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Vol. 5, 2nd Edition
JULY 25, 2026

Since 1956 - From the Heart of the Ontonagon Valley

OTTAWA SHOPPER

and 906 Rambler

AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD | TOWN NEWS | SCHOOL INFO | LOCAL EVENTS | BUSINESS INFO | GO PLAY OUTSIDE | OTHER TIDBITS

Agate, Bergland, Bruce Crossing, Calderwood, Covington, Diaper Town, Ewen, Green, Greenland, Kenton, Lake Mine, Maple Grove, Marenisco, Mass City, Matchwood, Mill Town, Merriweather, Ontonagon, Paulding, Paynesville, Porkies, Redtown, Rockland, Rousseau, Sidnaw, Silver City, Thomaston, Topaz, Trout Creek, Tula, Victoria, Watersmeet, Watton, White Pine - and all the beautiful places in-between.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



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.

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FRI 8:30am-6pm EST
SAT 9am-12pm EST

BRANCH OFFICE

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(906) 358-3066

MON 9am-3pm CST
WED 9am-3pm CST
FRI 9am-4pm CST

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AUGUST

- 1 **Day in Clay!** 10am-2pm, FREE, all-ages clay workshop. Make your own mug or sculpture from the LOCAL red clay, enjoy art exhibits, live music, and surprise performances! Hosted by the Visitor Center Artist Camp at the E-TC School, Ewen
- 1 **Community-Wide Garage Sale**, 9am-6pm, Over 100 sale locations last year! Pick up sale map at the Land O'Lakes Elem. School (6485 Town Hall Rd) on the morning of Aug. 1, Land O'Lakes, WI
- 1 **7th Annual LVD Health Center Health Fair**, 11am-3pm CT, A day filled with wellness, fun, education, and community. Food trucks, vendors, health screenings, raffles, and more! N5241 US-45, Watersmeet
- 4 **ELECTION DAY—Get Out and Vote!**
- 4 **Ontonagon County Resource & Health Fair**, 4 - 6pm, A free, family-friendly event. Ontonagon Rec Center, Ontonagon
- 6-9 **Gogebic County Fair**, Ironwood
- 8 **Ontonagon Gladiator Boosters Bonanza**, Doors open at 6:15pm \$125/ticket for 2 people. Purchase at Citizens State Bank or Y101 Studio. Ontonagon.
- 15 **Taste of the Lake Community Bash on Lake Gogebic**, 1pm-7pm, Food, Drinks, DJ, Games, Swimming, Family Fun, & more. Bergland Beach, 201 Ash St., Bergland
- 16 **Craft Fair at Old Victoria**, 10am-5pm, Handmade Arts & Crafts, Cinnamon Rolls, Kids Games at 1:30pm. 25401 Victoria Dam Road, Rockland

- 17-23 **U.P. State Fair**, Escanaba
- 19 **American Red Cross Blood Drive**, 11am-3pm, Centennial Hall, Cedar St., Ewen
- 21 **Soup & Sandwich Luncheon & Bake Sale**, 10am-1:30pm, Cloverland Senior Center, Ewen *(Details inside)*
- 22 **Annual Boppin' Bob Memorial Bags Tournament**, Bag Toss, Food, Drinks and Prizes. Proceeds support area high school graduates' scholarships. Stannard Township Park in Bruce Crossing *(Details Inside)*
- 25 **First Day of School**—Area Schools
- 27-30 **Iron County Fair**, Crystal Falls
- 27-30 **Houghton County Fair**, Hancock
- 28-29 **20th Annual Porcupine Mountains Music Festival**, \$145 for 2-day pass., \$75 1-day pass, \$10 Children 7-12, Age 6 & under Free. Call: 906-390-2666 between 10am-5pm. Porkies Sports Complex, Porcupine Mountains State Park
- 29 **Monster Truck Throwdown**, Houghton County Fair, 12-foot tall machines compete in full throttle head-to-head racing. 1500 Birch St., Hancock
- 30 **Festival Italiano**, 11am-12am CT, Music, food, drinks, vendors—Marty's Goldenaires march at 4:30pm, Silver St., Hurley, WI

SEPTEMBER

- 4-6 **70th Annual Labor Day Celebration**, A long weekend of fun. Parade at 2pm on 9/6, River St., Ontonagon
- 7 **LABOR DAY**
- 11-12 **48th Annual Fall Walleye Tournament**, Lake Gogebic, Bergland
- 25-26 **Annual Log Jamboree**, Parade, Kids Games, Music & more! Ewen
- 26 **VFW Auxiliary Freedom Fest-District 15**, 2pm, An engaging event for all veterans and non -veterans—adults and kids—to learn about the different roles of Veterans of Foreign Wars. Plus, info about community resources, scholarships, programs, raffles with prizes, snacks, and other special activities. Held at the VFW Post 6507 in Chassell
- 26 **UPPCO Appliance Recycling**, 11am-4pm, Recreation Center, Ontonagon

ATTENTION AREA ANNUAL EVENT ORGANIZERS, BUSINESS OWNERS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERS, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COORDINATORS

In an effort to resume a predictable, reliable publishing schedule and balance the rising costs of fuel, printing, and postage, the
Ottawa Shopper & 906 Rambler
will be published and mailed to homes quarterly.

