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Vol. 3 24th Edition
December 16, 2024



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OTTAWA SHOPPER

*From the Heart of
Ontonagon Valley*

LOCAL INFO AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD | TOWNSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS | SCHOOL INFO | CHURCH SCHEDULES | BUSINESS INFO | PLAYING OUTSIDE



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www.gogebicrangebank.com



- Dec 18** *E-TC School K-12 Christmas Concert*, 7pm at the E-TC School in Ewen.
- Dec 19** *Santa in Rockland*, 6:00 pm at the Community Hall. All are welcome to visit with Santa - Santa has a gift for each child who comes to see him!
- Dec 19** *Ontonagon Area School Elementary Holiday Concert*, 2pm in the School Gym in Ontonagon.
- Dec 20** **E-TC and Watersmeet Schools - Early Release**
- Dec 21** *Soups, Chili, and Stix*, 5pm-7:30pm, VFW Post 5600, Ontonagon.
- Dec 21** *Movie Night - The Santa Clause*, 6pm, FREE - snacks provided at Henry A. Holappa VFW Post 9345, Bruce Crossing. Hosted by the Bruce Crossing 4th of July Committee.
- Dec 21** *Christmas Movie Trivia Fundraiser for Gogebic Area Grooming*, \$10/person - Individuals or teams! Pre-register: 906-575-3557 AJ's Lodge & Oven, Bergland *Details inside*
- Dec 23** **School Winter Break** (Dec 23 - Jan 3, 2025)
- Dec 24** **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** *Details inside*
- Dec 25** **CHRISTMAS DAY**
- Dec 25** *Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly Christmas Dinner*, Holy Family Catholic Church in Ontonagon.
- Dec 31** **NEW YEARS EVE**

- Jan 1** **NEW YEAR'S DAY**
- Jan 9-12** *24th Vintage World Championship Snowmobile Races*, World Championship Derby Complex, Eagle River, WI
- Jan 16-19** *62nd World Championship Snowmobile Derby*, World Championship Derby Complex, Eagle River, WI
- Feb 1-2** *Masters Racing Circuit Snow Bikes Hillclimb*, South Range.
- Feb 9** *NFL Superbowl Sunday*, Caesars Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana. Detroit Lions are favored to win it all!
- Feb 22** *Annual Firemen's Dinner Fundraiser - Bruce Crossing & Ewen Vol. Fire Depts.*, Twilly's, Bruce Crossing.
- Mar 29** *Annual Fundraiser & Gun Banquet for Camp Josh*, 5pm-? Cocktails & raffles, 6:30pm, Prime Rib Dinner at The Konteka, White Pine.
- Mar 29** *Horse Tack & Small Animal Swap*, 10am-2pm hosted by Adventure Mountain Horseshow. \$10/seller table

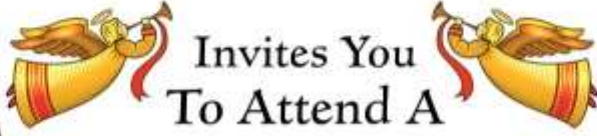
**THIS IS YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
SHARE IT IN THE SHOPPER!**



Publisher, Rena Maki
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THE OTTAWA SHOPPER PUBLISHING SCHEDULE IS CHANGING TO MONTHLY!
If a public event demands significant time from committee members or volunteers, it's likely important enough to promote several weeks in advance. This ensures that:
A) Everyone is informed about the upcoming event. B) Everyone has ample time to plan their attendance. **Share it in the Shopper so that everyone knows about it!** (Details on the back page.)

**CALVARY TEMPLE
ASSEMBLY OF GOD
CHURCH**



Invites You
To Attend A

**Traditional Christmas Eve
Candle Light Service**

December 24, 7:00 PM

Fellowship & Refreshments

Join Us!

187 Division Street, Trout Creek, MI

**TRINITY LUTHERAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

in Trout Creek, Michigan

Sunday Service at 11:00AM
on December 15, 2024

Christmas Eve Service at 4:00PM
on Tuesday, December 24, 2024



AREA CHURCH SERVICES

BERGLAND

Bergland United Methodist: 11AM Sun. Worship, Pr. Dix. 108 Birch St.
Calvary Baptist: 11AM Sun. Worship, 201 Pine St.

BRUCE CROSSING

Bethany Lutheran (WELS): Sun. 5PM Worship; Wed. 6:30PM Children's
Sunday School & Catechism, Pr. Johnson.

Bruce Crossing Apostolic Lutheran Church: 12PM Sun. School,
1PM Worship. Communion 1st Sun.. **Sunday School Christmas Program
on Dec. 22 at 1PM followed by potluck dinner. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
Service at 1PM.** Pr. Hulkonen. 15121 M-28W.

Bruce Crossing Bible Church: 10AM Sun. School, 11AM Worship.
Pr. Pederson. 15089 Maplewood Rd.

COVINGTON

**Bethany Lutheran
Church:** 10:30AM Sun.
Worship. Communion
1st & 3rd Sun.

25379 US Hwy 141

Trinity Lutheran:
9AM Sun. Worship.
Communion 1st & 3rd
Sun. 12677 M-28

EWEN

First Lutheran (ELCA):
11AM Communion
Worship 1st, 2nd, 4th Sun.,
200 N. Cedar St.

**Sacred Heart Catholic
Church:** 4PM Sun.
Worship

PAYNESVILLE

**First Apostolic
Lutheran Church:** 10:30AM Worship 1st
Sun., 2:30PM 3rd Sun.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church (ELCA): 11AM Communion Worship
3rd & 5th Sun., 13980 N. Paynesville Rd.

MASS CITY

St. Paul's Lutheran (ELCA): 10:30AM Sun. Worship w/ Holy Communion,
Wed. 4-5PM Bible Adventures & Faith Formation child. 4 yrs +

ONTONAGON

Ontonagon Baptist Sun. Worship 9:45AM, 11AM, and 6PM;
Wed. Worship 7PM. Pr. Virgil Ruchti. 615 Greenland Rd.

TROUT CREEK

Calvary Temple AG: 9AM Sun. School, 10AM Sun. Worship.
187 Division St.

Trout Creek Lutheran Community Church:
11AM - 3rd Sun. Worship.

WATTON

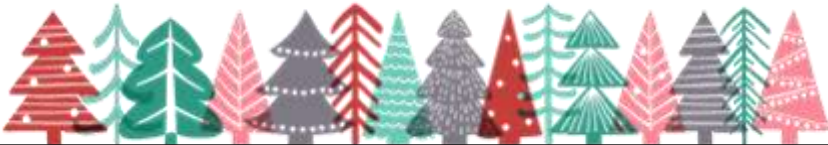
Watton Apostolic Lutheran Church: Worship 11AM Sun.
Worship, Communion 1st Sun. 11756 Salli Rd.

Please Join Us for
**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

**December 24, 2024
at 5:00pm**

All are welcome to attend!

United Methodist Church
in Ewen
Pastor Ted Trudgeon



NEW HOME REFORMED CHURCH

We are a small group meeting bi-monthly seeking to establish a traditional
Presbyterian/Reformed congregation in the Western Upper Peninsula.

