

# Lakeview Area News

Northern Montcalm and Southern Mecosta Counties' News Source

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**Town Topics**

Congratulations to Jim and Sharon Youngman on being chosen as Grand Marshals for Summerfest. Sharon is cousin of LAN owner Gerald Kinsey.

Gus Macker is coming to town this weekend, June 6 and 7. See notice on page 10.

Enjoy the great weather.

**Spring Forecast**

**Thu** Mostly sunny, high 83. SW wind 6 to 16, with gusts as high as 29.

**Thu Night** Mostly cloudy, low 63.

**Fri** A 30 percent chance of showers after 2pm. Mostly cloudy, high 82.

**Fri Night** A chance of showers and thunderstorms, then showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm after 2am. Mostly cloudy, low 60.

**Sat** Showers likely and possibly a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy, high 81.

**Sat Night** Showers likely, mainly before 8pm. Mostly cloudy, low 59.

**Sun** Chance of showers. Partly sunny, high 83.

**Sun Night** Partly cloudy, low 60.

**Mon** Mostly sunny, high 85.



## Jim and Sharon Youngman Chosen as 2026 Summerfest Grand Marshals



By Bethel Larsen

Never underestimate the influence of quiet people. Once known as the shyest members of their Lakeview High School graduating classes, Jim and Sharon Youngman have lived lives of quiet influence in Lakeview and its surrounding area, not seeking the spotlight that has found them in their selection as Grand Marshals for the 2026 Lakeview Summerfest parade.

Nevertheless, all who know them would applaud the choice. Deeply rooted in the Lakeview area history that they now promote through the Lakeview Area

Museum, they have modeled faith, integrity, and neighborly kindness in characters as solid as the walls of the white stucco home they occupy on South Lincoln Avenue—a home also rooted in the Youngman family heritage.

The Youngman saga in Lakeview began when Jim's great-grandfather, N.H., Senior, immigrated from Denmark in 1879 to join the many Danes settling in the Greenville area. A woodworker and cabinetmaker by trade, the young man then known as Nels Hansen Jungjohan saw opportunity in a raw new settlement called Lakeview twenty miles

north of Greenville and moved here to start his business. He soon built a store downtown only to have it lost in the fire that destroyed most of downtown Lakeview. He rebuilt on the site formerly occupied by Fabulous Finds, selling furniture, hardware, and caskets he had made—a natural precursor to the mortuary business. Sons N.H., Jr., and Cliff would grow up in the home now owned by Jerry and Jacque Kellogg. (A side note: Though the name soon Anglicized to "Youngman" would gain prominence in the Lakeview community, it was not the one attached to Youngman Road, named

for an unrelated family whose farm was situated at the corner of Youngman and Almy Roads.)

By 1912, Jim's grandfather Cliff was selling Model T Fords ordered through his store, adding a repair shop behind the store for the breakdowns common to early motor vehicles. He sold the hardware business to Cantwell Brothers in 1920 but continued offering caskets and funeral services and selling and repairing automobiles, switching from Ford to Willys Overland vehicles and then Chevrolet in 1933, eventually adding Buick. Cliff's son Dean returned to Lakeview after

completing mortuary training at Wayne University in 1949. By this time, the modern Youngman

Chevrolet building housed the automobile dealership (the building now occupied by Lakeview Community Wellness Center) and the Youngman Funeral Home was built to offer a gracious and dignified setting for mortuary services. Jim and his sisters Nancy and Mary grew up around the family businesses. Jim would eventually serve as office manager of the dealership until it closed in 1986.

(continued on page 2)

## Camp Concordia summer staff commissioning



The summer staff of Camp Concordia near Gowen was commissioned during worship at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Lakeview on Sunday. Executive Director Rev. B. J. Fouts stands on right. The Lutheran youth camp, founded in 1957, is located on Half Mile Lake near Gowen. The summer camp program begins on Sunday, June 7 and has openings for elementary through middle school-age campers.

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