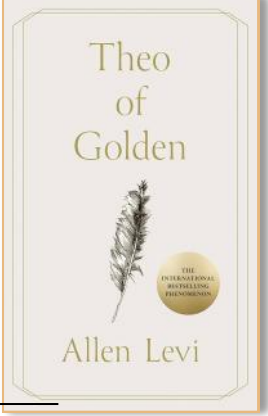
The publishing schedule for the next 12 months is as follows:
October 2026 (Submission deadline September 15, 2026)
January 2027 (Submission deadline December 15, 2026)
April 2027 (Submission deadline March 15, 2027)
July 2027 (Submission deadline June 15, 2027)

Did You Know? Ontonagon Co. has 5,843 residents. Nearly 40% of the adult residents are not online for various reasons. If your business or organization would like to promote an inclusive community where everyone has an opportunity to know what is happening in our area, submit your print-ready information or image by the submission deadlines listed above.

Mail: Ottawa Shopper & 906 Rambler, 15853 St. Collins Road, Bruce Crossing, MI 49912
Email: publisher@ottawashopper.com **Call or Text:** 404-433-7983

AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD...
PAYNESVILLE, BRUCE CROSSING,
EWEN, MATCHWOOD, AND TOPAZ

EWEN: The **Turning Pages Book Club** is currently reading *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. The club will discuss the book at its next meeting on July 28 at 10am at the McMillan Township Library (200 S. Cedar Street). The club meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 10am. New members are always welcome!



The annual Ewen Log Jamboree will be here before you know it! The E-TC Class of 1976 is planning to have a float in the parade—all classmates are invited to participate.

The E-TC school will be missing a familiar, friendly face this coming school year. After more than two decades of service, elementary educator, Angela Bergland has retired. Congratulations Angie!

E-TC school alumni, Mike Ojala, has also retired from a long career as an educator and coach in the Copper Country. Congrats Mike!

On May 13-15, 35 sixth graders from Ontonagon, Ewen and Watersmeet schools went to Camp Nesbit. They were joined by 6 counselors and a teacher from each school. They had 2 full days of activities ranging from First Aid Training (taught by SONCO), various shooting stations hosted by Ontonagon Valley Sportsman's Club, instruction from US Forest Service personnel (including Plan Ahead- Day hiking/survival skills, Bear Awareness and Fire Education/prevention) and ORV Practical where they ride ORV supplied by MI TRALE. The students were taught the classroom portion of Hunter's Safety and ORV by GLIFWIC and DNR LEO Officers. Each student that passed the exam and participated in Practical received a certificate in Hunters Safety and ORV safety.

**John Livingston Named
Corrections Officer of the Year**

The Michigan Department of Corrections announced on May 1 that John Livingston (Ewen) has been named Corrections Officer of the Year at the Michigan Correctional Facility in Newberry. John was recognized for his positive attitude, strong work ethic, and willingness to assist others. He is frequently called upon to take on additional duties and serves as a trusted mentor to new staff. He was also honored for his strong knowledge of department policies and his ability to remain calm and professional during stressful situations, making him a valued member of the facility's team.

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**AUGUST 1, 2026
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**Soup/Sandwich Luncheon
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Friday, August 21 | 10AM-1:30PM
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Proceeds benefit Youth Outreach & Radio Ministry on WUPY 101.1FM on Sundays at 8am.

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2026 Ontonagon & Ewen-Trout Creek Varsity Football Team Schedule				
8/28	6pm	Home	Crystal Falls Forest Park	
9/4	7pm	Home	Calumet Copper Island Academy	
9/11	6pm	Away	Powers North Central	
9/18	6pm	Away	Ironwood	
9/25	TBD	Away	Norway	
10/9	6pm	Home	Bessemer	
10/16	7pm	Away	Munising	
10/24	1:30pm	Away	Lake Linden-Hubbell	

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SA | 8am-12pm

SALES

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SA | 8am-3pm

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AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD...

TROUT CREEK, KENTON, SIDNAW, WATTON, AND COVINGTON

TROUT CREEK: A small, all-school class reunion was held at Trout Creek American Legion over the 4th of July holiday.

AGATE: Construction is underway on a new nature retreat on 24 acres of private property adjacent to Agate Falls. Over the years, the property has been home to several establishments, including the Agate Bar and Doe-Doe's Bar. Owner Cameron Asam, from the Detroit area, has named the new venture Firefly and regularly shares updates on the construction progress and future plans. Designed to complement the property's natural beauty, the retreat is expected to include six geodesic dome vacation rentals, a small amphitheater and outdoor movie area, a sauna and wood-fired hot tubs—all within a two-minute walk of Agate Falls. An exact opening date in 2027 has not yet been announced.

COVINGTON: Friend and family recently celebrated Richie Konkright's 90th birthday. Happy birthday to Richie!

SIDNAW: The Kenton-Sidnaw Historical Society Museum will be open from 12PM to 5PM on Aug. 8 and Sept. 7. The museum is located at 6071 Mill Town Road in Sidnaw in the former Sidnaw United Methodist Church.

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TRINITY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

August 16, 11am

in Trout Creek, MI

On Saturday, May 16, Settlers Federal Credit Union and 51 local businesses came together to raise money for the Ontonagon County Cancer Association through our 14th Annual Knock Out Cancer Walk.