All are welcomed and encouraged to attend whether merely curious about
Christianity in general or a long time believer seeking to grow in understanding of
historic biblical truth. We especially encourage those who are troubled about the
world around them and have a sense of longing for something that can't quite be
found. Come, join us and find the peace and rest for your soul promised by Jesus
Christ.

Meetings are the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays every month at 7pm.

Bessemer Seventh Day Adventist Church
507 E Cinnebar St. Bessemer, MI

Questions call Kent: 616.490.0931

New Hope is a work of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



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Call Slim: 906-827-3959.



THANK YOU!

A huge Thank You to the Ewen Civic Association, Ottawa Lions Club, to everyone that gave such generous financial donations and to all of the wonderful volunteers that made the Southern Ontonagon County Thanksgiving Dinner a huge success!

DID YOU KNOW?
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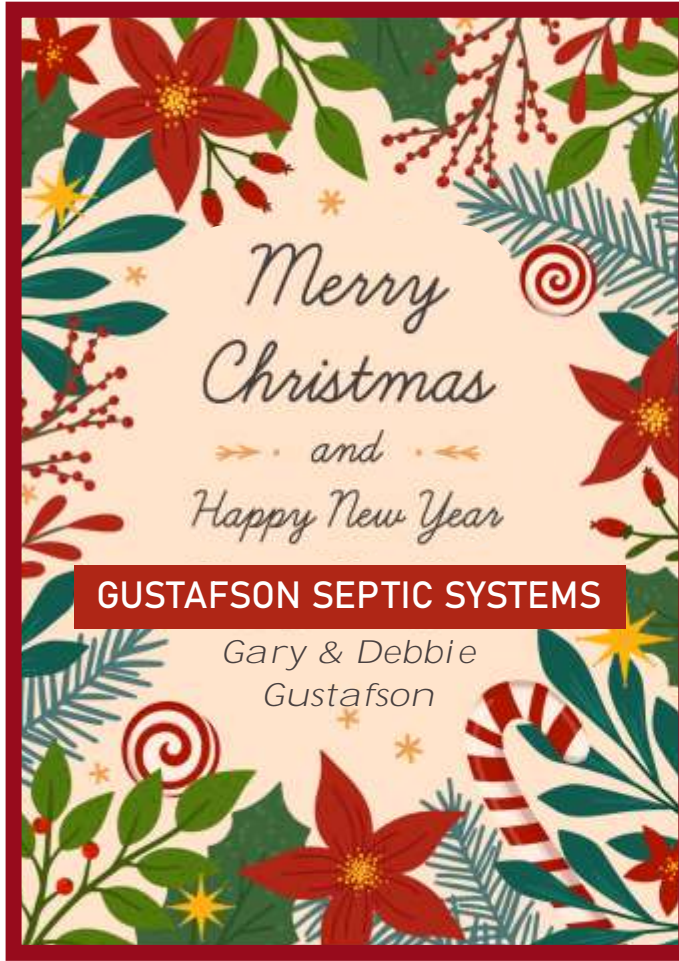
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**DO YOU TEXT?
ARE YOU FAMILIAR
WITH THESE
ABBREVIATIONS?**

Texting abbreviations are shortened forms of words or phrases that are commonly used in text messaging and other forms of electronic communication. These abbreviations are often used to save time, space, or typing effort and are widely used in informal communication. But with so many text acronyms and slang words created over the years, it can be hard to keep track of them all. Here's a list of the most common ones:

- LOL: Laugh out loud
- BRB: Be right back
- OMG: Oh my gosh
- ASAP: As soon as possible
- BTW: By the way
- IDK: I don't know
- TTYL: Talk to you later
- LMK: Let me know
- FYI: For your information
- NVM: Never mind
- SMH: Shaking my head
- IMO: In my opinion
- ROFL: Rolling on the floor laughing
- AFAIK: As far as I know
- TMI: Too much information
- K: Okay
- TBH: To be honest
- ICYMI: In case you missed it
- THX: Thanks
- WBU: What about you?
- YOLO: You only live once
- Y?: Why?
- JK: Just kidding
- BC: Because
- SRY: Sorry
- SPK: Speak



LOCAL COLLEGE BASKETBALL

A number of former local, high school student-athletes are now playing sports at the college level.

Gogebic Community College - Samsons

Men's Basketball:

Tyson Klingman, Watersmeet, Freshman, 6'4, Forward, #33

Women's Basketball:

Annabelle Besonen, Watersmeet, Sophomore, 5'4", Guard, #22

Kate Borseth, E-TC, Sophomore, 5'7", Guard, #21

Abbie LeGault, E-TC, Sophomore, 6'0", Forward, #35

Brooke Stanislawski, Bessemer, Freshman, 5'7", Guard, #2

Wisconsin-Superior - Yellowjackets

Women's Basketball:

Elise Besonen, E-TC, Senior, 5'3", Guard, #22

Elise Besonen Awarded UMAC

Player of the Week

SAINT PAUL, Minn. 12/10/2024 – Tuesday saw the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) reveal its weekly award winners for the week of Dec. 2-8, and two Wisconsin-Superior Yellowjackets swept the league's basketball awards. Seniors J'Vaun Walker (*Rosharon, Texas/Manvel*) and Elise Besonen (*Ewen, Mich./Ewen-Trout Creek*) claimed awards for their performances.

Besonen saw 78-of-80 minutes in two contests last week, taking on a pair of WIAC foes in UW-Stout and UW-Eau Claire. She was responsible for seven points and three assists against the Blugolds but turned in a new career-high scoring mark against the Blue Devils. Besonen shot 58.8 percent from the field while hitting 7-of-9 three pointers as she turned in a 29-point performance.



**WARMEST THOUGHTS AND BEST WISHES
FOR A
VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

The Staff and Board Members from
Ontonagon County Commission on Aging
and the
Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club, Inc.



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LOCAL SCHOOL SNIPPETS



EWEN-TROUT CREEK: The following three Seniors from E-TC received 2024 Great Lakes 8 West All Conference High School Football Awards for their performance this past fall on the Ontonagon-E-TC Gladiators football team: Caden Besonon - 1st Team Offense (WR), 2nd Team Offense (RB), and 1st Team Defense (DB); Austin Gordon - 1st Team Offense (QB); Rex Strong - 2nd Team Defense (Line)

The E-TC Varsity Boys Basketball results so far this season are:
 Loss on December 10, 2024 - Panthers 41, Forest Park-Crystal Falls 76
 Loss on December 6, 2024 - Panthers 47, Ironwood Red Devils 54
 Win on December 2, 2024 - Panthers 68, Lake Linden-Hubbell Lakes 18
 Loss on November 25, 2024 - Panthers 48, Houghton Gremlins 80
 The next two games are both away - Bessemer on Dec 17, and Ontonagon Dec 19.



