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LAC VIEUX DESERT HEALTH CENTER

The Lac Vieux Desert Health Center (LVDHC) in Watersmeet, MI, is seeking to fill the key positions of:

- CLINICAL THERAPIST/ COUNSELOR
- PHYSICAL THERAPIST
- DENTAL HYGIENIST
- CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT

The full job descriptions can be found on our website at www.lvdhc.org, or for more information please contact our HR department at (906) 358-4588 ext. 102. LVDHC offers competitive wages and outstanding benefits. Please contact us to apply!

INVITATION TO BID ONTONAGON COUNTY PARK MANAGER

Sealed Bids are being accepted for Janitorial and Lawn Maintenance for the Ontonagon County Park located at 14724 M-64 on the west shore of Lake Gogebic. For the approximate period of April 17, 2023, through October 5, 2025.

Bid packages are available at the Ontonagon County Clerk's Office, 725 Greenland Road, Ontonagon, MI 49953. Bids should be clearly marked "Park Bid" and submitted to the Ontonagon County Clerk's Office, 725 Greenland Road, Ontonagon, MI 49953 by Wednesday, February 15, 2022, at 4:00 P.M.

The Ontonagon County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Ontonagon County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

AJ's Lodge on Lake Gogebic: We are busy and need more house-keeping team members! If you are looking for part time work - we have got it. Housekeeping and general laborers. Call 906-575-3557!

Water & Sewer Rates Rising in McMillan Township

The Water and Sewer Systems in McMillan Township, and more specifically in Ewen, were last improved and updated in 1972. This means that some water pipes need to be replaced, the sewer system needs to be upgraded to prevent overloading the lagoons, and the water tower itself needs to be replaced. These improvements are necessary to ensure the safety of the systems, to continue to provide clean water, and to prevent sewage overflows that could become a hazard to the health of Ewen's residents.

The total cost of these improvements is in the range of five million dollars. The Township Board and Staff are working hard to find federal and state grants that will cover the cost of these repairs and upgrades. However, many of the grants cover only a percentage of the cost (anywhere from 50 to 80 percent) and require that the Township has the remainder of the funds on hand or in our long-range planning and projected income.

The result is that our Water and Sewer Rates will be increasing each year for five years. Last year (2022) was year #1. This year (2023) is year #2. Beginning with the bills processed on or about February 1, the Water Rate will increase by \$2 per month to \$45.45 and the Sewer Rate will increase by \$5 per month to \$58.25.

If you are struggling to pay your utility bills, please, contact the Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency at 906-988-2751 to see if you are eligible for assistance based upon your income and the size of your household.

Ewen Water Bills

Residents of Ewen, due to the snow, many water meters are inaccessible at this time. The Township is estimating water usage and billing you for your average monthly usage. That average is based upon your normal usage over the last 12 months. In the spring when meters are again accessible, any discrepancies will be accounted for. We will also make adjustments at that time for any overages that were caused by running water to prevent frozen pipes. Thank you for your understanding.

* NOW HIRING * HEAD AUTO MECHANIC

Come work in the rural town of Bruce Crossing, located in the beautiful western Upper Peninsula of Michigan, as a Head Auto Mechanic at A&A Hardware and Auto. We are looking for an Automotive Technician who is committed to providing high-quality repairs and service to our customers.

This is a full-time position, with an hourly rate of \$20 to \$32 per hour, commensurate with experience. Paid bi-weekly. Benefit package available.

Job Details and Responsibilities: Perform vehicle repairs including, but not limited to: engine repair, drive train/axles, suspension/steering, brakes, electrical, heating/air conditioning, and engine performance. Maintain an organized and safe work environment. Perform other duties as assigned by manager.

Qualifications: State of Michigan Mechanic Certification is preferred. Minimum of 10 years of automotive repair experience. Must be 18 years old or older.

To apply, call 906-827-3944 or 269-365-4475.

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Vol. 2 2nd Edition - Publisher, Rena Maki
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This page was generously paid for by the Gogebic Range Bank.