A total of 77 people registered for the event, and 25 participated by walking, running, or biking. Each person who registered for the walk made a tax-deductible donation of \$25. One hundred percent of participant donations, along with any unused portion of the sponsorship fees, was donated to the Ontonagon County Cancer Association. Participants received a T-shirt, lunch, and refreshments. Transportation was also provided, allowing participants to walk only part of the route or complete the entire five-mile loop.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the sponsors, the participants, and the volunteer helpers.

The event was a huge success!

We are proud to announce that we were able to donate \$5,276.95 to the Ontonagon County Cancer Association!

THANK YOU AGAIN TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL AND BUSINESS THAT HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS!

OTTAWA SHOPPER & 906 RAMBLER

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July 25, 2026



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AUGUST 29



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NOT-SO-ORGANIC WASTE ON THE ROADS

In 1893, people from around the world marveled at a record-setting load of white pine logs hauled from Ewen to the Chicago World's Fair. The massive load was 33 feet tall and 18 feet wide (50 giant logs weighing approximately 144 tons) and remains one of the most famous images from of the Upper Peninsula's early logging era.

More than 130 years later, Ontonagon County still sees record-setting loads, but the contents are not likely to make anyone marvel. Since 1997, trucks have pounded area roads while navigating to the north end of the county to dump tons of trash and waste material into the ground at the K&W Landfill, a few miles south of the Lake Superior shoreline, in Greenland Township.

According to annual reports filed with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), K&W Landfill (owned and operated by Waste Management) accepted 321,382 cubic yards of waste during 2025. Using typical landfill waste densities, that roughly the equivalent of 670 of Ewen's famous world-record load of logs. Over the five-year period from 2021-2025, approximately 401,265 tons of waste were buried. That's roughly equivalent to 2,787 loads of record-setting logs!

Here's where the waste dumped in Greenland came from throughout 2021-25

40% WISCONSIN ~158,563 Tons of Waste (1,101 Loads of Logs)	31% HOUGHTON COUNTY ~125,270 Tons of Waste (870 Loads of Logs)	11% BARAGA COUNTY	9% GOGEBIC COUNTY
		4% IRON COUNTY	4% ONTONAGON COUNTY
			1% OTHER



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According to recent U.S. Census Bureau estimates, from 2020 to 2025 Ontonagon County's population grew from 5,799 to 5,823. Gogebic County's population declined by 64 people to 14,285 over the same time period.



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Township Proposals on the Ballot- Aug 4, 2026–State Primary Elections

The information below is intended to provide a plain-language summary of the full legal wording for each township proposal appearing on the August 4 ballot. Readers should consult their official ballot for the complete and controlling legal language. A renewal generally continues a tax that voters previously approved. A proposal described as new or additional would add a millage that is not currently being levied. Some renewal proposals also restore part of a millage rate that was reduced through required millage rollbacks.

ONTONAGON TOWNSHIP

Township Park Renewal Millage Proposal (Renewal of an expired millage) Renews the Onto Township Park millage at up to .25 mills, equal to \$.25 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 4 years, 2027 through 2030 inclusive. The money would be used for park operating expenses. Expected to raise ~ \$26,890.00 in the first year. **NOTE:** The ballot states that the previous rate was up to .25 mills, was reduced to .25 mills by required millage rollbacks, and would be renewed at and increased up to .25 mills. Because all of the stated figures are .25 mills, the wording does not show a numerical change in the rate.

Fire Protection Millage Renewal (Renewal of a previously approved millage) Renews up to 1.5 mill, equal to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for the township fire protection fund. The ballot describes the levy as being for ten (10) years, 2026 through 2036. Expected to raise ~ \$161,342.00 in the first year. **NOTE:** The stated inclusive dates cover 11 calendar years, although the proposal describes the period as 10 years.

MATCHWOOD TOWNSHIP

Township General Fund (Renewal of an existing millage) Renews 2.0 mills, equal to \$2.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 2 years, 2026 through 2027 inclusive. The money is for the township's General Fund. Expected to raise ~ \$20,450 in the first year.

INTERIOR TOWNSHIP

Increase of Millage for Township Park Fund (Increase in the existing park millage) Increases the township park millage from 0.3 mills to up to 0.50 mills, with the proposed total rate equal to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value. The millage would be levied for 4 years, 2027 through 2030 inclusive, and pays for park mowing and maintenance. Expected to raise ~ \$7,266 in the first year.

Renewal of Millage for Township Cemetery Fund (Renewal of an existing millage) Renews up to 0.25 mills, equal to \$0.25 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 4 years, 2027 through 2030 inclusive. Pays for cemetery mowing and maintenance. Expected to raise ~ \$3,633 in the first year.

Renewal of Millage for Fire Operating & Maintenance (Renewal of an existing millage) Renews up to 1.00 mills, equal to \$1.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 4 years, 2027 through 2030 inclusive. Funds fire operations and maintenance. Expected to raise ~ \$14,532 in the first year.

Renewal of Millage for Fire Dept Equipment (Renewal of an existing millage) Renews up to 0.50 mills, equal to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 4 years, 2027 through 2030 inclusive. Funds fire dept equipment and expenses. Expected to raise ~ \$7,266 in the first year.