ONTONAGON: Two players from Ontonagon received 2024 Great Lakes 8 West All Conference High School Football Awards for their performances this past fall on the Ontonagon-E-TC Gladiators football team: Brody Bobula (Freshman) - 2nd Team Offense (WR) and 2nd Team Defense (DB); Jack Nelson (Junior) - Honorable Mention (WR)

The next Ontonagon Varsity Boys Basketball game is Dec 18 at home versus Houghton. The Gladiators' results so far this season are:
 Win on December 9, 2024 - Gladiators 66, Watersmeet Nimrods 55
 Loss on December 5, 2024 - Gladiators 48, Wakefield-Marenisco Cardinals 56
 Loss on December 2, 2024 - Gladiators 82, L'Anse Hornets 88
 Loss on November 25, 2024 - Gladiators 61, Baraga Vikings 66

Shared from the Ontonagon Area School's Facebook page post on 12/11/24: Winter has arrived this year and it looks like we are making up for the mild winter last year. Weather snow days are difficult to call in our large attendance area school. The school will always continue to monitor these conditions throughout the day. As always, as a parent if you are concerned about weather conditions in your area of the county, please call the school and let us know you are calling your child in for weather. 906-813-0614

Summarized from the Ontonagon Area School's Facebook page post on 12/7/24: The Onto. Area School District Board of Education is seeking 3 qualified candidates to serve 2-year terms starting Jan. 2025, and ending Dec. 2026. Candidates must be U.S. citizens and qualified and registered electors of the Ontonagon Area School District. Deadline to apply is Wed, Jan. 15, 2025 at 3pm. Letter of Interest and Resume' should be sent to: Board of Education, Ontonagon Area School District, 701 Parker Avenue, Ontonagon, MI 49953, OR emailed to pkukanich@oasd.k12.mi.us.



WATERSMEET: On September 16, 2024, the Watersmeet Township School Board adopted a new Student Cell Phone Policy. Throughout this process, the student government and student body was approached and given the opportunity to voice their opinions on the policy options. The nearly unanimous decision of the student body was to "allow cell phones to be carried in each classroom and throughout the building during the day. Each classroom teacher would furnish a safe area near the classroom entrance to store phones, turned off, for the duration of each period. Any cell phone in possession or causing a distraction during the period would result in confiscation of the phone and potential disciplinary action." If parents/guardians need to reach students throughout the school day, please contact the school office, and students will be allowed to utilize the office phones if needed, as well. The school phone number is (906) 358-4504.

On December 10, 2024, Watersmeet 6th graders spent the day at Michigan Tech University exploring STEM science. There were over 50 hands-on experiments. Students learned about blood, fire, metal, gravity, and much more.

The Watersmeet Jr. High Quiz Bowl team competed in Bark River-Harris on Dec. 7. The next Watersmeet Nimrod Varsity Boys Basketball game is away at L'Anse at 5:45pm ET. The Nimrods' results so far this season are:
 Loss on December 9, 2024 - Nimrods 55, Ontonagon Gladiators 66
 Win on December 3, 2024 - Nimrods 77, Chassell Panthers 40
 Win on November 26, 2024 - Nimrods 51, Hancock Bulldogs 34



PICTURED ABOVE: The Ontonagon Gladiators Booster Club recently purchased new uniforms for the Jr. High Boys Basketball team.

PICTURED BELOW: Jace Pestka, a Senior at Ontonagon High School, sharpens a chain for a timber harvesting machine. Jace is participating in the GOISD Less Than Class Size program working and learning about the career area of heavy duty equipment technician at JSP Contracting in Ontonagon.



PICTURED BELOW: The Watersmeet Nimrods Varsity Boys Basketball team.





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FOR SALE: 2003 MUSTANG GT Convertible, 4.6 V8, Automatic, Black, Rust-free, Runs great. \$3600. Call 906-884-4817.

FOR SALE BY OWNER AND TRUST: 40+ Acres on Wolfe Road, just off McRae Road in Ewen, MI. Property Number Section 35, T48N, R40W, NE1/4 of NW1/4. Telephone, fiber optic and power at beginning of new driveway. Parcel site is prepared for possible garage. Mix of timber with Pine and Aspen which could be marketed. Several very nice building sites for camp or home. Call Dan at 906-250-3712 (cell) or 906-988-2493 (home).

POLARIS SNOWMOBILE FOR SALE: 2002 Polaris SKS 700 snowmobile. 136" track. 5700 miles. Very good condition. Ready to ride. \$1400.00 OBO. Contact 906-360-1463. Located in Covington area.

FREE: Church pews, dark wood, 6ft long each. Call 707-546-1654. Located in Ontonagon.

FIREWOOD
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906-365-0075
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TOWNSHIP NOTICES & INFO

McMillan Township Holiday Hours

Due to the holidays, the McMillan Township Offices will be closed on Tuesdays, December 24 and 31, 2024. You may leave a message at 906-988-2240 or email McMillanTwp@jamadots.com to make an appointment with Clerk Kay Richter or Treasurer Jackie Pintar. Regular Tuesday Office Hours (Clerk 2:00-4:00pm, Treasurer 4:00-5:00pm) will resume on January 7, 2025. Happy Holidays!

STANNARD TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR VACANCY

Stannard Township is seeking an individual to fill this upcoming vacancy in the Township Supervisor Position. Stannard Township Supervisor Bill Andrus is retiring from this position effective December 31, 2024. At the January 13, 2025 meeting the Township Board will select a candidate for this position. This is a part time position with a salary of \$450/month. This job requires computer knowledge, minimum software used; Word, Excel, and email. A complete job description is available from Stannard Township by request. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and a Stannard Township resident. If interested send a brief letter of application and resume at least one week before the date stated below to the Stannard Township Board at P. O. Box 216, Bruce Crossing, MI 49912. Applications will be accepted until 6:30 pm on January 13, 2025.

INTERIOR TOWNSHIP Public Hearing for Amended Master Plan:

Thursday Jan 9, 2025 at 5:00PM Interior Township Town Hall, 140 Division St., Trout Creek

WATERSMEET TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING

Public Hearing on Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 6:00PM in the Watersmeet Township Community Center, N4689 1st Street, Watersmeet, MI, to allow public review and comment on proposed revisions to the Short-Term Rental Application, Permit, and update to the Township Ordinance.

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Right at the top of our Christmas wish list... our sincere, good wishes to each and every one.

FROM EVERYONE AT
**BIG VALLEY
FORD, INC.**

EMEN



*Merry
Christmas*

AND
BEST WISHES
FOR A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Greetings

To one and all
of our many
friends

So. End Transportation

"THE THOMPSONS"
Pete, Maxine, Kenny, Carrie & Bobby

"THE OLSONS"
Donald, Arlene and Dennis

*A Time To Say
"Thank You"*

From all of us at

**WAGNER
INSURANCE
AGENCY**

- Judy Hanson
- Jean Giesau
- Carol Walker
- Janet Robison
- Tom Borseth
- Frank Demitrovich
- Tony Demitrovich
- Richard Wagner
- Dorothy Lamoine
- Mary Jane Loukus



Peace

"Glory to God in
the highest and on
earth Peace to men
of good will."

We wish you a blessed Christmas
Season and may Hope, Love and
Peace abide with you throughout
the New Year. May God bless you
all.