SAVE the DATE

- Jan 26** *E-TC NHS American Red Cross Blood Drive* - 10am-3pm at E-TC School, Ewen
- Feb 2-5** *18th Annual Predator Hunt*, Kicks off on Feb 2, 2-6:30pm, Hoppy's Bar, Kenton (*Details inside*)
- Feb 3** *Ottawa Shopper arrives!*
- Feb 4** *Ontonagon Gladiators Robotics Team Fundraiser*, The Eagles Club, Ontonagon
- Feb 8-13** *101st Annual Michigan Tech Winter Carnival - "Tasty Foods for Wintry Moods"*, Houghton (Go see ice statues!)
- Feb 11** *Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser - Ewen & Bruce Crossing Fire Departments*, 4pm-7pm at Twilly's Sports Bar, Bruce Crossing (*Details inside*)
- Feb 12** NFL Superbowl Sunday
- Feb 14** Valentine's Day
- Feb 17** *Ottawa Shopper arrives!*
- Feb 18** *Radar Run (Snowmobile races & more!)* Begins 12pm at Bent's Camp Resort & Lodge, 6883 Helen Creek Rd, Land O'Lakes, WI
- Mar 11** *18th Annual Hog-a-Thon Ice Fishing Tournament*, Register at Bergland Outfitters Bait Shop (906) 235-8288, Bergland

NUTRITION MEALS—CLOVERLAND SR CENTER, EWEN: (AGE 60+ & SPOUSE) DONATION, \$4.00, GUEST FEE, \$6.50 Every Tues. & Thurs. 11AM - 1PM

S. ONTONAGON CO. FOOD PANTRY, EWEN: 1st Tues ea. month, 2PM-4PM. 20142 State Hwy. M-28

WATERSMEET FOOD PANTRY:

1st & 3rd Tues., 10-11AM

SHARE YOUR ORGANIZATION'S COMMUNITY MEAL SCHEDULE, FOOD SERVICES, OR CHURCH INFO HERE FOR FREE

AREA CHURCH SERVICES

- Apostolic Lutheran Church**, Watton: 11AM Sun. Worship. Holy Communion 1st Sun. 11756 Salli Rd.
- Bethany Lutheran WELS**, Bruce Crossing: 5PM Sun. Worship.
- Bethany Lutheran Church (LCMC)**, Covington: 10:30AM Sun. Worship. Communion 1st and 3rd Sun. Hwy 141.
- Bruce Crossing Apostolic Lutheran Church:** Sun. School 12PM, Worship 1PM. Communion 1st Sun., Pr. Ed Hulkonen. 15121 M-28W.
- Bruce Crossing Bible Church:** 10AM Sun. Worship, 15089 Maplewood Rd.
- Calvary Baptist Church**, Bergland: 11AM Sun. Worship, 201 Pine St.
- Calvary Temple Assembly of God**, Trout Creek: 9AM Sun. School, 10AM Sun. Worship. 187 Division St.
- ELY Memorial Church (UCC)**, Land O'Lakes, WI: 10AM (CT) Sun. Worship, 4302 Co. Rd. B.
- First Apostolic Lutheran Church**, Paynesville: Worship 1st Sun. at 10:30AM, 3rd Sun. at 2:30PM.
- First Lutheran Church (ELCA)**, Ewen: 10AM Communion Worship 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sun. 200 N. Cedar St.
- Hope Lutheran Church (LCMS)**, Watersmeet: Worship 9:30AM Sun. Communion 1st, 3rd, 5th Sun., Pr. Gary Albert. N1764 Hwy 45.
- Immaculate Conception Catholic Church**, Watersmeet: Mass 4PM (CT) Sat. and 9:30AM (CT) Sun., E23933 D Ave.
- Ontonagon Baptist Church**, Ontonagon: Sun. Worship 9:45AM, 11AM, 6PM and Wed. Worship 7PM. Pr. Virgil Ruchti. 615 Greenland Rd.
- Our Saviour Lutheran Church (ELCA)**, Paynesville: Communion Worship 3rd and 5th Sun. at 10AM. 13980 N. Paynesville Road.
- Sacred Heart Catholic Church**, Ewen: 4PM Sat. Worship, 201 S Birch St.
- St. Ann's Catholic Church**, Bergland: 11AM Sun. Worship, 480 Forest Ave.
- Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)**, Covington: 9AM Sun. Worship, Pr. Corey Harman. M-28.
- Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)**, Bergland: 9AM Sun. Worship w/ Holy Communion, 6PM Tues. Bible Study. Pr. Timothy Steckling. 404 Birch St.
- Trout Creek Lutheran Community Church:** 11AM on 3rd Sun. Worship.
- United Methodist Church**, Bergland: 11AM Sun. Worship. Pr. Jerry Bennett. 108 Birch St.
- United Methodist Church**, Ewen: 9AM Worship 1st Sun. Open Communion. Rev. Ted Trudgeon.
- United Methodist Church**, Sidnaw: 3PM Sun. Worship. Communion 1st Sun. Pr. Mark Miller.
- Watersmeet Bible Church:** Sun. Bible Study 9-10AM, Worship 10:30AM. Communion 1st Sun. Dinner & Bible Study Wed. 5:30PM-7:30PM. Pr. Robert Yerks. Northwoods Quilters Tues. 9AM-3PM. E23640 Hwy 2.
- White Pine Community United Methodist Church:** 11AM Sun. Worship. Pr. Pete LeMoine. 9 Tamarack St.