CARP LAKE TOWNSHIP

Renewal of Millage for Fire Dept (Renewal with restoration to the original voted rate) Voters previously approved .50 mills, equal to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value. Required millage rollbacks reduced the rate to .48 mills, equal to \$.48 per \$1,000 of taxable value. This proposal renews the expired millage and restores it to the original voted rate of up to .50 mills for 4 years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive. The money pays fire department operating expenses and funds equipment replacement reserves. Expected to raise ~ \$17,000.00 in the first year.

New Extra-Voted Millage for Fire Department (New additional millage) Imposes a new additional millage of up to .25 mills, equal to \$0.25 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 4 years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive. Provides additional funding for fire department operating expenses and equipment replacement reserves. Expected to raise ~ \$8,500.00 in the first year.

Renewal of Millage for Street Lights & Decorations (Renewal with restoration to the original voted rate) Renews the expired millage and restores it to the original voted rate of up to .50 mills for 4 years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive. Pays for the operation of street lights and decorations. Expected to raise ~ \$17,000.00 in the first year.

Renewal of Millage for Library (Renewal with restoration to the original voted rate) Voters previously approved .50 mills, equal to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value. Required millage rollbacks reduced the rate to .48 mills, equal to \$.48 per \$1,000 of taxable value. This proposal would renew the expired millage and restore it to the original voted rate of up to .50 mills for 4 years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive. Provides operating funds for the Township Library. Expected to raise ~\$17,000.00 in the first year.

New Additional Extra-Voted Millage for Library (New additional millage) Imposes a new additional millage of up to .25 mills, equal to \$0.25 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for four years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive. The money would provide additional funding for Township Library operating expenses. Expected to raise ~ \$8,500.00 in the first year it is levied.

New Extra-Voted Millage Proposed for Street Maintenance/Replacement (New millage) Imposes a new millage of up to 1.00 mill, equal to \$1.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value, for 4 years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive. The money would be used for expenses caused by the deterioration of Carp Lake Township streets. Expected to raise ~ \$34,000.00 in the first year.

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Sunday Services & Kids Church at 10:45am

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Celebrate Recovery Tuesdays at 6:30

Royal Rangers and Mpact Girls Wednesday 6:30-8pm

Small Groups Wednesday 6:30-8pm

Northiron Youth Night in L'Anse

Thursday 5-9 open to ALL youth 6th-12th.

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): Sundays - 3:30 PM
Sunday School, Adult Bible Study, 4:30PM Worship,
5:30PM Fellowship. All are welcome!

Rev. Caleb Raasch

Bruce Crossing Apostolic Lutheran Church:
11:30AM Sun. School, 1PM Worship. Communion
1st Sun; 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): 10AM, 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 Savior Lutheran Church (ELCA): 10AM,
Communion Worship 3rd & 5th Sun.,
13980 N. Paynesville Rd.

MASS CITY

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

ONTONAGON

Ontonagon Baptist Church:
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 on WUPY-101FM, Mon 11AM Bible Study,
Wed. 3:15-4:30PM Siloa Seekers Church School.
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

WATTON

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

OBITUARIES

Gerald “Jerry” Olgren, 89, of Trout Creek, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on May 19, 2026. Jerry was born on September 7, 1936, in Trout Creek to Elvi Olgren. Following his graduation from Trout Creek High School, Jerry enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he served honorably. After his military service, he married Carolyn Marie Boggs on October 12, 1957, and together they built their life in Iowa.

Jerry is survived by his four sons, Jeff, Doug (Kelly), Mark (Kristi), and Steve; his grandchildren, Elvi, Paige, Nick, Matthew, and Kaylee; his great-grandchildren, Khloe, Bradley, Landon, Maycen, Kallon, Aubree, Isabelle, and Miley; his brothers, John Vlahos and Jan Olgren; and his sisters, Ina Olgren and Denise Fandrick.

Military rites were held at Trout Creek Cemetery on Sunday, June 7, followed by a celebration of life service and luncheon at American Legion Post 494 in Trout Creek. Memorial donations may be made to the Trout Creek Volunteer Fire Department.



Beatrice McGeshick Bailey (Squawb-Na-Quay), Red Sky Woman, 88, of Watersmeet, began her journey into the spirit world on June 18, 2026. She was born on January 7, 1938, at the Indian village along the northern shore of Lac Vieux Desert. She graduated from Ewen-Trout Creek High School in 1973. She attended Rose State College in Midwest City, Oklahoma, for one year before her father passed away.

Beatrice worked for Toumey Nursery in Watersmeet, the Lac Vieux Desert Tribe in Watersmeet, and the Chippewa Community Tribe in Mole Lake, Wisconsin. She helped initiate health care services in her community and later became the Director of the Lac Vieux Desert Health Clinic. She married William Bailey on February 12, 2010. Beatrice enjoyed attending car races, watching Dr. Pol, fishing, and watching football.