ANNE & WALTER AHO



Merry Christmas to our many friends
and neighbors of Bruce Crossing.

It has been a pleasure to know so
many fine people of this area.

"THE KEMPPAINENS"
JIM, MICHELLE, ANDY and JULIE
1116 Maas Rd., Negaunee, Michigan

Greetings

May there always be
A star to guide you,
A smile to cheer you,
A friend beside you,
A fire to warm you,
A prayer to say-
And a year as bright
As Christmas Day.

WES & GERALDINE SIKKILA



A Merry Christmas and Blessed New
Year to all our families & friends!

LOIS & WILBERT PERTTULA
AND FAMILY

ELLEN & WILHO PERTTULA
AND GREG

OTTAWA SHOPPER

1974

Merry Christmas

One of the pleasures of the Season
is wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

BRUCE MFG.

"Nippa Sauna Stoves"

MIKE, SARAH and FAMILY

CHRISTMAS EDITION

In the Matter of
CHRISTMAS GIVING

It is more blessed to give than to
receive. -Acts

The manner of giving is worth more than
the gift. -Pierre Corneille

It is well to give when asked, but it
is better to give unasked, through un-
derstanding. -Kahlil Gibran

The gift without the giver is bare.
-J. R. Lowell

Let there be peace, that most precious
gift. And let it begin with me.





2024-2025

Revised on December 2, 2024

EWEN-TROUT CREEK BASKETBALL



GIRLS JV & VARSITY BASKETBALL

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec 3	at Norway	6:00PM
Dec 6	Ironwood	5:45PM
Dec 9	Wakefield/Maren.	4:30PM
Dec 10	at Crystal-Forest Park	6:00PM
Dec 16	at Bessemer	6:00PM
Dec 19	at Ontonagon	4:30PM
NEGAUNEE HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT		
Dec 27	Negaunee	5:30PM
Dec 28	Ludington/Kingsford	12PM or 12:30PM
Jan 7	at Hancock	5:45PM
Jan 9	at Lake Linden-Hubbell	4:30PM
Jan 14	at Baraga	5:45PM
Jan 16	at Jeffers	4:30PM
Jan 21	L'Anse	4:30PM
Jan 23	Chassell *	6:00PM
Jan 28	Dollar Bay	4:30PM
Jan 30	at Watersmeet *	5:30PM
Feb 4	Watersmeet *	5:30PM
Feb 6	at Ironwood	4:30PM
Feb 10	at Wakefield-Maren.	4:30PM
Feb 13	Ontonagon	5:45PM
Feb 17	Bessemer	5:45PM
Feb 25	Houghton (Pending)	5:45PM

** No JV Girls Game*

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov 25	Houghton	6:00PM
Dec 2	Lake Linden-Hubbell	5:45PM
Dec 6	Ironwood	7:30PM
Dec 9	Wakefield-Maren.	7:30PM
Dec 10	at Crystal-Forest Pk	6:00PM
Dec 17	at Bessemer	7:00PM
Dec 19	at Ontonagon	7:30PM
Jan 2	Baraga	5:45PM
Jan 9	at Lake Linden-Hubbell	4:30PM
Jan 13	at Baraga	6:00PM
Jan 16	at Jeffers	7:30PM
Jan 21	L'Anse	7:30PM
Jan 23	Chassell	7:30PM
Jan 24	at Hancock	6:00PM
Jan 28	Dollar Bay	7:30PM
Jan 30	at Watersmeet	7:00PM
Feb 4	Watersmeet	5:30PM
Feb 6	at Ironwood	7:30PM
Feb 10	at Wakefield-Maren.	4:30PM
Feb 13	Ontonagon	7:30PM
Feb 18	Bessemer	7:00PM
Feb 20	Jeffers	7:00PM



E-TC's BJ Anderson



E-TC's Jamis Scott



E-TC's Brody Majurin

AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD



WESTERN U.P.: Teenagers in need of Michigan driver's education training to obtain their driver's license may soon have the opportunity to attend classes at the Gogebic-Iron County Airport in Ironwood. The airport board recently approved a plan to host the training sessions following a presentation by the Michigan State Police (MSP). The MSP proposed conducting the driver's education course at the airport three times annually. The next step for the airport is to secure permission from the FAA.

BERGLAND: The Bergland Cross Country Ski Trails will not be groomed during the winter 2024-2025 ski season. There will be an active timber harvest occurring in that area this winter. Signs will be posted at the trailhead. It will still be open for skiing just not groomed. Alternative groomed Ottawa National Forest XC ski trails to consider: Ge-Che Ski Trails in the Iron River area (9.63 miles), Land O' Lakes, WI Ski Trails (7.78 miles), Courtney

Lake Ski Trails in the Ontonagon area (6.4 mile), For ski trail conditions call the Ottawa National Forest at 906-358-4551. Another option are the groomed trails out of Sylvania Outfitters in the Watersmeet area (12.25 miles). Call Sylvania Outfitters for more info at 906-358-4766.

BRUCE CROSSING: The sights and sounds of snowmobilers were everywhere in town on December 14. Stannard Township Park was filled with trucks and snowmobile trailers whose owners used the park as a staging area to get ready for a fun day of snowmobiling. Notably, most of the vehicles had Wisconsin and Illinois license plates. There was also a steady stream of snowmobilers coming off the trail (which runs through town directly between the park and Settlers Co-op) to fill their machines' gas tanks at the Settlers Co-op before zipping back onto the trail.

IRONWOOD: Ollie's Bargain Outlet, renowned for its fantastic deals on a wide range of household items, personal care products, small electronics, clothing, and more, is set to open in Ironwood in February 2025.

WHITE PINE: A concerned resident is seeking support from other residents to sign an online petition (www.change.org) urging local authorities to reform winter parking ordinances in Carp Lake Township. The petition states "White Pine's narrow streets and severe winter weather conditions not only make navigating our town difficult, they can lead to genuine safety issues, especially when vehicles are left parked on streets. What we need are clear, comprehensive parking restrictions during the winter months and the placement of 'no parking' signs in key areas to prevent any vehicle-related accidents and to allow for efficient snow removal."

ONTONAGON: The award-winning Gingerbread Christmas Truck, crowned champion of the Ontonagon Artist Collective's Annual Gingerbread Contest, is now on display at Gigi's Coffeehouse.

GREENLAND: The racetrack (Adventure Mountain Speedway) has new owners and they have plans to open it again sometime in the future. Stay tuned!



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MANY THANKS!

A big thank you to everyone at Ewen Building Supply for the retirement party, and to everyone that brought food for the potluck. Thank you to my favorite customers that gave cards, gifts, and good wishes. Most of all the party at the South Branch - what a surprise! A big thank you to Al and Wanda for planning the shin-dig. Thanks for the drinks, pizza, cake and great fun. Shout out to the Big Valley Gals for joining us, that meant a lot. Also, thanks to my best friend, Gailzie who came from Ugly River!

Finally, thank you to D.J. who gave the official retirement sendoff with the fire truck, lights and all. Thank you to all my co-workers, where else can you get paid to have fun? Onto the next chapter, stay tuned.