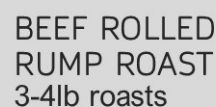


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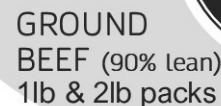
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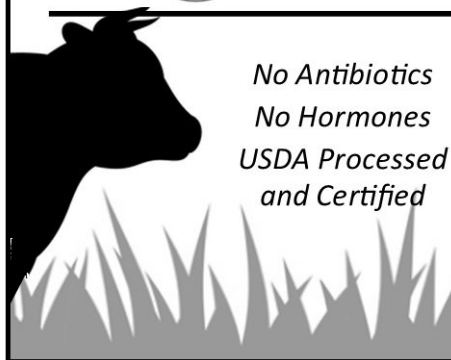
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ONTONAGON VALLEY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

18th Annual Predator Roundup COYOTE - FOX - BOBCAT

Thursday, February 2 to Sunday, February 5



REGISTRATION FEE: (PER PERSON)
\$25 before Jan 28, \$35 after Jan 28
\$10 for Licensed Youth (17 and under)
Teams of 1 to 4 people

REGISTRATION CONTACTS:
Steve Worachek at 906-988-2410
Pete Heidemann at 906-988-2233

THANK YOU JANE!

18 years ago, when the idea of holding our first Predator Roundup was born, Jane Osinski (of Hoppy's in Kenton) stepped up to the plate and gave us a home! Jane and her staff have worked tirelessly during our predator hunt weekends for 17 years to make sure that each year's hunt was a success. Providing for (and putting up with) 150 to 200 hunters for a weekend each year is no simple task! Thank you Jane for your patience and hospitality towards all of us and best wishes for a fulfilling retirement (ok....and you too, Fred!).

COYOTE FACT: The lifespan of a coyote in the wild is 6 to 8 years.

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If you have farmland or a farm with a house in the Ewen area that you are looking to sell, want to sell, or are thinking of selling...

Call or Text Pete: 616-437-7300

AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD

WATERSMEET, MI: For many years, the ladies on Watersmeet's Cisco Chain of lakes and neighboring lakes have been getting together for an annual Christmas luncheon. The "Ladies of the Lake" started out with a few friends gathering at each other's homes once a year to celebrate Christmas. It has grown to over 30 women lunching in early December at Sunrise Resort for a festive lunch. This year the women decided to add a charity to their gift giving. Learning that the Watersmeet First Responders needed to replenish their stock of "trauma critters" used for comforting children during emergency situations, the Ladies of the Lake collected stuffed animals at their luncheon and provided them to the Watersmeet Township Police Department, Watersmeet Fire Department and to the LVD Tribal Police Department.

BRUCE CROSSING, MI: The ice rink at Stannard Township Park is waiting for a few more cold nights to ensure the ice is solidly frozen before it can open. Stay tuned!

EWEN, MI: December 2022 - Once again our community came through with awesome support for the annual TV6 Canathon. All nonperishable items were brought to the South Ontonagon Co. Food pantry! A whopping 814 lbs and a money donation!! Thanks to all who brought items to the basketball games in lieu of an entry fee, those who donated at collection sites (Settlers Co-op, Settlers Credit Union, Ewen Gogebic Range Bank and the E-TC School). An extra special thank you to the E-TC 5th and 6th graders for bringing in 184 lbs!! They were rewarded with root beer floats. They also helped sort, organize, and pack up everything along with the E-TC Teen Asset Group. Thanks to those hauled it into the trailer and deliver it. And thank you to Dan Maki, the S. Ontonagon County Food Pantry manager! Thanks everyone who helped feed a hungry neighbor!