She is survived by her husband, William Bailey; her sons, Roger (Jean) LaBine of Trout Creek and Wayne (Denise) LaBine of Mole Lake, Wisconsin; her daughter, Terry Fox of Watersmeet; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; her siblings, Ruth Antone, Thomas (Susie) McGeshick, and Joyce Hazen, all of Watersmeet; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Dan McGeshick Sr.

and Josephine White McGeshick; her husbands, Cecil LaBine, Willard McGeshick, and William Kelly; her son, Paul LaBine; her grandson, Craig Fox; her son-in-law, Charles D. Fox; her sisters, Jeannie McGeshick and Helen Smith; her brothers, Archie McGeshick Sr., Richard McGeshick Sr., Daniel McGeshick, and John McGeshick Sr.; her brothers-in-law, Mike Hazen Sr., Ira Antone Sr., and Raymond Smith; and her sister-in-law, Annabelle Smith McGeshick. Visitation was held on June 20, and the funeral was held on June 21 at the Roundhouse at Old Indian Village, Lac Vieux Desert, followed by interment at the Lac Vieux Desert Cemetery. The Cane Funeral Home – Bruce Crossing Chapel assisted the family.

Susan Charlotte Perhalla, 86, of Hurley, Wisconsin, died on May 10, 2026, at Aspirus St. Luke’s Hospital in Duluth, Minnesota. Born on June 7, 1939, the daughter of Charlotte and Fredrick Nichols, Susan graduated from Hurley High School in 1957. She went on to earn her nursing degree from Northern Michigan University. Susan worked as a school nurse for Ewen-Trout Creek Schools and various nursing homes before retiring in 2006. In 1958, she married Rudolph John Perhalla. Together they built a life and shared 62 years together. Beyond her professional life, Susan had a deep passion for crocheting and quilting. She was a member of the Northern Lights Quilting Guild. Susan is survived by a daughter, Rebecca Tulppo (Greg); a son, Rudolph Perhalla (Jean); four grandchildren, Victoria Sue Tulppo (Todd), Blake Rudolph Tulppo (Sara), Michael Rudolph Perhalla and Rebecca Michelle Perhalla (Trey); and a great-granddaughter, Parker Rose Tulppo. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Rudolph, on Feb. 7, 2021; and two brothers, James Nichols and Frederick (Jack) Nichols. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Ironwood on June 4, 2026.

Morris “Mike” Warsop, 87, of Matchwood, passed away after a short illness at home on June 14, 2026. Mike was born on July 24, 1938, in Athens, Michigan, to Harry “Pike” and Reta Warsop. He graduated from Athens High School in 1956 along with lifelong friends, Billy Reese and Terry Hinckel, who he shared time with skipping school to go fishing. Mike enjoyed being a salesman and was owner/operator of WKM Equipment which he co-owned with Roger Kinney. He retired in 2000 to his home in the Upper Peninsula. He and Lorraine enjoyed camping, fishing and hunting with their good friends, DaWayne and Rose Holtz. They were blessed to have lots of help from another good friend, Ryan Koivu. Mike was a lifetime member of the Masonic Lodge. He was a faithful member of the Ewen United Methodist Church and looked to Pastor Ted Trudgeon as a trusted friend.

Mike is survived by his wife of 34 years, Lorraine; two daughters, Rhonda (Chris) Harnish and Renee Skeens; two stepdaughters, Terri Mitchell and Tina Huggett; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Daniel Warsop. A memorial service was held on June 24, at the United Methodist Church in Ewen.



Dorothy Jean Kersten, 81, of Trout Creek, was born on April 4, 1944, to Carmen and Henry Pole and joined her love, Ike, in the clouds on December 19, 2025. Dorothy married the love of her life, Ike Kersten, on May 13, 1967, at the Lutheran Church in Bruce Crossing. Dorothy held many different jobs through the years. The job she absolutely loved was taking care of all of her family.

She will be missed more than words can say.

She is survived by two children, Cammie (Robert) Garrison and Richard (Darcy) Kersten, eleven grandchildren, twenty-three great-grandkids, three sisters and two brothers, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, two sisters, a daughter and a granddaughter.

A Celebration of Life was held at the Trout Creek American Legion Hall on June 6, 2026.



Laurie Lou (Beck) Juopperi, 89, of Hurley, WI, was peacefully called to eternal life on May 15, 2026. Her daughters were at her side.

Laurie was born on June 19, 1936 in Ontonagon, to the late Arthur and Irene (Waisanen) Beck. She graduated from Ontonagon Area High School in 1954, and went on to business school in Green Bay WI where she received a degree in accounting/bookkeeping.

Following business school, she returned to her hometown and married Roger Juopperi on June 22, 1957. She and Roger resided in Bruce Crossing, where they raised 4 daughters on the family farm. She moved away from Bruce Crossing after Roger's passing and settled in Hurley, WI to be near her daughters. Her last days were spent in the care and comfort of Skyview Nursing Center in Hurley, WI.

Laurie worked as a bookkeeper at multiple local businesses over her years in Bruce Crossing; Nordine’s Store, Ontonagon Valley Cooperative Creamery, Coss Heating and Settler's Federal Credit union. She was a member of Our Savior Lutheran

Church in Paynesville, MI, where she also served as treasurer, and a member of the Ladies Auxiliary at Henry A. Holappa VFW Post 9345. Laurie was lovingly known as "Grandma Noodles" to her family. She was a devoted wife, mother, aunt, grandma, and great grandma, and friend to many. Her greatest joy was being surrounded by family and friends, and inviting everyone to coffee and biscuit. We will always remember her smiles and delicious baked goods; breads, heavenly rolls, cinnamon rolls, donuts, pies and pasties. In her spare time she enjoyed knitting and crocheting, bowling, gardening, and going out for a drive to get ice cream.

