DEAR POSTMAN/WOMAN: Please deliver to one of the nicest people we know.





PRSRT STD **ECRWSS U.S.POSTAGE PAID EDDM Retail**

POSTAL PATRON LOCAL

Since 1956 - From the Heart of Ontonagon Valley

TTAWA SHOPPE

AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD | TOWNSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS | SCHOOL INFO | LOCAL EVENTS & NEWS | BUSINESS INFO | GO PLAY OUTSIDE

Agate, Bergland, Bruce Crossing, Calderwood, Lake Mine, Marenisco, Mass City, Matchwood,

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Covington, Ewen, Green, Greenland, Rendon, Merriweather, Ontonagon, Paulding, Paynesville,

Covington, Ewen, Green, Greenland, Kenton, Porcupine Mountains, Redtown, Rockland, Rousseau, Sidnaw, Silver City, Topaz, Trout Creek, Victoria, Watersmeet, Watton, White Pine - and everywhere in-between.

SETTLERS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

13th ANNUAL CANCER WALK

11am, Saturday, May 17 (10:30am Registration) Adults \$25, Youth \$15

Walk starts and finishes in our Main Office Bruce Crossing parking lot.

All money raised goes to Ontonagon County Cancer Association

Insured by NCUA

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

We are a community charter credit union serving people who live, work, worship or attend school in; and businesses and other legal entities located in Ontonagon and Gogebic Counties. We look forward to sharing our credit union and its services with you.

MAIN OFFICE

14623 M-28 Bruce Crossing, MI

Phone: (906) 827-3240

Mon - Thu 8:30am - 4:00pm EST Fri 8:30am - 6:00pm EST

(Drive Up Only) Sat 9:00am - 12:00pm EST

BRANCH OFFICE

Northern Waters Casino N5384 US Hwy 45 Watersmeet, MI

Phone: (906) 358-3066

Mon 9:00am - 3:00pm CST Wed 9:00am - 3:00pm CST

WWW.SETTLERSFCU.COM

- SA₃ Greenland 4th of July Poker Run, Register 10-11am at Pat's Motorsports, \$10/person, Greenland
- Onto, Co. Animal Protection **SU 4** Fundraiser, Twilly's, Bruce Crossing
- **SU 4 Outreach Ministry Community** Potluck, 10am Service, 11:30am Meal. First Lutheran Church, Ewen
- **TH 8** Northwoods Singers Concert, 7pm CT, Ely Memorial Church, Land O'Lakes, WI
- Alumni Basketball Tournament, FR-SU 9-11 Hosted by E-TC, Ewen
- **SA 10** Copper Peak Red Bull 400, 8am CT, Race up the ski jump. FREE Admission, Ironwood
- Sleeping Beauty, 3pm, a Missoula **SA 10** Children's Theatre production at Ontonagon Theatre, 311 N. Steel St., Ontonagon
- SU 11 **MOTHER'S DAY**
- WE 15 OAHS Art Lab Exhibit, 6:30pm, Ontonagon Theater
- Lake Trout Classic, Call 906-884-FR-SU
- 2770 for info, Ontonagon 16-18
- 13th Annual Cancer Walk, 11am, **SA 17** Settlers Federal Credit Union, **Bruce Crossing**
- AJ's Lake Gogebic Walleye **SA 17 Tournament**
- Settlers Co-op Annual Sharehold-MO 19 er Meeting, 6pm, VFW, Bruce Crossing (Details Inside)
- FR 23 High School Graduation: E-TC 7pm, Watersmeet 6pm CT, Ontonagon
- **MEMORIAL DAY** MO 26 Area Services (Details Inside)
- **Annual Memorial Day Bake MO 26** Sale, Greenland (Details Inside)

JUNE

- FR 6 Last Day of School: E-TC, Watersmeet, Ontonagon Schools
- SA 7 Kids Fishing Tournament, Ages 14 & under, Paulding General Store, Paulding
- SA 14 All Lake Garage Sales, Lake Gogebic
- SA 14 Kids Fishing Day, Rockland Pond
- **SU 15 FATHER'S DAY**
- **SA 21 JUHANNUS DAY**

JULY

- FR 4 4th of July Lawnmower Parade, Trout Creek
- Bruce Crossing Area 4th of July, **SA 5** Bruce Crossing
- Greenland 4th of July Celebration, SA 5 Greenland
- TH-SU 47th Annual Hodag Country
- Festival, Rhinelander, WI 10-13
- Soke Miner's Revenge, Mtn bike FR-SU
- races, all skill levels; race in, 11-13 around, and over Adventure Mountain, Greenland
- SeniorFest—Ontonagon Co. **WE 16** Senior Citizens Festival, E-TC School, Ewen
- SA 19 E-TC Panthers Athletics Booster Club Steakout, Centennial Hall, Ewen
- FR-SA CopperFest Heritage Festival,
- 25-26 Ontonagon
- FR-SU Ontonagon County Fair,
- 25-27 Greenland

THIS IS YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SHARE IT IN THE SHOPPER!

HE PAULDING SENERAL STORE

~Opening May 10th for the 2025 Season~

New for the 2025 season! FLIGHTS and CAMPER COCKTAILS









Flight packages come with five uniquely paired shots, complementing snacks and munchies, and five shot glasses for you and your squad to sip, shoot, or toast!

In 2024, twenty-two varieties of Camper Cocktails proved exceptionally popular, prompting PGS to expand its offerings with additional premium options, including top-shelf bourbon, scotch, and whisky cocktails, served with traditional whisky ice.



New Camper Cocktails and Flights will be featured each week! Flights and Camper Cocktails protected and

Also... Don't leave the puppy out of the party! Pup Packs available for your dog!



Tackle, Live Bait, & Fishing Gear

ice, Firewood, & Camping Supplies Toiletries, Water, & Groceries

-Bug Spray, Sunscreen, Bug Nets-

~Hot Dogs, Burgers, Buns, S'mores~

~First Aid, Personal Care, Sundries~

More Bond Falls apparel and souvenirs available at Bond Falls Outpost located at the Bond Falls Campground and Lake

~Bond Falls Outpost opening Memorial Day weekend for the 2025 season~

Bond Falls Outpost, 12371 Bond Falls Road, Paulding, MI Paulding General Store, 4730 US HWY 45. Paulding. MI



ELLSWORTH HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

CALL: 906-827-3470

- Furnaces
- Air Conditioners
- Humidifiers

- Fireplaces
- Water Heaters
- Ventilation

Annual cleaning and servicing of your heating and cooling system is important to maintain the longevity of your furnace and air conditioning equipment. Please give us a call to schedule service or request a quote.



ellsheat@jamadots.com | 13223 Hwy M28, Bruce Crossing, MI 49912













LAND & HOME SALES

Excellence in real estate services.

Give me a call today!

Dale Gordon (906) 362-0372

Email: dalegordonsells@gmail.com

405 SHELDEN AVENUE | HOUGHTON, MI | WWW.NMLBHOUGHTON.COM



CALL BILL (906) 852-3565 (906) 231-0404

This is the fastest way to get a collision behind you.



Bill's Old M28 Auto Body 150 E Old M28, Trout Creek, MI

> 30+ years of experience 3 to 5 days repair time Loaner car while you wait



KNOWLEDGEABLE

- Over 40 years experience in the field of Arboriculture
- M.S.U. Master Gardener Alumni
- International Society of Arboriculture-Certified Arborist Lic. # WI-0458-A
- . The owner works directly with the crew (No loss of communication between what the customer wants and what work is performed)
- Emphasis on Tree and Shrub Care But still guite adept at Close Quarters Tree Removals



Raymond J. Hoover



Email us 24/7 with your questions or information for a FREE estimate!

