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Volume 130, No. 33

2 Sections, 12 pages

Manistique, Michigan

Thursday, December 27, 2007

75 cents



The folks at the Manistique Pamida store helped brighten up the hallways at the new Emerald Elementary School by providing this impressive Christmas tree at a greatly reduced price. Above: Just before Christmas vacation, third grade teacher Brenda Fleck and her students gathered around the tree with Elementary Principal Jason Lockwood. As an extra bonus for the community, the tree was easily visible through the school's tall second-story windows, providing a nice, glittery holiday sight for people passing by on Oak and Cattaraugus streets. (Pioneer-Tribune photo)

## Hospital sues over swing bed dispute

### Officials say new building and current facility both threatened by state action

By Paul Olson

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital filed suit against the state last week, seeking to resolve a dispute over the use of hospital swing beds. SMH officials say losing the case could bring a halt to their proposed building project and even jeopardize the existing hospital.

The suit was filed Thursday, Dec. 20, in U.S. District Court, by attorneys with Honigan Miller Schwartz and Cohn, a Detroit-based firm retained by the hospital in the case. It seeks to stop an enforcement action by the Michigan Department of Community Health that levies a \$500,000 fine against SMH and forces them to shut down their swing bed program until the money is paid.

Swing beds — used by patients awaiting transfer to the Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility or other long-term care sites — have been an important part of SMH operations since 2000, when the local health care provider was designated as a critical access hospital.

To achieve that designation, which allows full Medicare reimbursement for the actual costs of providing treatment, SMH was required to give up some of its in-patient beds. At the same time, however, they were allowed to designate 10 of those beds as swing beds.

The current dispute involves the length of time patients can remain in those beds before being transferred to long-term care.

According to the state cer-

tificate of need obtained for the swing beds and a rule enforced by the Department of Community Health's Bureau of Health Services (BHS), patients can stay no longer than five days. At that point, if space is available at the MCF or other nearby facility, they must be transferred.

Earlier this year, officials at the MCF filed a complaint with the state, alleging that the hospital was keeping patients longer than five days. The BHS conducted a review of swing bed use over a four-month period and found 196 patient days that were "inappropriately used."

SMH Chief Executive Officer Fred Makowski acknowledges that they frequently keep patients in swing beds longer than five days. In an interview last week, he said the average length of stay in an SMH swing bed is 13.5 days.

But Makowski also maintains that they are merely following the rules of the federal Medicare program — "the guys who pay the bills," he said.

He added that the issue affects not just SMH but potentially more than 30 other Michigan hospitals, including many in the Upper Peninsula, that provide swing bed care.

According to the federal law, patients must be discharged or an opening in long-term care and told that they can transfer if they wish. If the patient instead wants to remain in a swing bed, if there is a medical reason to do so, and if they don't fall under one of six exceptions, they can remain up to 100 days — 95 days longer than the state rule allows.

"There is a very clear conflict, an absolute conflict, between federal Medicare law and the state rules," Makowski said. "If a patient wants to stay, we have to honor that. If we don't, we are in violation of federal law."

He emphasized that point in a press release announcing last week's legal action.

"It's apparently the state's position that no consideration should be given to whether the patient's medical condition requires more comprehensive care than typically can be offered in a nursing home," the

statement said. "To the state, it's black and white — if there's a bed available, the patients must go, even if it's against their will and their best medical interests."

Discussing the case with the Pioneer-Tribune, Makowski elaborated on the reasons patients might require a longer swing bed stay. One of the main factors, he said, is if a need for additional rehabilitation.

He said providing necessary rehab services is essential for patients, and added that the ability to offer the right kind of rehab is a critical component in their efforts to attract an orthopedic surgeon to SMH.

"It's key to getting an orthopedist in the future," he said. "If a doctor is considering coming here, they want to know their patients can get the rehabilitation they need, not be transferred out in five days, in the middle of treatment."

The hospital's lawsuit also stresses that point, noting that doctors "commonly recommend that their patients remain in a swing bed program in excess of five days in order to obtain proper medical treatment," and stating, "blanket enforcement of the Five-Day Transfer Rule will adversely affect the ability of the hospital to attract and retain physicians because it will impermissibly abridge physician clinical discretion ..."

SMH maintains that it has done everything possible to resolve the conflict with the state.

According to the suit, they notified BHS of the conflict between the five-day rule and federal law, but the state rejected the claim and "did not even recognize the existence of the federal law or address the conflict."

Officials also participated in a conference with the state, attempting to explain why following the rule would place them in violation of Medicare law — again without success.