Thank you,
Sue Paulick

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU!**



PICTURE ABOVE: Denise, one of our area U.S. Postal Service Clerks, with the perfect little Charlie Brown Christmas tree she set up in the lobby of the Ewen office for everyone to enjoy.

Merry Christmas to All



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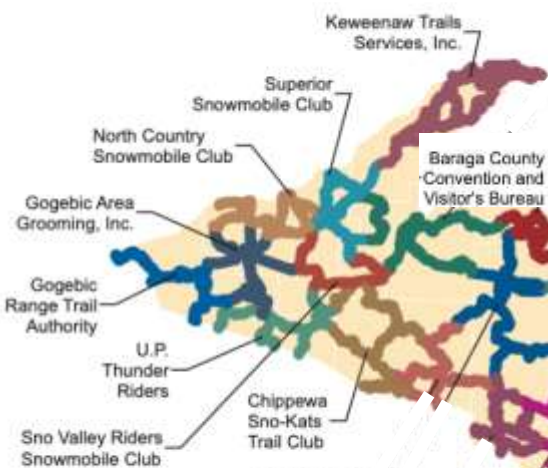
Greenland - Day parking is available in front of KPM Storage by donation at Pat's Motorsports at 10612 Highway M-38 Greenland, MI. Please do not park your trucks and trailers in Pat's parking lot as they are limited on space. The parking donation can be inside Pat's shop, with all proceeds benefiting a local non-profit each month.

Snowmobiling in the Copper Country? The Portage Lake Lift Bridge is not yet open for snowmobile crossing. This means you cannot ride from Houghton to Hancock or vice versa. There are multiple staging areas provided on both sides of the bridge.

Shared from the Sno Valley Riders Snowmobile Club Facebook page 12/6/24 post:

We ran up Trail 3 from Bruce Crossing to Rockland yesterday and cleared fallen trees and pushed snow into water holes. It still needs a lot of work to be a nice ride but it's passable. Trail 3 south from Trail 8 was opened also.

Remember, it is very early season, so water holes and rocks are not completely covered.



Shown above: Different area snowmobile clubs and organizations maintain specific portions of the trail system.

Shared from the Gogebic Area Grooming Facebook page 12/12/24 post: The Bergland area guys were at it again last night. 1n, 1s, 8e, 8w and all feeder trails to local businesses were covered last night. Conditions are improving daily. 8w still has some pretty good water holes opening up which we'll have to address if they don't start to freeze up. We are currently sitting at 0° temperature wise. That's definitely going to help fix some of our problem spots. Keep in mind that we have one machine running with a drag and the other without a drag fixing or working on problem areas. Our trails aren't perfect (yet), but improving daily. Ride with caution and enjoy!

Shared from the North Country Snowmobile Club UP Facebook page posts - on 12/12/24: It's wild out there. Be safe. We will be working slowly throughout the night. There is a ton of snow in spots, White Pine had a foot middy. *And on 12/7/24:* Trail 137: thin the last 1/2 mile as you drop north into Ontonagon. Plenty of snow and we even covered the bare spot underneath the bridge. Groomed last night. Trail 12 from 137 east to Greenland: Mega water holes. Likely impassable for most riders. Rolled and packed for first time Thursday night. Riding not advised. Trail 12 from Ontonagon WEST to 101: CLOSED, BRIDGE OUT. Opening Jan 2025. Trail 13: Rated good to very good. Deepest trail we found. Groomed up very well last night. Groomed in road route ditch trail. Trail 101: Very good to excellent. Groomed up last night. Trail 12 from 101 to White Pine: fair to good. Water holes will reopen today, but it had a ton of snow along the power lines! Be mindful of driveway crossings! Also groomed in road route ditch trail. Trail 1 to Trail 11: Poor, but rideable. Snow farming operations turned it to snirt as snow levels dropped as you went north (very typical as you go to the lake). Trail 1 to Lake Of The Clouds: Fair. Thin snow. Groomed last night. Trail 11: Has not been groomed or rolled, but should be a great ride on the unplowed south Boundary road.

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St. Nicholas Project 2024 Behind the Scenes



As seen on Facebook on
12/11/24 and 12/13/24



South Ontonagon County, U.P. of Michigan


St. Nicholas Project, Ontonagon Co. · Yesterday at 13:41 · 🌐

Our south end Santas had a great distribution day filled with cookies and cheer! Thank you to all the helpers and donors for making it a success!




St. Nicholas Project, Ontonagon Co.
11 December at 17:06 · 🌐

It takes a village to help a village! A huge thank you to Paula Domitrovich and the TANGO team of high schoolers for moving all the presents yesterday and helping assemble the cookies before the storm. Another huge thank you to our many cookie bakers who made so many fabulous cookies for all the families. And let's not forget the many elves who have worked behind the scenes to make sure everything is set up and everybody has a Merry Christmas.



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and the
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Joyous Christmas and a
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Happiness.

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AND ALL BEST WISHES
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all the happiness
of Christmas
and every good
thing in the
New Year

JEAN'S BEAUTY SHOP

Ewen Terry and Jean Dove



Jamie L. Gasperini (41), of Gaastra, MI, passed away on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at Howard Young Medical Center in Woodruff, WI. She was born on August 27, 1983, in Iron River, MI, the daughter of Peter Gasperini and the late Bonnie Hemming. Jamie attended the West Iron County Schools and graduated with the class of 2002. She was employed as a waitress at local area restaurants. Jamie enjoyed spending time with her son Ryley, hunting with her dad, riding four-wheelers, spending time at the lake and golfing.

Jamie is survived by her son, Ryley Conley of Iron River, MI; parents, Peter and Pamela Gasperini of Iron River, MI; stepfather, Keith Applekamp, aunts and uncles, Laura (Michael) Dacheff, David (Rhonda) Hemming, Dale Hemming, Don McLaughlin, Sandi Hemming, Norm

(Ann) Holm, Susan Holm, Donna (Michael) June, John (Elizabeth) Holm; numerous cousins, extended family, and friends. She was preceded in death by her mother, Bonnie Applekamp, paternal grandparents, Frank and Joyce Gasperini; maternal grandparents, Ernest and Lila Hemming and George and Barbara Holm; sister, Bille Jo Brown; fiancé, Dennis Conley; aunt, Sandy McLaughlin; uncle, Danny Hemming; and cousin, Jennifer June.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, December 21, 2024, from 9:30 am to 11am at the First Lutheran Church in Iron River. A memorial service will follow at 11am with Vicar Lance Crevier to officiate.

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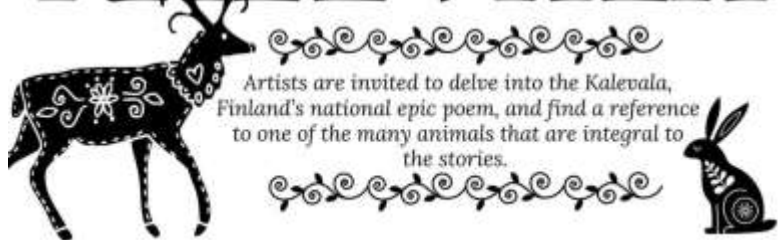
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**CALL FOR ART: ANIMAL LIFE, ART FROM THE
KALEVALA**



Artists are invited to delve into the Kalevala, Finland's national epic poem, and find a reference to one of the many animals that are integral to the stories.