Call today! 906-228-6426 or 906-485-4443 • Email anytime: hooverstreeservice@icloud.com

Clear the clutter, fund more fur-ever hugs!

3rd ANNUAL **OCAP CHARITY** YARD SALE

Fri-Sat, July 25-26, 2025 602 Houghton St., Ontonagon

Consider Donating Your Unwanted Things! Drop-off now through JULY 24 at 602 Houghton St.

Now Accepting:

- · Small furniture, lamps, kitchen gadgets, and décor that no longer sparks joy
- Tools, toys, books, art, antiques, kick-knacks
- Sports gear, hunting/fishing stuff, or anything else you no longer need

Sorry—no clothing please (even if it's vintage)



You'll get an answer faster than a Lab fetches a ball!

Your donated stuff → our vard sale → food, vet care & comfy beds for shelter animals



Sue T. (906) 390-3164 or Trisha M. (906) 231-7085

Bakery can be dropped off between 9-11am



Cell (586)707-2232

mlasko.insurance@charter.net

Paul Mlasko Independent Insurance Agent

American SENIOR BENEFITS

- Medicare Supplements
- Life Insurance
- Prescription Drug Plans
- Final Expense
- Dental/Vision/Hearing Insurance
- •Under 65 Health Insurance. •Fixed Annuities
- House Calls Available

Cell (906)364-1172 kendra.williams321@outlook.com

Kendra

Independent

Williams

Insurance Agent

Licensed in MI, WI, IN, MT, AZ • Free Estimates • No Obligations • No Pressure • Office: (906) 364-7654 • 200 E. Ayer St., Suite #5, Ironwood, MI 49938

We may not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area.

EXCITING PROGRESS AT LAKE GOGEBIC SENIOR CENTER THANKS TO STATE GRANT

BERGLAND, MI: Just over a year ago, we shared the exciting news that the Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club, Inc. in Bergland had been selected as one of 100 recipients of the Michigan Community Center and Neighborhood Initiative Grant, chosen from a pool of over 1,000 applicants across the state. Today, we are delighted to update our community on the significant progress being made on the Lake Gogebic Senior Center Renovations Project. Thanks to the \$300,000 Capital Project Grant, supported through the American Rescue Plan Act and the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, the Center is entering a much-needed phase of renewal. The planned renovations are both ambitious and essential, addressing decades of wear and outdated systems. The project, now in the contractor bidding phase, includes:

- Structural upgrades to meet building codes requirements.
- Updating the front entrance to ensure full wheelchair accessibility, allowing a safer and easier access for all seniors and visitors with mobility challenges.
- Upgrades to the siding, roof and insulation.
- Relocating the existing two exterior entrances with stairs.
- Upgrading the kitchen and bathroom facilities which will enhance safety and usability for staff, volunteers and seniors.
- Basement waterproofing.
- Reconfiguring and modernizing the office space to better accommodate the staff of both the Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club and the Ontonagon Co. Commission on Aging. These upgrades will support more efficient service delivery and provide a more welcoming and functional environment for daily operations.

The scheduled completion of this project is by June 30, 2026. It's important for residents to know that these funds are managed entirely by the state's designated funding agency. This ensures that the funds are used specifically for their intended purpose and that the renovation work follows all program guidelines and compliance requirements. Grantees are required to participate in monthly cohort meetings, collection of data for quarterly reporting along with progress and expenditure reports. The Lake Gogebic Senior Center, in operation since 1969, has long served as a hub for senior services, recreational groups, veterans, crafters, and more. It is home to two key agencies—LGSCC and OCCOAeach with its own leadership, but united in their mission to help seniors remain healthy, independent, and connected within their homes and communities. With construction planning well underway and excitement building throughout the region, the Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club invites the public to stay engaged and celebrate this investment in the future of Ontonagon County's aging population.

SUPERIOR FIREARMS TRAINING LLC

Concealed Carry and Home Defense Class

Qualifies for a Michigan or Wisconsin CPL

Defensive Shooting Fundamentals Training

Learn the skills that can save your life.

Training that makes a difference when it counts.

Charles Mott

906-886-2907 906-231-6731

cdmott@superiorfirearmstraining.com

SEEKING BIDS

Project: Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club Office Renovations

109 Pine St., Bergland, MI 49910

Owner: Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club, 109 Pine St., Bergland, MI 49910

Bids will be accepted under seal to the Owner for renovations to the Lake Gogebic Senior Citizens Club Office at 109 Pine St Bergland, MI 49910.

Owner will receive sealed Bids for a single prime contract at the Project Site, 109 Pine St. Bergland, MI 49910, until 2:00 PM local time on the day of May 8, 2025 at which time and place the Bids will be publicly opened. Bids not received by the indicated time will not be opened.

Project Description: Interior and exterior renovations of an existing building including, but not limited to, roof replacement, sitework, and interior reconfiguration of space including all required mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc., 100 Portage Street, Houghton, MI 49931, (906) 482-4810, Stephen E. Wright, P.E., swright@upea.com. Bid documents may be obtained from the local builders exchanges (Delta County, Iron Mountain, Hurley and Marquette). Paper copies of the Bidding Documents are available from the Issuing Office by paying a \$50.00 nonrefundable handling fee for each set of contract documents. Alternatively, bidding documents are available as portable document format [PDF] files for a nonrefundable charge of \$25.00. There is no pre-bid walkthrough. Contractors may visit the site at their own accord. Bids are required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 45 days after submission. Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The Bid Bond or certified check payable to Owner shall be in an amount no less than 5% of the maximum bid as a guarantee, that if the Bid is accepted, the Bidder will execute and file the Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds, and Insurance Certification, as required by the Contract Documents within (10) days after the Notice of Award. Owner reserves the right to waive irregularities and to accept or reject any or all Bids.

SCHOOL TIDBITS



ONTONAGON: The Gladiators Booster Club recently purchased equipment for the Golf, Track, and Girls Softball teams.

Young ladies from Ewen-Trout Creek and Ontonagon schools joined forces this spring to form a high school girls softball

There will be an OAHS Elemental Art Lab Exhibit at the Ontonagon Theater on May 14 at 6:30pm. The event is free with donations accepted.



WATERSMEET: Results from the 4/30 Junior Track Meet in Hurley - Girls: Autumn Broomfield 1st Place in the Mile run, Jayla Kangas 2nd Place shot put, Nahlani Spottedwolf 3rd place shot put Boys: Landon Olds 1st Place 400M dash, 2nd place long jump, Damian Jackson

4th place 70M dash, Jaxsun White 5th place 100M dash.

4th graders went on a field trip on 5/1 to the J.W. Toumey Nursery and the Visitor Center.

The Watersmeet Township School District is seeking a new board member for its board of education. Letters of interest are due by May 12, 2025, and

should be sent to: Watersmeet Township

School District,

PO Box 217, Watersmeet, MI 49969. Applicants must be a resident of Watersmeet Township. For more information, call 906-358-4504 ext. 302.