On Nov. 15, the state told the hospital that they would initiate an enforcement action.

## Committee hopes high as work continues on development of industrial park complex

By Paul Olson

Local officials think 2008 might finally be a year of progress in their long-running efforts to develop the city and county industrial parks. First, however, the county must come up with funding for the next phase of wetland mitigation work.

The goal of developing suitable sites for local industrial development goes back many years, with discussions taking place as long ago as the 1960s.

Over the years, the main focus for the city has been on their North Cedar Street industrial site, while county officials

hoped to develop their property on nearby Elm Street.

Only recently has the emphasis shifted from separate projects to a combined effort involving both parks and both local governments.

The change began in 2002, when the city, county and Schoolcraft County Economic Development Corporation partnered on a major state grant application, hoping to secure funding to improve industrial property and adjacent residential areas.

That grant was turned down, sending officials looking for other funding sources, a search

that led them to the United States Economic Development Administration.

While the USEDA was interested in the project, they advised local representatives to first come up with a comprehensive plan, covering everything from how industrial sites would be developed to how they would be marketed afterwards.

That led to yet another grant application, as the city, county and townships successfully teamed up to seek planning funds from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

The grant paid for a major study by the Anderson Economic Group of Lansing, covering not just industrial development but a range of other economic issues countywide.

In the wake of the study, a group called the LEAD (Leadership for Economic Action and Development) Committee was formed to work on implementing the Anderson Group's many recommendations. LEAD also developed four subcommittees, each charged with addressing one of the key study areas.

While LEAD is no longer active, several of the subcom-

mittees are still meeting regularly, including the industrial park committee made up of city, county and EDC representatives.

After several years marked by discussion, research, false starts and a handful of small victories, members of the industrial park committee say real progress is finally being made.

"This has been going on for a long time," says Schoolcraft County Clerk and committee member Dan McKinney. "Now, for the first time, I'm starting to get really excited. Everything's happening fast. It

looks like some of this is finally going to happen."

Among other things, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is still committed to spending \$750,000 next year to clean up the more serious environmental problems at the city's North Cedar site, including removing buried tanks and other containers, wood tar waste and highly contaminated soil.

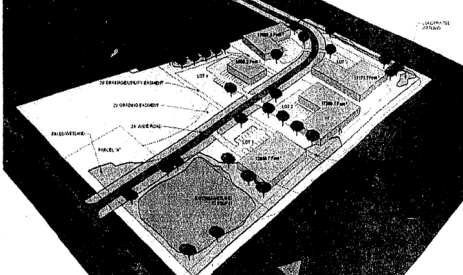
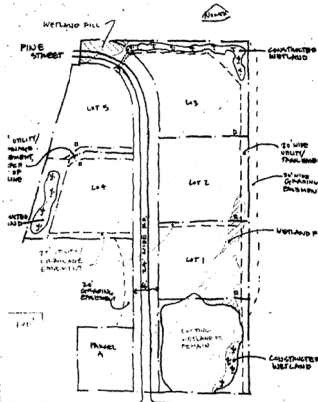
The DEQ had originally intended to do the project in 2006, but canceled the work due to a shortage of funds.

City Manager Sheila Aldrich, another member of the industrial park committee, said last week that the work is definitely slated for 2008, most likely getting underway in early May.

The DEQ has drawn up a plan, chosen a Houghton firm called Weston Solutions of Michigan to carry it out, and expects to submit the plan to the city in January.

Also next year, the city expects to finally use the \$32,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant which was awarded by USDA Rural Development in 2005 and has since been extended several times. Originally earmarked to run North Cedar Street into the industrial site, the money has since been shifted, with USDA approval, to upgrade Pine Street, on the park's southern boundary.

Development Continued A7



Artwork for the wetlands mitigation plan developed by U.P. Engineers and Architects for the city's portion of the proposed city-county Pine Elm Industrial Park. Left: Rough sketches showing the Elm Street site with protected wetlands areas, a road connecting to the Pine Street park, and five lots ready for developers. Above: A concept plan of what the finished park could look like some day, with full infrastructure and five completed buildings in place. Members of the joint industrial park committee are continuing to work on numerous aspects of the Pine Elm project, including the next phase of wetlands issues and three grant applications for the road and infrastructure.

## Edison to phase in rate increases

Edison Sault Electric Company customers will see their bills go up next year — but the increase won't be as high as it could have been. The company announced last week that it would defer the recovery of 2008 purchased power costs out of a three-year period.

The plan, submitted to the Michigan Public Service Commission, would phase in increases in the utility's Power Supply Cost Recovery (PSCR) factor over three years, as opposed to passing on all of the increases at one time.