Survivors include three daughters, Cindy (Chris) Stanley of Hazelhurst, WI, Theresa (Bruce) Buccanero of Upson, WI, Sandy (Rick) Pertile of Hurley, WI., Rick Dasko, son in law, of Iron Mountain, MI, 10 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Roger, her parents Arthur and Irene, two brothers, Glen and Jerry and daughter Sharon. A Memorial Service was held on May 29, 2026, at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Paynesville, with Pastor Kay Richter officiating.

Edward C. Malnar, 90, of Ewen, passed away on May 24, 2026. Edward was born in Ewen, on February 19, 1936, the son of the late Edward and Ida (née Wolfe) Malnar. He proudly served in the United States Army Airborne Division during the Korean Conflict. Edward was stationed in Germany and was honorably discharged. He later retired from Case Tractor in the 1990s. Edward enjoyed farming, fishing, hunting, and spending time with family and friends.

Edward is survived by his son, James Malnar; his grandchildren, Brianne Malnar (fiancé Anthony Caruso), Justin Porter, and Jessica Porter; his great-grandchildren, Zella Caruso and Maximus Caruso; as well as cousins and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Ida (née Wolfe) Malnar; his brother, George Malnar; his grandson, James Malnar II; and his wife, Phyllis (née Walley) Malnar. Edward's final resting place will be at Evergreen Cemetery in Ewen.





William "Will Bill" Niemi, 65, —With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our husband, dad, grandpa and best friend. Will passed away on July 20, 2026. He was born on Dec. 10, 1960, in Bruce Crossing, above his grandparents’ restaurant, Bundy’s. His parents were Bernard "Bundy" Niemi and Vivian Whisman. He graduated from the Ewen-Trout Creek High School in 1979. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy from 1979 to 1983.

In 1984, Will moved to Minneapolis with Kelly Lehto. On Jan. 11, 1986, they were married. He worked at many different places, including Creamette Noodle Company, Lakeshore, Halvor Lines, and Big Valley. In 1993, he began working at the copper mine in White Pine. When it closed, Will moved his family out west to work in the mines in Nevada and Montana. He worked at Stillwater East Boulder mine in Montana for 18 years.

Will enjoyed camping, cooking, and was an avid Detroit Lions Fan. He probably wouldn’t want you to know this, but he enjoyed watching the occasional Hallmark movie. He also liked to fish and hunt, and play cribbage with his late fathers-in-law. Will had a strong work ethic and a great sense of humor. He would enjoy teasing his grandchildren, always

asking them, "Do you know why I'm so good looking?" Will was a proud father to his three daughters, Karlie (Ranger) Leischner of Miles City, Montana, Katie (Ryan) Hemming of Bruce Crossing, and Cassandra (Jake) Petrowitz of Missoula, Montana. He had many memorable camping trips with his grandchildren, Ryley, Kayley, Keyley, Kyley, Zoey, Blaze, Lexie, Karrah, Avery, Jaxon and Kastyn.

Will was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Carl Nelson; and a sister, Cheryl Niemi. Will is survived by his wife, Kelly; his daughters, Karlie, Katie and Cassandra; his grandchildren; a sister, Margaret Niemi Tomich; a brother, Rob "Hippie" Nelson; numerous nieces and nephews; and his only son, his dog, Bogey.

Once you had met Will, you never forgot him. He had a keen sense of humor and a rare personality. Our hearts are broken, however we are grateful for every moment we shared with him. Will's life was not measured by the years he lived, but by the people he laughed with along the way. He leaves behind a family who loved him deeply, friends who will miss his humor and memories that will live on with every story told around the table.

Until we meet again.

The Celebration of Life is tentatively planned for Saturday, Sept. 5. Details will follow. Jerald Rocco, owner and manager of Lakeside Memorial Chapel Inc., in Wakefield, is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed online at lakesidememorialchapel.com.



William David "Dave" Applekamp, 73, of Topaz, passed away unexpectedly on July 7, 2026. Dave was born on April 9, 1953, to the late William and Anita (Swen) Applekamp. He attended Bergland High School and Gogebic Community College, earning post-secondary degrees in Building Trades in 1985 and Corrections in 1999. Dave began his career at Copper Range's White Pine Mine on October 28, 1971, where he worked in a variety of positions before transitioning to a career as a Correctional Officer at Ojibway Correctional Facility on March 6, 2000. He took great pride in his work throughout his career.