On 4/16, six members of the community and school district took part in a senior class project. The project was a Mock Interview to prepare our high school Seniors for future interviewing and resume/cover letter writing skills. The senior class did a wonderful job and should be congratulated for their hard work, and the volunteers should also be recognized for the time and professionalism shared with our students. Volunteers were Karl Larson of the Keweenaw National Historic Park Service (former alumni), Dr. Kay Tulppo of the GOISD, Maria Jesinski of the GOISD, Deputy Adam Graser SRO Officer (2 time panel member), Lisa McGeshick- School Board Vice President.

On Friday, May 23, 2025, there will be a Spring Pow-wow presented by the LVD Education Department at the school from 9am to 10:30am CT, in the school gymnasium. The Pow-wow is open to the public.



6.5 mi. South of Bruce Crossing - 7668 US 45



- Tune-ups
- AC/Heating
- Computer diagnostics/ Check engine light
- Oil and filter changes
- · Low tire pressure light repairs
- Suspension work
- Brakes
- Exhaust work



(906) 827-3800 CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

MON-FRI 8:30AM to 5PM EST

ACCEPTING WASTE OIL DURING BUSINESS HOURS





BROKER: **Todd Borseth AGENTS:** Mike Urbis Bonnie Maki Cole Borseth

101 S. Cedar St. EWEN, MI (906) 988-2329

544 River St. ONTONAGON, MI (906) 884-4161



May 1, 2025 OTTAWA SHOPPER

NOW HIRING



Connecting Our Community to Better Health

NOW HIRING!

Medical Transport Driver

(Part-time/No benefits)

Clinic Custodian

Quality Assurance/
Risk Management Specialist

COMPETITIVE PAY! OUTSTANDING BENEFITS!

PTO

Dental/ Vision/ Health Insurance available immediately

Please visit our website for full job descriptions at www.lvdhc.org

WE'RE HIRING – JOIN OUR TEAM!!

Settlers Federal Credit Union is seeking a

MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

If you're looking for a change and:

- Are dependable, team-oriented, self-motivated
- Enjoy helping others
- · Can multi-task and enjoy problem-solving
- · Have excellent communication skills
- Are experienced with computers, cash handling, and accounting
- Are looking for job advancement and great hours!

We want to hear from you!

Competitive Wages
11 Paid Holidays
Paid Time Off – Vacation, Sick, Personal Leave
401K
Health, Vision, and Dental Insurance
Life Insurance

Applications may be picked up at the Main Office in Bruce Crossing or email CU@settlersfcu.com.

DOCKS-4-U

Do you have your new aluminum ROLL-IN DOCK & BOAT LIFT on order yet?

Call or text today for a FREE estimate



DID YOU HAVE TROUBLE GETTING YOUR BOAT OFF THE LIFT LAST YEAR?
Don't let low water levels keep you down!
WE MAY HAVE A SOLUTION FOR YOU...



PHONE: 906-285-9202

Bergland, MI





DID YOU KNOW? The tallest man in Michigan was Lauri "Big Louie" Moilanen. At the height of 8ft, 3in, the Giant Finn of the Copper Country was born Jan. 5, 1886, in Puolanka, Finland, and died from tuberculosis meningitis at the age of 27 on Sept. 16, 1913 in Hancock, Michigan. In 2013, a monument to "Big Louie" was opened in front of the Finnish American Heritage Center in Hancock, Michigan.

Trout Creek American Legion Post 494

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

8AM - 11AM Sunday, May 4 and Sunday, May 25



Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, Toast, Juice, Coffee

\$9.00 - Adults

\$3.00 - Children under 12



SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES

Ontonagon County and Surrounding Areas

SEPTIC PUMPING & REPAIR

EXCAVATING & CONSTRUCTION

SAND - GRAVEL - TOPSOIL

www.primroseacres.com



TOWNSHIP NOTICES AND INFORMATION

HAIGHT TOWNSHIP—ACCEPTING MOWING BIDS

Haight Township is accepting MOWING BIDS for the Cemetery and the Township Hall for the 2025 mowing season. Contact Joe Pietila, Haight Township Supervisor for more information at 906-827-3800.

STANNARD TOWNSHIP—NOTICE OF VACANCIES

Stannard Township is seeking township residents to serve on the following boards starting in August or September of this year. The Township Board may select (appoint) new members at the May 12, 2025, meeting if qualified individuals apply promptly. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and reside in Stannard Township. If interested contact any Board Member, or send a brief letter of application to the Stannard Township Board at P. O. Box 216, Bruce Crossing, MI 49912. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.

The Township Board will appoint new members to the following boards on May 12, 2025, or June 9, 2025, Regular Board Meetings.

Board of Review – 1 new member is needed Zoning Board of Appeals – 1 new member is needed Planning Commission – 2 new members are needed

Contact Stannard Township for additional information at 906-827-3778 or email clerk@stannardtwp.com.

BERGLAND TOWNSHIP— SEEKING TOWNSHIP CLERK

Bergland Township is accepting applications for the position of Township Clerk. The Township Clerk is responsible for maintaining official township records, overseeing elections within the township, preparing meeting agendas and minutes, managing township correspondence, and ensuring compliance with the Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act. Duties include:

- Preparing and maintaining minutes of Township Board meetings
- Maintaining custody of all township records and ordinances
- Coordinating and administering all local, state, and federal elections in accordance with Michigan Election Law
- Managing voter registration records
- Posting legal notices and meeting schedules
- Maintaining financial records related to the Clerk's office
- Other duties as prescribed by law or assigned by the Township Board

Minimum Qualifications:

- Resident of Bergland Township or willing to become a resident within a specified period
- · High school diploma or GED
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office and basic computer systems
- Ability to attend evening meetings and maintain some regular office hours
- Ability to obtain Michigan Certified Professional Clerk (MiCPT) certification within a reasonable time (preferred, not required)

Compensation will be commensurate with experience and set by the Township Board. This is a part-time position with variable hours depending on duties and election cycles.

To apply please submit a resume and letter of interest by **Mail:** Bergland Twsp Supervisor, P.O. Box 326, Bergland, MI 49910

OR Email: twpsupervisor@berglandmi.gov

Applications must be received by May 15, 2025.

Bergland Township is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applicants from all backgrounds.

OBITUARIES



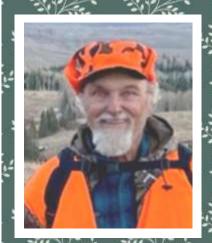
FAITH L. STENSON, 81, of Sidnaw, passed away quietly in her home on February 5, 2025, with her loving family by her side. Faith was born in Coldwater, MI, on July 14, 1943, the daughter of Keith and Vivian (Teachout) Kennedy. In 1946, Faith moved with her family to Sidnaw, where her parents established "Kennedy's Cabins," a hunting and fishing resort on the banks of Lake 13, which is still active and family-operated to this day. Faith graduated from L'Anse High School in 1960, and shortly after graduating, she married Thomas A. "Tom"

Stenson II on June 14, 1960, at the Lutheran Church in L'Anse. She then moved with her husband to Republic, MI, to become a homemaker. In 1969, Faith and Tom purchased the IGA store in Sidnaw and moved back there with their four children. Never one to lollygag, Faith became a grocery store owner/operator, as well as the U.S. Postal Service Postmaster for Sidnaw—in addition to being a full-time mother and homemaker. After the closure of the IGA, she continued as the Sidnaw Postmaster and also served as postmaster for several other towns for over 30 years. As her mother Vivian began needing help running Kennedy's Cabins, Faith lovingly and dutifully stepped in. As the years passed, she and her siblings took over the primary operations of the cabins, sharing the responsibility over the next 20+ years. Faith was a devout Christian and active member of the Sidnaw United Methodist Church. She served as treasurer, Sunday School teacher, and primary church event organizer. She loved to sing and had a very lovely and powerful soprano voice, performing in the choir and singing solos at many weddings and other special events. She was a Life Member of the Covington VFW Post #8945 Auxiliary and held many positions, culminating in being elected State of Michigan VFW Auxiliary President in 1993–94. Faith enjoyed cooking and was an avid baker. She

always assisted with the VFW pasty sales, pancake breakfasts, and church dinners, and her post office patrons would often have the pleasure of sampling the fruits of her labor. No one ever left her table hungry or unsatisfied.