GREENLAND, MI: A one-mile packed, beautifully scenic snowshoe trail is ready for you snowshoers at Adventure Mountain! Dean Juntunen reports that the trail is somewhat challenging as you ascend and descend the mountain. To find the trail, from the base of the mountain's rope tow, look uphill and you will see where the trail enters the woods to the right. The trail is marked with orange and blue ribbons. Also, the Mountain Lions are happy to report that their ice rink at Adventure Mountain will be fully open for the weekend of 20-22 JAN 2023.

ONTONAGON, MI: Ann Lantz and the team at Citizens State Bank met with School Superintendent Lisa Johnson to present Gladiator apparel donated to the school by Citizens State Bank. Students received the school swag at no cost. "Citizens State Bank and the entire community is proud of our school. As a longtime member of the community, we at CSB believe in doing our part to help promote the community and school spirit." - Ann Lantz, Market President of Citizens State Bank.

ONTONAGON, MI: The Ontonagon Gladiator Robotics team will be having a fundraiser at The Eagle's Club on February 4. Donations for raffle items, raffle baskets, and door prizes are greatly appreciated. If you are willing to donate, please call or text 701-389-1468.



Pictured above, accepting "trauma critters" donated by the Ladies of the Lake are (from left to right): Officer Troy Nordstrom - LVD Tribal Police Department, EMT Laura Kopsi - Watersmeet Fire Department, and Officer Bailey Ribich - Watersmeet Township Police Department.

STATELINE

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A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

May all be blessed for the kindness shown to me after the recent loss of my brother, Bunny.

I will forever be grateful for the thoughtfulness and caring of so many.

Also, thanks to so many for my 90th Birthday wishes!

I was overwhelmed by it all.

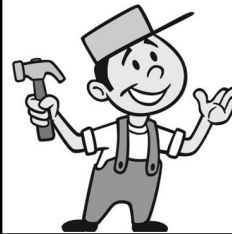
Please know that my "Thank You" comes from the heart.

Much love,
Geri Sikkila



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FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity is defined by the United States Department of Agriculture as the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food insecurity is associated with numerous adverse social and health outcomes. Key drivers of food insecurity include unemployment, poverty, and income shocks, which can prevent adequate access to food. Food insecurity rates* in our local counties are as follows:

ONTO. CO. - 900 people (15.5% of the county) - of which 120 are children

GOGEBIC CO. - 2,060 people (14% of the county) - of which 360 are children

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Consider donating food to our local food pantries. Food donations are key to assisting adults and children in our community who may be missing meals for any number of reasons. Dried and canned goods such as peanut butter, soup and beans are some of the best foods to donate because they're high in good-for-you protein.

*SOURCE: FeedingAmerica.org

The next E-TC NHS Blood Drive will be held
Jan. 26, 2023,
10am-3pm
at the E-TC school in Ewen.



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OH DEER! In 2020, 25.8% (13,187) of reported vehicle-deer crashes occurred in Michigan occurred between 6 PM and 9 PM. Of the total 51,103 reported vehicle-deer collisions, 42.6% (21,766) occurred between October and December.

Source: <https://publications.michigantrafficcrashfacts.org>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The South Ontonagon County Food Pantry (located in the Masonic Lodge in Ewen) would like to THANK everyone for your generous monetary donations to the pantry. We would also like to thank the E-TC High School for your participation in the TV 6 Canathon. The generosity in our communities is greatly appreciated. If you would like to make a donation, send it to:

South Ontonagon County Food Pantry
P.O. Box 33, Bruce Crossing, Mich. 49912

Best wishes to you in this New Year.

May GOD bless you all!

Al's Auto

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JANUARY SPECIALS

2015 GMC SIERRA 1500 CREW CAB W/ 99K MILES

2018 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW W/ 78K MILES

Stop by to welcome our new Master Mechanic Roger Eldridge!

Congratulations to Trout Creek resident, **DORA SILK** on her recent retirement from the U.S. Postal Service!

RETIRED!

Congratulations to Trout Creek native, **RANDY BESONEN**, (now a resident of Grandview, Wisc.) on his retirement from 'playing' on the Big Pond (Lake Superior) after 26 years with the Wisconsin DNR.

RIGHT: Randy Besonen and his sister, Paula (Besonen) Bonk celebrate his retirement.



ABOVE: Randy Besonen holds a large Seeforellen brown trout that was captured in a net and then released near the Apostle Islands during a survey on Lake Superior when he was working for the Wisconsin DNR fisheries.



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BABY BOOMERS...