Drop off work now through December 23, 2024
-OR- on Saturday, January 18, 12p-4pm
at the Copper Country Community Arts Center
126 Quincy Street in Hancock, Michigan

Animal Life, Art from the Kalevala is an annual exhibition in coordination with the City of Hancock's Heikinpäivä mid-winter celebration on January 25 and Kalevala Day on February 28. The *Kalevala* is a 19th century work of poetry compiled by Elias Lönnrot from Finnish and Karelian oral folklore and mythology. It is the national epic poem of Finland and is one of the most significant works of Finnish literature. The *Kalevala* is rich with imagery of animals including pike, swan, stag, bear, and many others. Artists are invited to delve into the story and find a reference to one of the many animals that are integral to the stories. Artists may submit up to three works in any medium and are asked to provide the lines or passages from the *Kalevala* that inspired the work. No entry fees. The Arts Center retains a 40% commission on all work sold. Mark entries with the retail price or NFS.

For questions or to make special arrangements to drop off submissions, please contact Cynthia Cote at cynthia@coppercountryarts.com with "Kalevala" in the memo line.

****The Arts Center is closed to the public Dec. 24-Jan. 24**** Public reception with Finnish fare on Saturday, January 25 from 2-4pm. The Copper Country Community Arts Center is located at 126 Quincy Street in Hancock, Michigan and is supported in part by a grant from the Michigan Arts and Culture Council with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

**USE CAUTION - EARLY
ICE COVERS MAY LOOK
SOLID, BUT THEY ARE
FAR FROM IT!**

Shared from Wisconsin DNR's public Facebook page 12/6/24 post: Early winter brings ups and

downs in temperatures. That means early ice covers may look solid, but they are far from it. The ice covers are too thin and too weak to support human or machine weight. Ice covers hide currents, debris and underground springs that can affect the thickness. The DNR does not monitor ice conditions, but the local fishing clubs, outfitters and bait shops do. They are your best sources for local conditions. Your best bet is to enjoy the fun without traveling over ice because NO ice is safe ice. Here are a few more safety tips: Carry a cell phone, and let people know where you are going and when you'll return home. Wear a personal flotation device or a float coat to help you stay afloat and to help slow body heat loss. Wear snow cleats to prevent slipping on clear ice. Do not travel in unfamiliar areas – or at night.

ICE FISHING ON LAKE GOGEBIC

Shared from Timbers Resort on Lake Gogebic Facebook page 12/7/24 post: We have our first ice fisherman in for the year. We had good conversation before they went out this evening about safety. They were checking the ice thickness as they went out. They had had their ice picks and float suits on. I am anticipating first ice success. Everyone needs to use extreme caution when venturing out on the ice.

A POSSIBLE WAY TO HELP YOURSELF DURING A HEART ATTACK

Shared from Lake Gogebic Fire Department's Facebook page 12/9/24 post: I have attended many CPR classes over the years but was never told this. When you are alone and have a heart attack, what are you going to do? Let's say you start having chest pains and they are starting to radiate in the arm and jaw. It feels like being stabbed in the chest and heart. A person who is feeling weak and whose heart is beating hard has only about 10 seconds before losing consciousness. You can help yourself by coughing repeatedly and very strongly! Deep breaths before every cough. Coughing should be repeated every second until you arrive at the hospital or until your heart starts to beat normally. Deep breathing gives oxygen to your lungs and coughing movements boost the heart and blood circulation. Heart pressure also helps to restore a normal heart-beat. **FOR WOMEN:** You should know that women have additional and different symptoms. Rarely have crushing chest pain or pain in the arms. Often have indigestion and tightness across the back at the bra line plus sudden fatigue.

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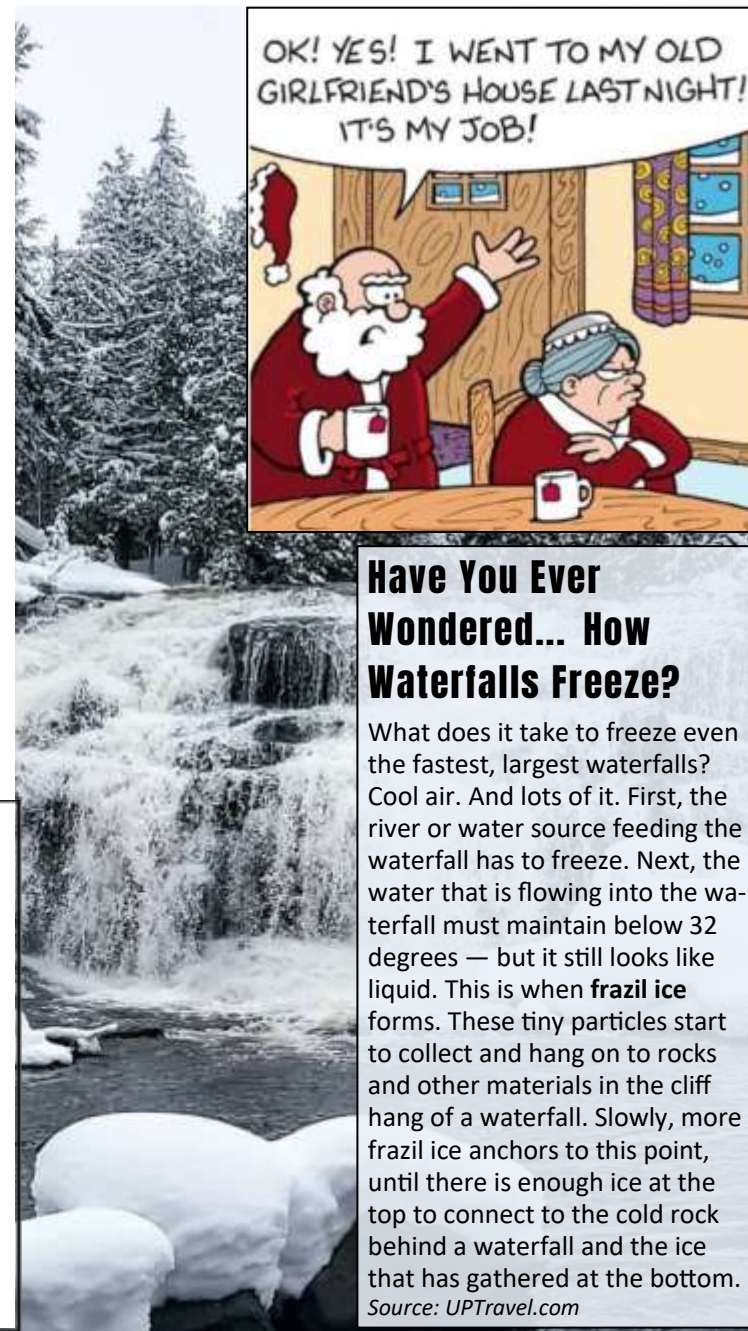