Faith is survived by her loving children: Kathleen Stenson; Thomas A. III (Gabriele) Stenson of Bamberg, Germany; Keith (Tonya) Stenson of Sidnaw; and Elizabeth Ayler of Sidnaw. She is also survived by her grandchildren David, Katrina, Morgan, Danielle, Bobby Leigh, and Matthew; great-grandchildren Jakob, Emma, Wesley, and Reece; sister Jane Wyatt and sister-in-law Becky Kennedy, both of Sidnaw; nephews Sean McDonald and Khris (Brenda) Kennedy, both of Sidnaw; and several cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her brother Barton Kennedy.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at Sidnaw United Methodist Church, with Pastor John Henry officiating. Immediately following the service, a luncheon will be held in the church hall. Interment will take place in the Sidnaw Cemetery. The Reid Funeral Service and Chapel, L'Anse, has been entrusted with the arrangements.



REV. MICHAEL VICTOR LAAKKO, 76, of Mass City, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 11, 2025, at Baraga County Memorial Hospital in L'Anse, surrounded by the love of his family. Michael was the long-awaited answer to the prayers of his parents, Vera and Emil Laakko. As a child, his first faith lessons were on the lap of a mother who truly understood the love of a living God through Jesus Christ. He was baptized, confirmed, and ordained at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mass City, MI. He graduated from Mass City High School in 1966. A proud veteran, Michael enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served from 1967 to 1971 during the Vietnam War. While in Vietnam, he volunteered at an orphanage, and a long-standing call to ministry resurfaced. He began that journey by attending Soumi College in Hancock, MI, and later earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Carthage College in Kenosha, WI.

On October 5, 1974, Michael married the love of his life and dancing partner, Denise Harry, on the Caledonia Bluff. The couple recently celebrated 50 years of marriage with a surprise party organized by their children. Michael's life was marked by unwavering service to God, his family, and his community. He devoted his life to ministry, serving as pastor at Bethel Lutheran Church in Ishpeming, Mission United Lutheran Church in Pelkie, United Lutheran Church in Crystal Falls, Bethany Lutheran Church in Amasa, and most recently as a contract pastor at Trinity Lutheran Community Church in Trout Creek. He also graciously served as an interim pastor at several congregations throughout the region. He lovingly brought the hope of the Great Healer, Jesus Christ, to those in pain and suffering. Beyond the pulpit, Michael found joy in nature and community. He loved hunting, fishing, cutting wood, and taking

saunas. He cherished time spent with his grandchildren and extended family. A spirited dancer, he was affectionately nicknamed "Crazy Legs Laakko" for his love of dancing with Denise. Michael was deeply involved in civic life. He served as Adjutant of the Merrill Preiss American Legion Post 92 in Rockland and as President of the Adventure Mountain Lions Club. His most cherished project was the Adventure Mountain Ski Hill, where he volunteered every weekend during the winter season. He also coordinated parking for the Porcupine Music Festival, reflecting his deep ties to the community. He is survived by his loving wife, Denise Laakko of Mass City; his children, Adam (Stacey) Laakko of Nunica, MI; Anna Abdo of Marquette, MI; Allison (Josh Malerman) Laakko of Franklin, MI; and Andrew Abdo of Marquette, MI; his grandchildren, Andres Abdo, Alessandra Abdo, Chase Laakko, and London Laakko; his brother, John (Annie) Laakko of Mountain Home, Idaho; his sister, Sara (James) Hermanson of Birmingham, MI; sister-in-law Carrol Harry; sister-in-law Laura Fredrickson; brothers-in-law Dave and Dan Fredrickson and Russ Harry; and many cherished nieces and nephews. Over the

years, many also came to know and love him as "Dad." He especially enjoyed getting to know Scott, a new companion in Christ. He was preceded in death by his parents and his beloved son, Samuel Laakko. Upon retirement, Pastor Laakko shared:

"In retirement, I have come to appreciate even more the gift of each new day and what it means to be CHURCH—Christ Jesus alive in me—

"In retirement, I have come to appreciate even more the gift of each new day and what it means to be CHURCH—Christ Jesus alive in me—calling each new day to reflect the heart of Christ in all we do and say."

"For word on the many the second to the form that Christ Jesus the Lord and appreciate for Jesus's alive. For it is the Cod who commended."

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

— 2 Corinthians 4:5–6

A service honoring Michael's life will be held on Saturday, May 10, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Rockland, Michigan. Military honors will be conducted under the direction of the Ontonagon County Veterans, followed by a memorial service officiated by Bishop Emeritus Tom Skrenes and Bishop Katherine Finegan. Visitation will take place from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service. A luncheon will follow at the Rockland Town Hall. Arrangements are being handled by Jacobson Funeral Home.



What we have enjoyed, we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.

LISA ANN OGREN, 59, of Jackson, Michigan, passed away unexpectedly on April 21. Lisa was born on September 20, 1965, in Racine, Wisconsin, to Robert and Shirley (Hautamaki) Ogren. She grew up in Ewen, and graduated from Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated Schools in 1983. A talented basketball and track star, Lisa earned a full-ride scholarship to Olivet College due to her dedication, skill, and commitment to the sports she loved. At Olivet, she excelled in basketball, softball, and field hockey. She earned a bachelor's degree in K-6 physical education and later received her master's degree in social work from Michigan State University, where she joined Sigma Beta Phi. Lisa was an avid fan of MSU athletics and loved the Detroit Lions. She attended games and watched many with her father.

Over the years, Lisa worked in various roles across Jackson, including at children's homes, nursing homes, family health centers, and jails. She conducted a mandatory counseling program for prisoners before they could be paroled. Lisa earned numerous professional credentials and had many letters behind her name, including MA, LBSW, LPC, CRC, CCFC, and CAADC. Lisa's hobbies included rock hunting, gardening, and crafting. She enjoyed hiking with her mother, especially around Bond Falls, where she had worked during high school. Lisa loved her motorcycle and cherished the Trans Am her father had rebuilt. She adored her fur babies, Chewy and James, and delighted in shenanigans shared with her many friends and classmates. She also enjoyed camping at Windover Women's Resort with her best friend, Judy, where they made many great memories with their friends.