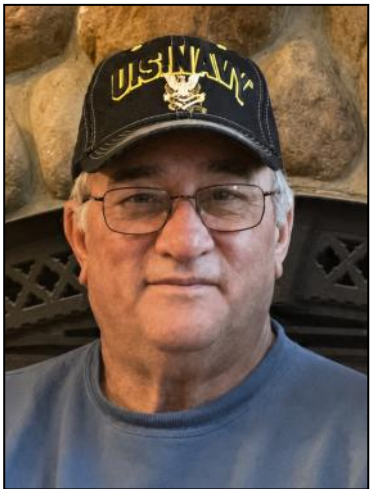
Dave is survived by his wife, Luanne Applekamp; his children, Kristie Applekamp and Greg (Mike) Applekamp; his stepchildren, Amanda (Adam) Axvig, Angela (Brenton) Gilbertson, and Andrew (Bryant) Giancola; his sister, Karla (Tim) Linna; his grandchildren, Destinee Rosemurgy, Nadia Rosemurgy, Jacob Rosemurgy, Claire Giancola, Hunter Bryant, Lilly Gilbertson, Axel Gilbertson, and Molly Axvig; his neph-

ews, Matt (Elise) Linna and Bryan Applekamp; his niece, Ashley (Jason) Krummel; and many other beloved family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, William "Bill" and Anita Applekamp; his brother, Fritz Applekamp; and his infant sister, Kelly Applekamp.

Dave made his home in Topaz, where he and his wife, Luanne, enjoyed camping in their RV, attending NASCAR and stock car races, dining out with friends, riding side-by-sides and trails, snowmobiling, and spending time with family and friends at camp. An avid outdoorsman, Dave was a skilled hunter who took pride in the many deer and other game he harvested over the years. He was also a talented tradesman with expertise in woodworking, electro-mechanical repair, plumbing, automotive repair, and many other trades. He was a trusted advisor to many and was always the first person friends and family called when they needed help with a repair or practical advice. Dave proudly passed along his "jack-of-all-trades" knowledge and repair techniques to the next generation of Applekamps. He could always be counted on for a good story, a hearty laugh, and a helping hand when it was needed most.

Dave was deeply loved and will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Funeral services were held at First Lutheran Church in Ewen on Sunday, July 26, at 3:00 p.m., with the Rev. Kay Richter officiating. A Celebration of Life immediately followed the service at the Bergland Bay Bar.

Tom Kniewel of Hildebrand Funeral Home & Cremation Specialists in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be sent to: Luanne Applekamp, P.O. Box 111, Bergland, MI 49910



Gary Allen Cronkright Jr., 67, of Iron River, Michigan, passed away unexpectedly on June 7, 2026, as the result of an automobile accident. Born and raised in Trout Creek, Gary built a life centered around service, hard work, family, and community. Throughout his life, he was known not only for his dedication to those around him, but also for the genuine kindness and friendship he extended to everyone fortunate enough to know him.

Gary graduated from Ewen-Trout Creek High School in 1976 and proudly served his country for many years. He served four years of active duty in the US Navy aboard the USS Dubuque (LPD-8), an experience that reflected his deep sense of duty and commitment. Following his service in the Navy, he earned a degree in diesel mechanics from Northern Michigan University.

Continuing his lifelong dedication to service, Gary went on to serve 20 years in the Army National Guard. His commitment to protecting and serving others also extended into his community, where he proudly dedicated 20 years to the West Iron County Fire Department. Over the years, Gary worked tirelessly in a variety of roles that allowed him to continue serving the communities he deeply cared about. He worked for the Village of Mineral Hills, the City of Iron River, and later the Iron County Road Commission, always earning the respect of coworkers and community members alike through his strong work ethic and willingness to help wherever needed. Above all else, Gary was a man who valued people. He had a remarkable ability to connect with everyone he met, leaving lasting impressions through his generosity, kindness, and welcoming nature. Whether family, friends, coworkers, or strangers, Gary made people feel seen, valued, and cared for. His presence brought comfort, laughter, and friendship to countless lives.

Gary leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish his memory. He especially adored his beloved cat, KiKi, whom he loved immensely. He was most proud of his children: son, Jason (Melissa) Cronkright; daughters, Michelle Guth (Dr. Rodney Swan) and Melissa Carter (Shawn Visintainer), all of Iron River; his beloved grandchildren, Jocelyn Guth (Dane Ponchaud), Jensen Guth, Jason Cronkright Jr., Madison Cronkright, Brianna Yackel, and Ella Carter; his sister, Wendy (Jim) Warnke of Bruce Crossing; his brother, Mitchell Cronkright of Gaastra; along with many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends. A special thank you goes to his daily coffee companions at Mr. T's Family Restaurant, whose friendship meant so much to him. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gary Cronkright and Virginia Kugler; his sister, Kathy Wonsey; his former wife and friend, Kathleen Cronkright; and his close friend, Larry Salmons.

A celebration of Gary’s life was held on June 27 at VFW Post 3134 in Iron River, followed by a

Arnie Edward Besonen, 81, of Port Austin, Michigan, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on April 2, 2026. He was born on May 17, 1944, in Lansing, to Arne and Kathleen (Puumala) Besonen. Arnie was proudly 100% Finnish and made sure everyone knew it. He was raised on a farm in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and graduated from Trout Creek High School. He went on to play football at Northern Michigan University, where he met the love of his life, Nadene Riehl. They were married on August 27, 1966.

Arnie earned a master's degree in education from Central Michigan University before beginning his teaching and coaching career in Deckerville. He later spent 30 years at Owendale-Gagetown High School, where he made his mark as a teacher and all-sports coach. He served as a past president of the MHSAA Football Coaches Association, coached the East Team in the Michigan High School All-Star Football Game, received multiple Coach of the Year honors, and was inducted into the MHSAA Football Coaches Hall of Fame. His Hall of Fame plaque is displayed at the University of Michigan's Michigan Stadium ("The Big House"), where he hoped it would remind others that even a small-town kid could achieve great success.