COMMUNITY MEALS

CONGREGATE-COMMUNITY MEALS (Gogebic Onto Co. Action Agency) Every Tues. & Thurs. 11AM - 1PM (AGE 60+ & SPOUSE) DONATION, \$4.00, GUEST FEE, \$6.50, Home-delivery or takeout meals also available. Locations are as follows:
EWEN: Cloverland Sr. Center - Onsite meals with options for home delivery or takeout. Ewen/Bruce Crossing call: 906-988-2463, Trout Creek call: 906-852-3426
ONTONAGON: Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency building - Onsite meals with options for home-delivery or takeout. Sign up Onto: 906-884-2815; Rockland, Greenland: 906-883-3267
MASS CITY/GREENLAND/ROCKLAND: Mass Community Center (Old school building) - Onsite meals with options for home-delivery or takeout. Call to sign up: 906-883-3132 or 906-883-3267


Monthly Commodity Supplemental Food Program Distribution

The Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency reminds recipients of the dates of the monthly Commodity Supplemental Food Program distribution to income-eligible residents ages 60+ . The December schedule is as follows:
Wed., Dec. 18: Marenisco Town Hall from 9:15- 9:30am CT, Watersmeet Food Pantry 10- 10:30am CT, Bruce Crossing Stannard Twmsp Park 12:30-1pm
Thu., Dec. 19: Bergland Lake Gogebic Sr Ctr 9:25-9:40am, White Pine Twmsp Hall 10-10:15am, Onto. Holy Family Catholic Church 11-11:30am, Mass City Resource Ctr 12:30-1pm
 A monthly food package contains cheese, milk, canned vegetables, fruit, meat and cereals. Recipients **MUST** show ID and are reminded to return their boxes. Those receiving food do not need to show proof of income, but must meet the income guidelines to receive food assistance. Times are subject to change. For program info call 906-884-2106. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Have You Ever Wondered... How Waterfalls Freeze?

What does it take to freeze even the fastest, largest waterfalls? Cool air. And lots of it. First, the river or water source feeding the waterfall has to freeze. Next, the water that is flowing into the waterfall must maintain below 32 degrees — but it still looks like liquid. This is when **frazil ice** forms. These tiny particles start to collect and hang on to rocks and other materials in the cliff hang of a waterfall. Slowly, more frazil ice anchors to this point, until there is enough ice at the top to connect to the cold rock behind a waterfall and the ice that has gathered at the bottom.
 Source: UPTravel.com



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SKIING - SKATING - SLEDDING - SHOWSHOEING

The outdoor **ice skating** rink at Stannard Township Park in **Bruce Crossing** is once again set up with plans to open as soon as the ice is set.

The **Covington Sledding Hill** opened for the season on Saturday December 14, 2024, and will be open throughout the winter every Saturday and Sunday from 12pm-5pm.

Adventure Mountain in Greenland opens for **down-hill skiing** and **sledding** on Friday, December 20, 2024 at 5p.m. Conditions are excellent. Fri: 5pm-9pm, Sat. 12pm-5pm, Sun. 1pm-5pm. Season Skiing/ Sledding Pass is \$80/family, \$40/individual. Daily Pass is \$7/skier, \$3/sledder, \$3/skater (During rope tow hours). The ice rink is not ready for skating yet.



As of December 12, 2024, the **Porcupine Mountains Winter Sports Complex** has received a total of 39 inches of snowfall since November 27, 2024. The projected opening date for **skiing** is December 27 (not guaranteed). Lift ticket passes for Youth - Daily Full day are \$35, and Adult - Daily Full day is \$45. Kids 17 and under ski free with the purchase of an Adult Daily Full day ticket. Also, **Saturday Guided Snowshoe Hikes** begin January 25 through February 22, 1pm-3:30pm. The hike is 2.5 hours/ 2 miles. Ride the chairlift to the top of the ski hill, then snowshoe to the East Vista view back down the mountain. Meet at the Snowshoe Barn located on the open slope of the ski hill. Bring your own snacks and water. A limited number of snowshoes are available to borrow. The **Lantern-lit Trail** will also be open every Saturday starting January 25 through February 22, 6pm-8pm. It's an easy 1-mile loop on the Lake Superior Trail with the stars above and the trail lit by the flickering lights of kerosene lanterns. Walkers, snowshoers and skiers are all welcome on the trail. Stop by the White Birch Cabin to warm up by the fire during your visit.

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- PASTIES -
- HAND-PATTIED BURGERS -
ON HOMEMADE BUNS



Wishing everyone a very **Merry Christmas**

and a blessed **New Year!**

Shirley, Lisa, Mark, Jill, and Jesse Ogren

Matthew and Parker Polkky

Nancy Johnson

Verna Hautamaki

What does Santa use to settle his stomach?

Orna-mints

What do snowmen wear to work?

Snowsuits

IN THE SPOTLIGHT - Friends of the Porkies

The Friends of the Porkies has deep roots. Local citizens started a movement to create the park in the early 1940's. In 1945, support by the legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold led to the creation of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.



Today, the Friends of the Porkies is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote, support, and enhance the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. From its beginnings as the

Porcupine Mountains Ski Club, the Friends has evolved into a volunteer organization that continues to grow and take on projects at the Porkies. You can follow their progress in their newsletter, the Quill, on their website, and on their Facebook page. The Friends of the Porkies wants to inspire appreciation of wilderness for youth and visitor experiences all year round at the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 221, Ontonagon, MI 49953
Phone: 906-884-7663 Email: friendsofporkies@gmail.com
Website: www.porkies.org

Congratulations to the Friends of the Porkies Youth Sticker Design Contest Winners!

Simon G. of Laurium, age 0-5
Jordyn P. of Ontonagon, age 6-12
Aili K. of Atlantic Mine, age 13-17
& Overall winner



Simon

Jordyn

Aili

2024 Board of Directors

President: Joanie Hawley
Vice President: Jim Bradley
Secretary: Eric Carlson
Treasurer: Jane Rasmussen
Board Members:
Jerry Blake Darla Lenz
Geri Hawley Lu Opperman
Debbie Kisor

The Dos and Don'ts of Winter Bird Feeding

Source: *Audubon Great Lakes*

Blue Jays, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Northern Cardinals are just a few of the many winter birds that provide a burst of color and activity across a stark winter landscape. Bird feeders can help attract birds to your space during the winter when natural food sources might be buried beneath snow or limited in supply. Keeping your feeders up into the spring can help support birds on their long migrations north. Here are some tips on how best to feed birds this winter:

- **Use tube feeders:** These feeders are best for black oil sunflower, mixed seed, safflower seed, or peanuts, which attract chickadees, titmice, nuthatches, goldfinches, siskins, purple and house finches.
- **Use hopper feeders:** *These feeders are best for safflower and sunflower seeds or cracked corn and, which attract all the species that visit tube feeders plus larger birds like Cardinals, jays, grackles, and Red-winged Blackbirds.*
- **Use suet feeders:** Suet attracts woodpeckers, titmice, nuthatches, chickadees as well as the occasional wren, creeper, and warbler.
- **Don't place seed directly on the ground or use platform feeders,** which tend to attract deer and other unwanted guests. Mess-free birdseed options are available to purchase at stores, which can help keep the ground clean.
- **Fence in your feeders,** if possible, to prevent deer from accessing them.