Lisa is survived by her very best friend—her person—Judy Nichols; her mother, Shirley; brother, Mark (Jill) Ogren; nephews, Jesse and Matthew; great-nephew, Parker; aunts, Verna Hautamaki and Nancy Johnson; cousins, Bruce (Carol), John (LaVonne), and Bonnie Lindsey; second cousins, Tiffany Helms and Lindsey Borseth; and her fur babies, Chewy and James. She was preceded in death by her father, Robert, and her twin sisters, Christina Marie and Deanna May Ogren. Lisa was a gentle soul with a great smile and an infectious laugh. She was a friend to all and a huge animal lover. She was

surrounded by friends who absolutely adored her. She will be missed by many. The family would like to thank the EMTs and hospital staff who tried to save her, but could not. A memorial service/Celebration of Life will be held at the Jackson Eagles in Jackson, Michigan, on Sunday, May 18, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.. A second memorial service will be held at the United Methodist Church in Ewen, on Saturday, June 21. Visitation will start at 10:30 a.m., and service at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon in the church basement will follow the service. Arrangements are being handled by Lakeside Memorial Chapel, Wakefield.

LINDA (OJALA) ROBL, 70, of Ewen, passed away peacefully at her home on April 16, 2025, after a lengthy battle with breast cancer and rheumatoid arthritis. She was born in Mellen, WI, on November 11, 1954, to John Arvid Ojala and Elsie Jean Juntunen. Linda attended Ewen School, and while attending a birthday party, she met the love of her life, David Robl. They were married on May 29, 1971.

Linda dedicated her life to her family, always placing their needs and happiness before her own. She was a loving mother to her two children: Carole Robl (Tim Platske) of Ewen, and Michael Robl (Jen Nowicki) of Iron River, MI. Her greatest joy and pleasure—besides coffee and Yahtzee—were her grandchildren: Samantha Robl, Emily Clements, Adeline Robl, Cole Robl, and David Robl. Linda was more than a wife, mother, and grandmother—she was also a friend and confidant, a shoulder to cry on, and someone to laugh and be silly with. She was a homemaker and a talented baker (best homemade coconut pecan frosting ever!) who loved sharing her joy of baking with her grandkids and friends. She also played a mean game of Yahtzee!

Linda was preceded in death by her parents; four brothers—Raymond Ojala, Donald Ojala, Edward Ojala, and John Ojala; and two sisters— Anna Beckman and Elsie Blank. She is survived by her younger brother, Richard Ojala.

At Linda's request, there will be no funeral service. Instead, a small private gathering with family members will be held at a later date.



PROPERTY MAINTENANCE Quality Handyman and

Property Maintenance Services

variety of home repair and maintenance work (586) 899-3743

Expertise in a wide | Call Paul Kovalcik at

EWEN, MI

FIREWOOD \$100 Face Cord (2-cord min) Cut, split, and delivered within 5 mi, radius of Bruce Crossing. Add \$10 per cord for delivery to locations within 15 to 30 mi radius of Bruce Crossing. Call Erik (Guck) Johnson at 906-365-0075 DHHS/SWP approved



HILDEBRAND



Funeral Home & Cremation **Specialists**

SIMPLY CREMATION \$1,500

Includes basic services and crematory fee

715-365-4343

Serving the western Upper Peninsula and northern Wisconsin



LAKE GOGEBIC

40TH ANNUAL

SATURDAY, JUNE 21ST BERGLAND, MICHIGAN

SOCIAL BIKE RIDE AROUND DA LAKE

REGISTER ONLINE?

WWW.LAKEGOGEBICAREA.CON

BEFORE JUNE 13TH

ADULT: \$30 INCUDING A T-SHIRT YOUTH: \$20 INCLUDING A T-SHIRT AFTER JUNE IS TH \$35 INCUDING A T-SHIRT

IDE BEGINS AT BERGLAND TOWNSHIP PARK AT NOO EST. CHECK IN STARTS AT 10 A.M. EST.

EMAIL

INFO@LAKEGOGEBICAREA.COM

IT'S TIME TO TRY SOMETHING NEW!

The Harbor Town Players (at Ontonagon Theater) is open to anyone 15 years and older. We are always looking for new actors or behind the scenes people. This is a very fun and supportive group and a great way to get involved with the performing arts. For more information contact Eric @ 906-231-6689

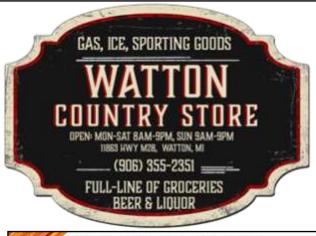






DID YOU KNOW?

Fish are one of the oldest animal families to live on Earth. They were here long before the dinosaurs – about 500 million years ago — and they still thrive.



Settlers' Cooperative, Inc.

ANNUAL SHAREHOLDER'S MEETING

When: May 19, 2025 @ 6pm Where: VFW Hall, Bruce Crossing, MI

We have 3 board position vacancies available. If you would like to put your name on the ballot, please stop by the business office Monday - Friday 8am-4pm

TIP: If you have a Settlers Co-op discount shopping card, you are considered a shareholder.



EXCAVATING DEMOLITION CONCRETE

TREE REMOVAL SAND & GRAVEL

SNOW PLOWING

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

(906) 231-1664

ZACH SEID JOSH YAKLYVICH

SEIDLINECONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM FACEBOOK.COM/SEIDLINE

On Mother's Day...

AU-You-Can-Eat BREAKFAST

Lake Superior Masons - Lodge #67 (located west of Big Valley Ford in Ewen)

8am - 11am Sunday, May 11, 2025

\$8 Adults, \$5 Children under 5



Mark's world-famous FRENCH TOAST

PANCAKES (w/ blueberries, strawberries, whipped cream) SCRAMBLED EGGS (w/ onions, peppers, shrooms, salsa) SAUSAGE and Coffee, OJ, Milk

All proceeds support high school scholarships. Thank you to all who come to our breakfasts.



ANNUAL GARDEN PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 17 through

Sunday, June 1

(or until sold out)

Open Every Day 10AM-5PM | Thursday 10AM-2PM

12720 South Paynesville Rd., Bruce Crossing Look for signs just off Highway28

Carrying a full line of garden plants raised from organic non-GMO seeds by Mr. Sweet Pea himself!

Carrying many varieties of tomatoes, including Early Girl, Glacier, Moskvich, Mountain Princess, Indigo Apple, Sungold Cherry, Sweetie Cherry, Black Cherry, Jet Star, San Marzano, Roma, Yellow Pear, and Heirloom Brandywine. Vegetables include Brussel Sprout, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Red and Green Cabbage, Onions, Chives, Cucumbers, Celery, Baby Broccoli (Broccolini), Yellow Summer Squash, Zucchini, Winter Butternut and Honeynut Squash, Acorn Squash, Pumpkins, Watermelon, Kale, Romaine Lettuce starts, Basil, Bush Beans, and Beet starts. Flowers include Zinnias and Cosmos. Sweet Peppers include King of the North Green Bell, Yellow Italian, and Corno de Toro red; Hot peppers include Ancho Poblano, Jalapeño and Habañero.

DECISION EXPECTED IN MAY 2025 FOR A NEW CANOE-KAYAK LANDING ON THE SOUTH BRANCH OF THE ONTONAGON RIVER

The South Branch of the Ontonagon River is popular with canoeists and kayakers; however, there are limited sites to access the river. In October 2024, the Ottawa National Forest—Ontonagon Ranger District began scoping a project proposal to create a new carry-in canoe landing and parking along a segment of the river in an area that was previously a UPPCO camp. The new landing would provide a good midway point between existing landings further up and downstream of the site. Proposed activities include:

- Reconstructing Forest Road 730-T leading to new parking area for vehicle access (operational maintenance level 3) Forest Road 730-T (approx. 4 mi. north of Ewen by way of Cemetery Road).
- Constructing a parking area at the canoe landing site and installing signage.
- Constructing approximately a 515 ft. long and 36 in. wide carry-in canoe portage trail. The portage would be constructed on the existing user-created trail extending from the parking area to the top of the river bank and leveled where possible for improved accessibility.