The first phase of the increase will take effect with bills issued in January, followed by annual hikes the next two years to recover the remainder of the deferred costs.

The PSCR allows Edison Sault to pass through to its customers any increases or decreases in the cost of buying power supply from outside sources. It is a basic pass-

SMH suit Continued A8

Edison to phase in rate increases

through of purchased power costs and does not include any profit, margin, salary or other expenses.

In September, Edison Sault filed a forecast of its purchased power expenses for 2008 as part of the annual PSCR process.

The company's purchased power costs are projected to increase substantially next year, rising by 35 percent, primarily due to low volumes of water available for hydro generation, the expiration of favorably-priced wholesale contracts, and the recovery of under-collected of power supply costs from previous years.

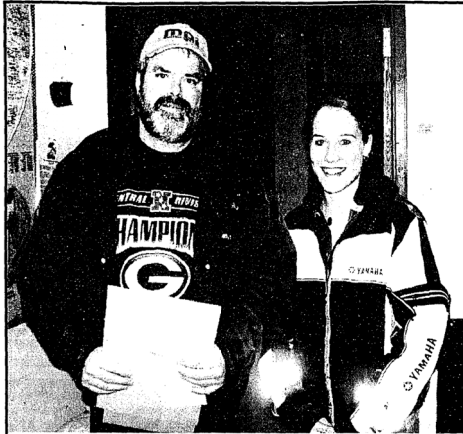
Under the PSCR plan as originally filed, residential customers could have seen increases in their bills in excess of 23 percent.

Rate hikes Continued A8









### Helping a friend ..

Students at the Manistique Middle and High School and the Emerald Elementary School have been working hard to help the family of a sick schoolmate. In just over a week, they raised \$2,700 for freshman Stacey Brock, who is currently a patient at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital at the University of Michigan, where she is awaiting an urgent liver transplant. In an effort coordinated by teacher Jane Bolm, MHS students Megan Syers, Megan Naylor and John Stevenson passed a water-cooler jug in classrooms and at an Emerald basketball game, collecting more than \$1,500 in contributions. Meanwhile, another \$1,200 was raised through other donations, including a "hat day" held at the elementary school. Above: Syers presents the proceeds to family representative Ray Jacobson, who said he was amazed at the support from the community and school. Because of her illness, Brock has been tutored at home since October and has been hospitalized since early December. The school donations will help her family with travel and hotel costs. (Submitted photo)



Lois A. Corcoran

(Send your comments to [corky@45net.us](mailto:corky@45net.us).)

## Keeping a sharp book out

This office enforces no dress code either. That means no more loitering in front of my closet with a dazed look on my face. Work days — and I use the term loosely — are more of a come-as-you-are.

And the bash starts whenever the door jingles. Readers make interesting acquaintances who share tidbits of this and that. Many who stroll in make their way to the parlor for a friendly chat and a cup of joe. Or is that a friendly joe...? Never mind.

So, in other words, that silly typo of mine came true: I found the "party-time" job I sought — at Frigate Books.

Oh, and regarding that "upwardly mobile" line? I meet that requisite at LEAST once a month. When I dust the bookshelves.

I needed a part-time job. Or "party-time," thanks to a typo I

made. Not just any gig would do though.

Over the past three decades, I assumed every role but candlestick maker. Having been around the block, so to speak, I felt a deep need to be choosy this time out. So I carefully worded the objective on my resume:

"Upwardly mobile type seeks work that employs my skills in a pleasant atmosphere."

And with that line of drivel, I landed the ultimate dream job.

For almost two years, I've haunted Frigate Books in Gladstone, a store nearly bursting with my favorite time passers. Specializing in used books, its stock of new reads and old classics continually changes. Hence, my frequent visits.

Only NOW I get paid for it.

True, I'm expected to carry out a few rather exhausting duties — like plugging in the "Open" sign and flipping on the lights. But what atmosphere could be more pleasant than sitting amid a sea of books? The urge to read them all is overwhelming and I have a devil of a time choosing.

No surprise, then, that selling them causes mixed feelings. The smile I greet customers with turns to a grimace when I must hand over the goods, and a bit of a struggle ensues. Gradually, though, I'm shedding that "mine, all mine" attitude.

Often, patrons bring in boxes of books for which they earn a generous credit. It feels like Christmas as I scan each cover — for pricing purposes only, mind you. And, naturally, I get first dibs on incoming volumes.