- The Baby Boomer generation includes people born between 1946 and 1964.
- In 2008, the first baby boomers reached age 62, which is the earliest you can elect for Social Security retirement benefits.
- Baby boomers comprise 28% of the US population. As many as 40% say they will never retire.
- About 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 each day, and the entire generation (75 MILLION!) is expected to reach retirement age by 2030. (SOURCE: seniorliving.org)
- According to Forbes' latest retirement statistics by age, the average retirement age has increased to 65 for men and 62 for women.



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Ewen & Bruce Crossing Fire Departments ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
Saturday, February 11, 2023
at Twilly's Sports Bar and Grill in Bruce Crossing

Spaghetti Dinner 5pm-7pm
\$15 plate

Only 250 Spaghetti Dinner tickets available!
Advance tickets now available at:
Gogebic Range Bank - Ewen
Settler's Federal Credit Union - Bruce Crossing

- Activities Begin at 4pm*
- Raffle Boards
 - TV Boards
 - Gun Boards**
 - Basket Raffles
 - Arm-span Raffles
 - Mystery Purchase Auction
 - Live Auctions

*Spaghetti Dinner ticket NOT required
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A Lake Gogebic Wolf Made a Record-Setting Trip of More than 4,000 Miles

According to the Michigan DNR, a 92-pound male gray wolf made a record-setting 4,200-mile trip in about 18 months. The distance of the wolf's trip is considered unusual. The wolf was collared with a GPS tracker by the Michigan DNR in the summer of 2021, near Lake Gogebic. Here are a few facts provided by the DNR about U.P. wolves and the wolf-collaring program:

- The wolf-collaring program started in 1992.
- There are currently 600 to 700 wolves spread out across every Upper Peninsula county.
- There are 130 to 140 U.P. wolf packs.
- Approximately 30 of the wolves are wearing collars that capture research data for about three years until the collar stops working.
- Each spring, the Michigan DNR catches and collars new wolves.
- Wolves from specific packs are targeted for receiving collars to help researchers learn about pack boundaries and track troublemaking packs (the DNR can use hazing methods to try to push them away from specific areas).

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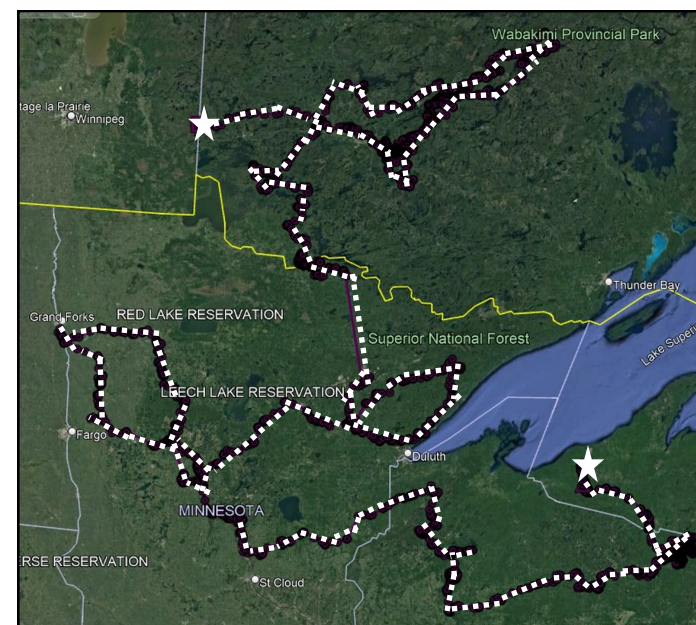
THANK YOU

The St. Nicholas Project committee would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the residents, businesses and organizations of Ontonagon County and beyond for their generous support of 2022's "Season of Miracles". In addition, a big thank you to the volunteers who work so hard to make this project possible.

This year's project was very successful serving 40 adult foster care recipients in the county, as well as 204 families and 143 children, providing food and gift cards, gifts purchased by residents, extra toys, pajamas, miscellaneous clothing, winter hats, mittens, toothbrushes and toothpaste, and lunch for those who wanted to sit and socialize during the festivities. It was wonderful to be able to have a face-to-face event again.

~ St. Nicholas Project Committee

RIGHT: A map plotted by Michigan DNR researchers shows where the wolf traveled from the U.P. to Wisconsin, then Minnesota, made a short stop in N. Dakota, crossed the border into Ontario, then went to the Whiteshell area in Manitoba, Canada where it was legally hunted in early December 2022.



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