A decision on whether to move forward with the project is expected by May 2025. Questions may be directed to Austin Walworth, Recreation Planner at 906-675-1787. Information is also available on the Ottawa National Forest website (https://www.fs.usda.gov/ottawa). *Source: https://www.fs.usda.gov/ottawa*

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SNOWBALL CANCER RIDES

Thanks to generous donations from our community and other communities across the Midwest, the 2025 Snowball Cancer fundraiser, "The Valentine 500" (long-distance, group snowmobile rides supporting the Keller Family Community Foundation) raised \$157,314 to help families during their battle against cancer! It is such an honor to participate in this event. Between the two Snowball Cancer rides (V500 and V250) on February 6 and February 13,a total of 98 snowmobilers participated! Thank you all for your support!

With great appreciation— Chris & Heather Palmer, Ewen, MI





Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency MAY COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION

For qualifying individuals 60 yrs+. Proof of income not needed, but must meet the income guidelines to receive food assistance. Food package contains cheese, milk, canned vegetables, fruit, meat and cereals. Please return boxes. Program registration info, call: 906-884-2106.

Wednesday, May 14

Marenisco Town Hall Watersmeet Food Pantry Bruce Crossing Stannard Township Park 9 to 9:15 a.m. 10 to 10:15 a.m. 12:30 to 1 p.m.

Thursday, May 15

Bergland Lake Gogebic Sr. Ctr. White Pine Township Hall Ontonagon Holy Family

9:25 to 9:40 a.m. 10 to 10:15 a.m. 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Catholic Church

Mass City Resource Center

1 to 1:30 p.m.

Times are listed in local time zones. Times are subject to change. *This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

ONTO COUNTY-MOBILE FOOD PANTRY DATES

The Feeding America Mobile Food Pantry Schedule for the remainder of 2025 is as follows:

Distribution begins at 11 a.m. and runs as long as supplies last. Ontonagon Village Fire Hall 315 River Street in Ontonagon

Wednesday, June 4 Wednesday, Aug 6 Wednesday, Oct 1 Wednesday, Dec 3

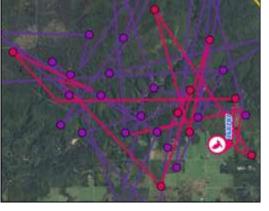


EWEN: The area's popular promotional printing business is moving into a bigger location. Here's what Kappy Ink Promos recently posted on Facebook: We are now at 201 S. Cedar. This was my Uncle Jim's shop and he recently passed away leaving Kappy and I ownership. We haven't put any signage up yet but we are working out of here every day and are no longer By Appointment Only, so swing by if you need anything. We will be off tomorrow but back to normal hours Thursday. Our future plan is to carry items for sale like E-TC merch, hunting/fishing/camp novelty items like hats, sweatshirts, vests, jackets -STAY TUNED!

PAYNESVILLE: Kristin Ojaniemi—local resident and producer of the popular TV show Discovering—posted last week on Facebook that banded Evening Grosbeaks had appeared at her feeder, one wearing a tiny radio transmitter. After some investigating, she contacted the Pennsylvania research team that tagged the birds and she

learned it was banded in Kenton on March 8, 2025; they even sent her its movement map (pink movement tracking lines).





ROCKLAND: When Rockland experienced a recent series of water leaks, Zach Seid of Seidline Construction stepped in right away—contributing nearly \$1,500 worth of labor and equipment to get the problem fixed. Thank you, Zach!

LAKE GOGEBIC: The Root Cellar Resort has new owners, Rob and Casey Curtis, originally from downstate MI. The resort's lodging services are open while they pause restaurant operations to work on updates to the restaurant. The restaurant is scheduled to re-open in June.





VetFEST 2025—for military veterans -June 11, 11am-3pm at Mich. Tech Univ. Student Development Complex in Houghton.



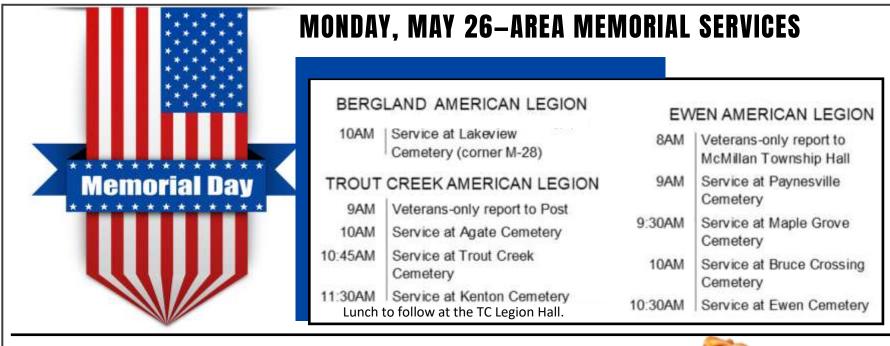
SELECTONE MORTGAGE

Your Mortgage Partner for Home Purchases and Refinances

715-891-0419

Land O' Lakes, WI

NMLS#201542



Onto. Co. Conservation District April Meeting Summary

- Submitted by V. Talsma

ROCKLAND TWP: The Ontonagon County Conservation District (OCD) held its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 10, at the Rockland Township Hall. Board members in attendance included Mike Jarvi, Sara Baciak, Mike McCabe, and Valerie Talsma, with Charle Burger participating via video conference. Also present were District Manager Anne Kretschmann, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) liaison Evan Platske, Ottawa District Ranger Amber Tembreull, and two county residents. Ranger Tembreull addressed the board regarding concerns over a recent Forest Service "Emergency Situation Determination" declared by USDA Secretary Rollins on April 3, 2025. The memo designated 112.6 million acres—roughly 59% of National Forest System lands—as subject to emergency conditions. While the Ottawa National Forest appears heavily affected on the accompanying map, Tembreull noted that local staff only received a "memo about a memo" and lack details on its origin or data source.

Talsma raised concerns that Washington may be using emergency declarations to bypass standard procedures and regulations for the benefit of monetizing public resources. In response, Tembreull assured the board that the Ottawa will continue to operate under its existing long-range, multi-use plan, which includes procedures for public input and environmental assessments. She also noted that while the Ottawa ranks fourth nationally in timber production, harvest levels have remained low for most of the 21st century.

The board discussed how to uphold the district's mission—"Promoting stewardship of natural resources through education, outreach, community partnerships, and management"—while maintaining a nonpartisan stance. The conversation will continue at the May meeting. Plans for the Annual Tree and Plant Sale were reviewed. Kretschmann reported a decrease in orders compared to last year. Talsma noted that the Facebook order deadline had been extended to April 1. Tree pickup is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Ewen Centennial Hall. Volunteers and board members will sort orders on Friday. Talsma will host Arbor Day "Tree IQ" activities during pickup, inviting families to participate. Kretschmann is also pursuing Deer Habitat Enhancement grants through the Michigan DNR, focusing on tree planting projects. In positive financial news, expenses related to the USFS Black Ash remediation grant have been reimbursed. Most work is complete, though two years of reporting remain. Other federal grants, including those for Aquatic Invasive Species - Clean Boats and two Ottawa RAC projects, remain in limbo. The Michigan operating grant continues to be received quarterly with deliverables reported on schedule. The Forestry Assistance Program (Community Forester) has been renewed, and the district can begin recruiting for the position. Talsma attended the District 2 U.P. Trappers reorganization meeting to explore collaboration on conservation efforts. Baciak is researching the addition of compost products to future tree and plant sales.

