The first thing you see while walking towards the Heritage Village, is this massive, black engine, The Steam Switch Engine #7456, built in 1920, and the C&D (Chesapeake & Delaware) and the C&O (Chesapeake & Ohio) train. It is very impressive. It is parked in front of the McBride Depot. The Heritage Village was established in 1987. It is conveniently located on Montcalm Community College's Sidney campus; it just blends in, and is well maintained.

I know that there was a lot of hard work that went into making it as nice as it is. The volunteers and officers that put in hours, and years to have the village what it is today, such dedication! Fundraisers and volunteers made it all possible, moving buildings, preserving documents and

reconstructing replicas of past buildings, such as the Village Church, which is a replica of the United Brethren Church of Six Lakes. I sat in the real church benches dating back to 1893 from that church. They were comfortable!

The Heritage Village now consists of 28 buildings, most come from Montcalm County. The Gaffield School came from close to Amble. Most of these buildings were donated, and some even paid to have them moved to the Heritage Village out of their own pocket.

The buildings look so nice, and give you the "feel" of stepping back in time, with kids reaching into the glass jars to pick out their favorite candy at the Sidney General Store, just like they must have done in Sidney in the very early 1900's. I was delighted to see so many

young children with parents and grandparents. It was good to see that they enjoyed walking through the different historic buildings, asking questions about each.

Inside The Sidney Town Hall, teenagers, not yet old enough to vote, experienced voting in the early 1900's, passing through the cloth door and into the voting booths. The original wooden locked voter's box is still on display. The voter's box was a donated, recycled cheese box from the cheese factory in Sidney. It didn't need to be big, because as my Aunt Bonnie (she has volunteered to be the Town Hall spokesperson for several years) explained, only men that owned property could vote, in 1888, the year it was built! Women were not allowed to vote until 1920, even with the Suffragette movement, where women marched, in

the late 1800's and early 1900's in an effort for the right to vote. There are also Platte books and many documents, where you can find family records, you can even see your grandfather's signature!

I'm sure that Jake and Charlene Kinsey, owners of the Lakeview Area News, are glad for modern technology, even when there are computer glitches. A visit to the Print Shop, a replica, amazes me that they would be able to get a weekly paper out in time!

Rush & Sons Dairy displayed the ice cream-making process of years past. They also sold ice cream, in different forms, what a great idea when the weather was warm.

The gift shop/loom shop had interesting displays of several very large looms, and a spinning wheel.

Young girls gathered

at Belle's Hat Shoppe, where they were allowed to try on the wide variety of hats and have their pictures taken. What a great idea!

The Tool Shed looked like some of the antique tools that I remember from my grandparents' time. I was even able to take a picture of the very pointed hay fork, attached by a pulley over the big wooden beam. My mother told of the story of the rope breaking and the forks coming down and injuring their work horses, which were underneath, still attached to the hay wagon. (They lived, but needed lots of doctoring)

The newest building is the Sap House. Hopefully the public will be able to visit in the spring and watch them make maple syrup right from their very own trees in the village.

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## Noah's Ark Floats Into Sylvester

By Cindy Havens

"I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved," ~John 10:9

45 kids, 28 volunteers, an ark full of animals and a door that only God can open - that was the Vacation Bible School at Sylvester Community Church last week. Ranging from Pre-School through 5th grade, the kids experienced a grace-filled week with a menagerie of Bible verses and animals. The Noah's Ark theme gave the teachers the freedom to explore Bible verses for all the kids. "We concentrated on the verses God gave to Noah on how to build the ark," said Joan Stickler, one of the teachers for the week. Stickler, a Remus resident, had all four of her grandkids there for the

week. On Monday, there was an interview with Noah for the whole group and they were able to ask him questions. Tuesday and Wednesday all the grades built bird houses and painted them. The second and third graders built their own ark based on the verses in Genesis 6. And they learned quickly that our God is a God of detail. Every day was filled with music, games, snacks and lessons learned from Noah's Ark. The most important being that just as there was only one door in the ark - there is only one door/way to salvation - and that is through God's Son Jesus Christ. The door in the ark closed from the outside and only God could open it.

(continued on page 4)



Vacation Bible School kids get up close and personal with some Noah's Ark animals.

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