Remember to keep your bird feeders fresh and clean for your feathered friends throughout winter. Clean your feeders once every 2 weeks in a solution that is 9 parts water and 1 part bleach, scrubbing away any debris. Dry the feeder before refilling.



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- Exhaust work



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MON-FRI 8:30AM to 5PM EST

ACCEPTING WASTE OIL DURING BUSINESS HOURS

DID YOU KNOW? The Sandhill crane, or *Grus canadensis*, is Michigan's largest bird and its oldest living bird species. Sandhills are a tall, long legged, long necked gray bird with a bright red crown. From wingtip to wingtip their outstretched wings can measure up to 7 feet.

DAILY SPECIALS
 Broasted Chicken
 Burgers
 Friday Fish Fry
 Dessert
 and more!

PHONE: 906-365-5227

CALL AHEAD FOR HOURS
 906-365-5227

Buy One
 Chicken Dinner,
 Get One Half Off
 Valid thru January 30, 2025
 PHONE: 906-365-5227

ON THE ATV TRAIL 84 N. State Hwy M-28, Bergland, MI

PICTURED ON RIGHT: Lake Gogebic Chamber of Commerce board member, Tom Burns (DAKA Boat Lifts) of Bergland presented member Sarah Long (Timbers Resort) of Bergland with a *Volunteer of the Year* award at the Chamber's Annual Meeting and Christmas Party held at Northern Waters Casino in Watersmeet on December 10. Marylou Dreisinga of Ewen was also recognized at the meeting with a Lifetime Achievement Award for her decades of work in leading and supporting the Commerce.



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PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

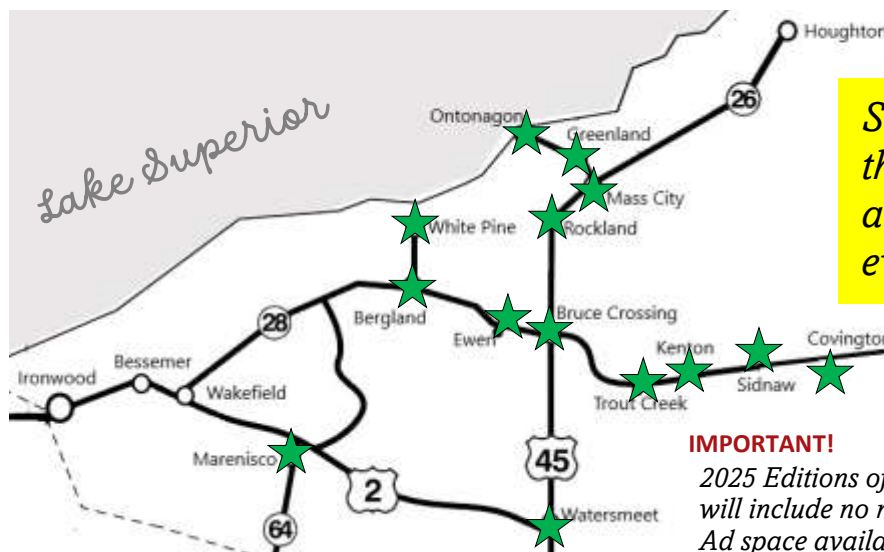
First Half of 2025

Submissions due	for publish date
Dec 30	January 6
Jan 27	February 3
Feb 24	March 3
Mar 25	April 1
Apr 24	May 1
May 27	June 2
June 25	July 1

THIS MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER REACHES EVERY SINGLE HOUSEHOLD IN ONTONAGON COUNTY & MORE!

OTTAWA SHOPPER PUBLISHING COVERAGE AREA

The *Ottawa Shopper* is delivered monthly via U.S. Post Offices to **ALL** residential and business addresses in the highlighted areas below. With a total circulation of 5,200, it reaches an estimated readership of 14,000, both in print and online.



Share it in the Shopper and reach everyone!

IMPORTANT!

2025 Editions of the *Ottawa Shopper* will include no more than 12 pages. Ad space available for purchase on a first-come, first-serve basis.

FOR MORE INFO:

CALL Rena Maki at 404-433-7983 or EMAIL ottawashopper@outlook.com

HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO SHARE OR PROMOTE TO AREA RESIDENTS AND VISITORS?

Consider the following:

*The Average Age of Area Residents is 59.5 years*¹

FACEBOOK IS UNRELIABLE: The age group that uses Facebook most frequently is between the ages of 25-34 (29.4% of users). While 7.2% of Facebook users are 55-64 years old. Even fewer users are 65+ (5.7%).² Sharing information exclusively on Facebook means that well over half of the community might miss out on it entirely.

VERY FEW BUY NEWSPAPERS: Less than 20% of area residents have paid subscriptions or buy local newspapers.³

BULLETIN BOARD FLYERS ARE EXPENSIVE: Posting a flyer on cluttered, public bulletin boards can be eye-catching (as long as it doesn't get covered up by the next poster), but it's **EXPENSIVE!** If you need to make the most of your "advertising" budget (or have no budget) you may want to reconsider spending money on ink and paper to print, and then spending even more money on gas to drive all over Ontonagon County's 1,311 sq. miles (Michigan's 3rd largest county) to place flyers or posters.

Skip the "flyer frenzy" and save money. For example, a well-worded, well-designed 3 x 4.5 ad in the *Ottawa Shopper* for a community, charitable, non-profit, or church event is just \$60.75. That's the cost of a tank of gas!

ADVERTISING RATES

COMMUNITY, CHARITABLE, NON-PROFIT, CHURCH

\$4.50/sq. in.

OR \$6.89/1 column in.

CIVIC, EDUCATIONAL, and POLITICAL

\$5.00/sq. in.

OR \$7.65/1 column in.

FOR-PROFIT BUSINESSES and ORGANIZATIONS

OPEN RATE:

\$6.50/sq. in.

OR \$9.95/1 column in.

MULTI-AD RATES:

\$5.50/sq. in.

OR \$8.41/1 column in.

2-12 ads any size in 12-month period

\$5.00/sq. in.

OR \$7.65/1 column in.

13+ ads any size in 12-month period

TEXT-ONLY LISTINGS

\$0.15 per word -
\$4.00 Minimum

COMPARE ADVERTISING COSTS

Rate per square inch (sq. in.)
is per 1 in. tall by 1 in. wide

Rate per column inch (column in.)
is per 1 in. tall by 1.53 in. wide.

Rate per column in. is intended to make it easier for advertisers to compare pricing with other newspapers.

SOURCES:

- 1 - 2020 U.S. Census
- 2 - Facebook public user demographics reports 2024
- 3 - U.S. Postal Service Periodical Publications Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation - 2024

FACT: Businesses that regularly