The next OCD meeting will be held Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. ET at the Rockland Township Hall. All future meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month at the same time and location. For updates, visit the OCD website at ontonagonconservation district.com or follow on Facebook at facebook.com/
OntonagonCD.

Publisher's Note: This article was edited for length.





AREA CHURCH SERVICES

Include your church service information here for \$5/month Payment can be mailed to 15853 St. Collins Rd., Bruce Crossing, MI 49912

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. 5 PM Worship, Rev. Mark Gass

Bruce Crossing Apostolic Lutheran Church: 11:30AM Sun. School, 1PM Worship. Communion 1st Sun; Lenten Services Wed. 7PM; 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, and 4th Sun., 200 N. Cedar St.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church: 4PM Sun. Worship

GREENLAND

Greenland SDA Church: Worship 10AM Sat., 31369 N Firesteel Rd.

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 children 4 yrs +

ONTONAGON

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

St. Paul's Lutheran (Missouri Synod): 9AM Sun. Worship, Wed. 10AM Bible Study, Wed 3:30-5PM Church School. 107 E River St.

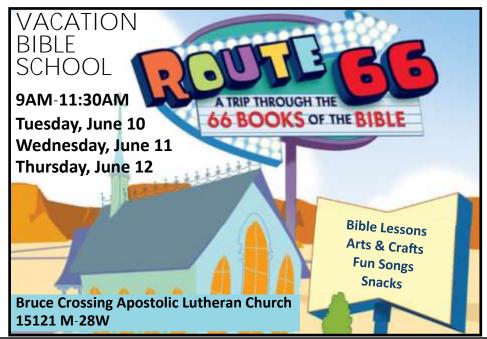
Siloa Lutheran Church: 9AM Sun. Worship, Broadcast live WUPY-101 FM, Wed. 4PM Siloa Seekers Children's Hour, Bible Study, Monday 11AM, Corner of 4th and East River St.

TROUT CREEK

Calvary Temple AG: 9AM Sun. School, 10AM Sun. Worship. 187 Division St. Trout Creek Lutheran Community Church: 11AM - 3rd Sun. Worship.

<u>WATTON</u>

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



Join our weekly study on Sundays at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome, whether you are curious about Jesus or want to gro understanding of the Bible. Find peace and rest for our soul pr Christ.

We gather in the
Bessemer Seventh Day
Adventist Church
at 507 E. Cinnebar Street
starting May 18, and on the third Sunday
of the month for our worship service.

Our hope is to be a blessing for our community as we seek to establish a traditional Presbyterian/Reformed congregation in the Western Upper Peninsula.

Questions call Kent: 616.490.0931

New Hope is a work of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

MEETINGS

Ontonagon County Republican Party will meet Tues., May 6, at 5:30pm at the Rockland Township Hall. All are welcome.

Alcoholics Anonymous:

Bruce Crossing: 7PM every Wed., Stannard Township Hall Watersmeet: 7PM every Tues/Thurs/Sat, Spiritual Center

Ontonagon County Conservation District meets the second Thursday of ea. month at 5:00pm at the Rockland Township Hall. The next meeting will be on Thurs., May 8.

HORIZON HOME CARE, INC.

NURSING SERVICES FOR ASSESSMENT & TEACHING OF:

- Medications
- Wounds
- New diagnosis
- Disease exacerbation
- Post-surgical
- Pain

PHYSICAL THERAPY SERVICES FOR:

- Home safety evaluation
- Post-surgical
- Functional decline
- Pain

HOME HEALTH AIDE SERVICES FOR:

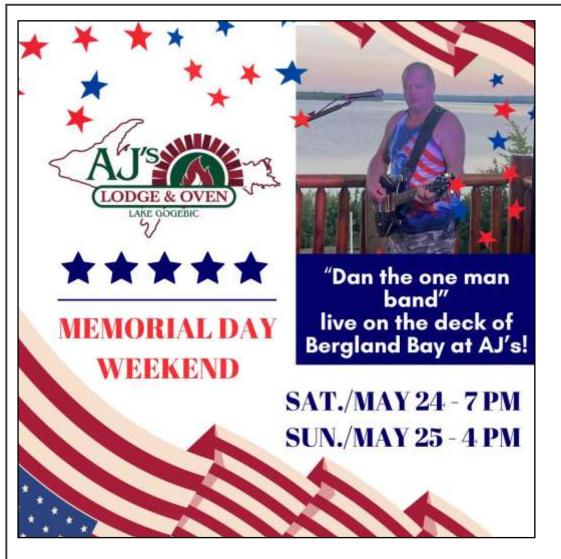
 Personal care assistance



We can ease the transition from hospital-to-home and from illness-to -recovery through increased communication and coordination among your health care providers.

CALL US TO DISCUSS YOUR HOME CARE NEEDS

(906) 884-6092

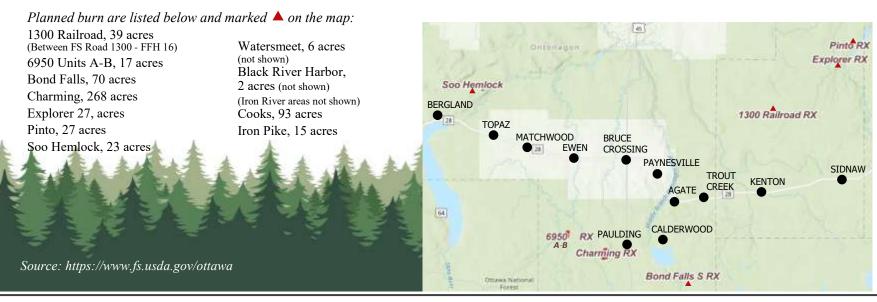




U.P. Fire Management Unit's Planned Prescribed Fires

On April 7, 2025, the Ottawa National Forest announced that the USDA Forest Service Upper Peninsula Fire Management (UPFM) Unit is planning on conducting prescribed fire operations 578 acres in the Ottawa National Forest. According to the announcement, the prescribed fires reduce risk to the public by removing hazardous vegetation to mitigate wildfires and prevent loss of property. They also help to re-establish fire's positive role in local ecosystems, increase native plant regeneration, and improve wildlife habitat and forest health. Specific timing for burning depends on ground and vegetation conductions, current and forecasted weather, staffing availability and other factors. Contact your nearest Ranger District to be notified of prescribed fires in your area the day of the burn.

May 3rd arrives
on silent wings,
your 88th year aglow.
In the silence my heart
still sings—
Happy Heavenly Birthday,
dearest Joe.
Love,
Joanne



NEW EFFORT TO HELP MORE MEN IN MICHIGAN ACCESS FREE EDUCATION AND JOB TRAINING

Governor Whitmer recently signed an executive order aimed at boosting awareness of opportunities like Michigan Reconnect and the Michigan Achievement Scholarship, to connect more young men to tuition-free education and job training programs. The programs have already helped more than 120,000 Michiganders earn degrees or skills certificates; however, most enrollees so far have been women. The new directive calls on the Michigan Dept. of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP) and the Dept. of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) to increase efforts to reach young men, particularly in underserved areas. **MI Reconnect offers free tuition** for residents 25+ pursuing associate degrees or skills certificates, and the MI Achievement Scholarship can provide up to \$27,500 toward a college education. This initiative supports the state's "Sixty by 30" goal: ensuring 60% of working-age Michiganders have a degree or skills certificate by 2030.