Even with his demanding career, Arnie found time to serve his community. He and Nadene were part-time EMTs, and he was a member of the Port Austin Village Council, Fire Board, Lions Club, American Legion Post 499, and Goodfellows. He also coached Little League and Babe Ruth baseball. If he wasn't serving his community, he could often be found operating his boom truck cutting trees during the day or "picking and grinning" on his guitar at night as a legendary member of The Lighthouse and other local bands. Retirement never slowed Arnie down. He continued working side jobs and especially enjoyed teaching his grandchildren to play guitar, drive tractors and cars (left-handed so they could hold their ice cream cones), and appreciate the traditions of deer camp in the Upper Peninsula.

Arnie was preceded in death by Nadene, his beloved wife of 57 years, and by his brothers, Jake and Dennis. He is survived by his three children and six grandchildren: Graham (Tammy) Besonen of Anoka, Minnesota, and their children, Andrew and Bennett; Sarah (Bjorn) Johnson of Fremont, and their children, Taava, Bjorn, and Sven; and Andrew (Christie) Besonen of Wales Township, Michigan, and his son, Gabriel. He is also survived by his brothers and sister, Stan Besonen, Donald Besonen, Darrell Besonen, Muriel (Russ) Kangas, Bryan (Carol) Besonen, and David (Jill) Besonen; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

A private family service is planned.

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AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD... BERGLAND, MERRIWEATHER, LAKE GOGEBIC AREA, WA-ME, MARENISCO, & WAKEFIELD



MARENISCO: The Lake Gogebic Fireflies Auxiliary is hosting its annual Firemen's Picnic on August 9. Attendees can enjoy a delicious grilled chicken and other activities while supporting the local fire department.

The Mich. Department of Transportation (MDOT) is investing about \$340,000 to resurface approximately 1.5 miles of M-64 from Sawmill Lane to US-2 in Marenisco. Work includes crack sealing, chip sealing, resurfacing, shoulder aggregate and pavement markings. The project is expected to complete around Aug. 28, 2026.

BERGLAND: An online auction to sell the Gogebic Lodge & Marine real estate, businesses and personal property was held in July.

The deteriorated streets in Bergland have been repaved this summer.

WAKEFIELD: Wakefield 50/50 Raffle Refunds—Approximately 8,220 tickets were accidentally left out of the Wakefield Fireworks Committee's July 4 raffle drawing. The original winning ticket will remain valid, but anyone holding an affected ticket is entitled to a full refund. A list of affected ticket numbers and refund hours will be published by the Committee. Refunds will be available Fridays at the Wakefield Municipal Building beginning July 17. The original ticket must be presented, and all refunds must be requested by September 15, 2026. Questions may be sent to the Wakefield Fireworks Committee through Facebook Messenger or wakefieldfire-works906@hotmail.com.

WATERSMEET: Township voters will see two proposals on the August 4 ballot. A proposed *Operating Millage Renewal* up to 3.5 mills, for 4 years, 2027-30, with funds used for general Watersmeet Township operating purposes—expected to raise ~\$703,826.46 in the first year. And, a *Watersmeet Township School District Operating Millage Proposal* to allow the school district to levy up to 18 mills, equal to \$18.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation, for 4 years, 2027 through 2030 inclusive. The tax would apply to all property except principal residences and other property exempted by law and is expected to raise ~\$2,779,784.00 in 2027.

AS HEARD FROM A LITTLE BIRD... WHITE PINE, GREEN, PORKIES, ONTONAGON



ONTONAGON: Ontonagon Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School Aug. 3-7.

The Ontonagon Theater of Performing Arts is hosting an outdoor summer concert series on these dates:

Fri., Aug 7 @ 6:30 PM - LIGHTNING RIDGE
Fri., Aug 21 @ 6:30 PM - JACK JOLLIFF & FRIENDS
Fri., Sept 4 @ 6:30 PM - CHAD BORGEN AND THE COLLECTIVE



PICTURED: Lori Miskovic with her \$11,783.50 prize from the 2026 Bruce Crossing Independence Day Celebration 50/50 Raffle. Lori is from Kenosha, WI and has been visiting her Haapala family in the Bruce Crossing area for over 60 years.

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(906) 884-4242

Lake Superior Sportsman's Club GUN RAFFLE FUNDRAISER now on sale!

*** \$5 per ticket ***

Drawing will be held
2pm on September 26, 2026.

Need not be present to win.

Tickets may be purchased onsite at the Porcupine Mountains Shooting Complex or call or text 906-399-8320.

Raffle proceeds benefit
Youth Hunter's Safety, other programs,
and facility operations.

LAKE SUPERIOR SPORTSMAN'S CLUB PORCUPINE MOUNTAINS SHOOTING COMPLEX

31433 State Highway M-64

10.9 miles west of Ontonagon ~ 1.7 miles east of Silver City



Non-members welcome!

- Six automated indoor lanes
- Outdoor rifle and pistol ranges
- Training & educational programs
- Conference room rentals
- Indoor range is ADA compliant
- Trap shooting May — October
- Indoor Range Hours
Thursdays 6 to 8PM
Saturdays Noon to 5PM
LakeSuperiorSportsmansClub.org