Learn More: **Michigan Reconnect** at michigan.gov/reconnect, **MI Achievement Scholarship** at michigan.gov/mistudentaid, *MiLEAP* (517) 335-5858, MiLEAP@michigan.gov.

GAREER 3 Fast-Track Skills Certificates at GCC That Michigan Reconnect Covers

SKILLS CERTIFICATE
TITLE
(Time to complete)

TYPICAL JOB TITLES

2024 U.S. Median Pay*

*Bureau of Labor Statistics

#1

Electric Line
Technician Certificates
(~1 year)

Electrical-power-line Installer/Repairer, Apprentice Lineman

\$92,560/year

- Highest wage of any one-year trade credential on GCC's roster.
- Utilities and contractors pay premium overtime during storms.
- Demand is strong as Michigan utilities harden grids for extreme weather.



Practical Nursing Certificate (3 semesters)

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

\$62,340/year

- GCC's practical nursing program student passing rate was 100 % in 2023.
- Healthcare shortage means near-certain placement.
- LPN is a stepping stone toward the higher-paying, professional RN (Registered Nurse) degree, but you can earn an LPN wage after just one year + summer.
- Fully Pell-eligible, so Reconnect pays in-district tuition; books, uniforms and exam fees remain.



Computer Information Technology – Network Security Certificate

(1 year / 35 credits)

Junior Network Administrator, Cybersecurity Support Tech, Network & Computer Systems Administrators \$96,800/year*

*network & computer systems administrator positions

- Cybersecurity pay scales quickly; even entry-level support roles often start \$50k-\$60k, and climb to the mid-\$90s with experience.
- Certificate is stackable into GCC's 2-year Networking AAS or a university Bachelor's degree.

HIGH-PAYING CAREERS, FREE TUITION

I dug through Gogebic Community College's (GCC) program catalog, regional wage data, and

Michigan Reconnect rules to find the three quickest certificates GCC offers that can lead to some of the region's highest-earning jobs—all with tuition fully covered by the state's free-tuition program for adults 25+.

NOTE: The age requirement to participate in the standard Reconnect program is 25 years and older. There was a temporary expansion to the program's age rules that allowed 21 to 24 year-olds to participate; however, that temporary expansion is now closed. Lawmakers are trying to reopen Reconnect to 21 to 24 year-olds, so check Michigan.gov/Reconnect or your community college financial aid office for possible age requirement changes later in 2025.

Education turns paydays into progress.

Pass down more than recipes and work ethic. If there's a young adult in your orbit, plant seeds of prosperity by encouraging them to achieve the





SERVICE

M-F | 8am-6pm SA | 8am-12pm

SALES

M-F | 8am-6:30pm SA | 8am-3pm

BIG VALLEY FORD

EWEN, MICHIGAN

CHRYSLER RAM DODGE

(906) 988-2323



PARTS

M-F | 8am-5pm SA | 8am-12pm

COLLISION

M-F | 8am-4:30pm

FOR SALE

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 (906) 250-3712 (cell), or (906) 988-2493.

FOR SALE: New 36" x 19" Hitch Cargo Carrier, \$50. Two 20lb propane tanks, \$20 ea. (906) 236-9271

FOR SALE:

Wrought-iron outside bench, 40"Wx36"H. \$100. Excellent condition. (906) 988 2586

BEST OFFER:

Vinyl records; women's golf clubs, set of 7. (906) 988 2586



FOR SALE: May 24 through June, 1pm-5pm daily, Slim is selling his homegrown PEPPER and TOMATO plants—many varieties. 40+ days old, hot cloned in 1/2 gallon containers. Only \$5 each!

19086 US Hwy 45 N. in Bruce Crossing (5 mi. north of Hwy 45/ M-28 intersection. 1st driveway north of Gauthier Rd) Look for the sign! Wise to call ahead to be sure Slim's at home (906) 391-0105. Email: busybsfarm@yahoo.com

GARDEN ROTOTILLING SERVICE

Prompt, Reliable and Reasonable Call Bill at (906) 884-7355



EQUIPMENT RENTALS T76 Skid steer T66 Skid steer MT100 Mini track loader E38 Mini excavator E55 Mini excavator E165 Large excavator

Multiple skid steer attachments available

HILL'S HEARING SERVICES

Testing • Sales • Service Custom Hearing Aids

IRONWOOD

IRON RIVER

237 E. Cloverland Dr. 230 Washington Ave. 906-265-0711 906-932-9033

Richard & Gale Hill Owners Since 1996

can turn bad water into great water.

CALL US TODAY TO GET **WORRY-FREE WATER!**

906-827-3930 www.wandelswatercare.com

PROVIDING IN-HOME WATER TREATMENT FOR:

Hardness and scale build-up

Foul taste and odor

Colors and sediment

Chlorine additives

Acidic water

Rust stains on fixtures

WE SERVICE ALL

MAKES AND MODELS

Complimentary WATER ANALYSIS

for home or business _____

COMPLIMENTARY **EVALUATION**

of any existing Water Treatment System - regardless of brand

PROVIDING PERSONALIZED SERVICE TO MICHIGAN'S UPPER PENINSULA

Whether you have city water or well water, we have the water treatment

system to create worry-free water in your home. Our softeners and filters

WANDELS WATER ARE Making water good for life:

Bruce Crossing . Negaunee

Got Land? | Want Land?

CALL OR EMAIL US TODAY!





Buy or Sell Quality Homes, Recreational, Waterfront, and Commercial Properties in the Upper and Lower Peninsula of Michigan and also Wisconsin!

856 W. Washington St., Marquette, MI 49855
OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – FRIDAY 9AM – 5PM (EST)
(906) 228-9312 | information@greatlakesandland.com

THE SETTLERS DEPOT GALLERY

Opening for the 2025 season the end of May

Hours: 11am-5pm, daily

Annual Plant Sale on June 7th

For more information about the Depot, or if you are looking for a market for your unique, handcrafts, call 906 852-3485





THE NEXT EDITION OF THE OTTAWA SHOPPER WILL BE PUBLISHED ON JUNE 2, 2025

(Submissions Due May 27)

Email: ottawashopper@outlook.com Call or Text : Rena 404-433-7983 Carol 404-660-3893

www.ottawashopper.com



Sunday, May 11th

8AM-2PM

Adults \$34.94 Children (4-12 years) \$18.95

Children under 4 years eat FREE with Adult purchase.

BUFFET—Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Brisket Hash, Assorted Quiches, Biscuits & Gravy, Herbed Baked Chicken, Poor Man's Prime, Garlic Red Mashed Potatoes, Pan Gravy, and more.

Plus... SPECIALTY STATIONS—Omelets, Waffles, Smokehouse, Seafood, Desserts, and DIY Cookies.

Also featuring: Specialty Mimosas, Build Your Own Bloody Mary, and more. (alcoholic beverages priced separately)

RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST, SO PLEASE RESERVE EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED.



906-842-3466



Located on the beautiful West Shore of Lake Gogebic N10596 State Hwy M64 Marenisco, MI

Opening for the 2025 Summer Season on Monday, May 5th.