"This is a major step forward to completing this complex, multi-year project," said Helen Taylor, state director for The Nature Conservancy in Michigan. "The leadership of Senators Levin and Stabenow and Congressman Bart Stupak was essential to ensuring that this precious landscape will continue to thrive and provide numerous benefits to U.P. communities as well as our state's economy."

## Nature Conservancy and lawmakers applaud funding for U.P. land project

The Nature Conservancy is applauding "last week's" action by the U.S. Congress to fund the Northern Great Lakes Forest Project with \$2 million in the omnibus budget bill for fiscal year 2008.

The Michigan chapter of the organization, Gov. Jennifer Granholm and state agency representatives announced in January 2005 that an agreement had been reached with the Forestland Group to protect more than 271,000 acres of Upper Peninsula land through a working forest easement on 248,000 acres and acquisition of another 23,338 acres.

The parcels stretch over eight counties, from Chippewa to Ontonagon, and link more than two million acres of protected federal, state and natural areas across the U.P. The Forestland Group was the successful bidder on the land in a 2002 auction conducted by its former owner, the Kamehameha Schools of Hawaii.

"The appropriation in the budget bill is part of the federal government's \$10 million pledge to help fund the \$58 million project. Michigan's Natural Resources Trust Fund has already appropriated \$16 million, with the remaining money coming from private sources, primarily philanthropic donations.

U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow said the project will protect the state's natural heritage and jobs across the region.

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin agreed,



### Helping the community ...

St. Francis de Sales Catholic School has chosen "Let Our Light Shine" as their theme for the 2007-2008 school year. Recently, the students did just that for a local charity organization. Students in the third and fourth grades constructed gingerbread houses to sell in a silent auction at this year's Christmas program, and their artistic talents enabled them to raise over \$500. They recently presented checks to Bonnie Garvin, who received the proceeds on behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Garvin said they appreciated the generosity of the students, and will use the funds to continue their ongoing services to area residents. (Pioneer-Tribune photo)



Christopher M. Trebilcock and Susan E. Duerr

## Trebilcock and Duerr announce wedding plans

Christopher M. Trebilcock and Susan E. Duerr, together with their parents, announce their engagement. The couple will marry on June 7, 2008, at Castle Farms in Charlevoix, Mich. He is an attorney in the Detroit office of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone. He is the son of Leanne C. Trebilcock of Owosso, Mich. and the late Frank B. Senger.

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**MOVIE Guide**

Shown Fri-Thurs 7:15 p.m.

**Alvin and the Chipmunks**  
RATED PG  
Running time: NA  
Three chipmunk brothers, Alvin, Simon, and Theodore are adopted by a man named Dave.

Shown Fri-Thurs 7 pm.

**National Treasure: Book of Secrets**  
RATED PG  
Running time: NA  
Treasure hunter Benjamin Franklin Gates looks to discover the truth behind the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, by uncovering the mystery within the 18 pages missing from assassin John Wilkes Booth's diary.

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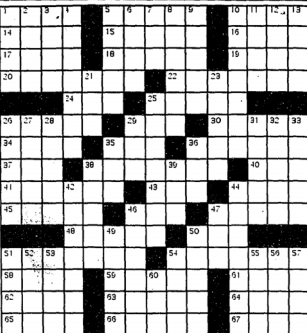
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Thursday, December 27, 2007

- ACROSS 1 Word with eye or whip... 50 'The Boy King'... 51 Spray... 52 Prolonged attack... 53 Title for 'The Thin Man'... 54 Title for 'Rabbit'... 55 1 of the 3 Musketeers... 56 '...and giving...'... 57 '...chimney...'... 58 Shopper's delight... 59 Common spots for tears... 60 Doubled... 61 OCII... 62 65 Consumes... 63 Erie or Huron... 64 From Nevada to Utah... 65 Scott... 66 Walling... 67 Alternatives... 68 Male eyelid... 69 Holiday beverage... 70 Verd's specialties... 71 Misrepresent... 72 Deposed... 73 Mechanical method... 74 Pole... 75 Kept out of sight... 76 Boxed... 77 Nut... 78 Indication... 79 Pain... 80 Bristlelike fiber... 81 Measure a suit... 82 Russian... 83 Phoebe... 84 'Marc'... 85 Beginning... 86 Chair... 87 Little Latinos... 88 '...on'... 89 Encouraged... 90 Cup: Fr... 91 Completed... 92 Asiam silkworm... 93 Pastimes... 94 Weapon... 95 5/2 = one... half... 96 Heegan & Clinton... 97 Review a manuscript... 98 Seashore... 99 60s, in Japan... 100 Cup: Fr... 101 Completed... 102 Asiam silkworm... 103 Pastimes... 104 Weapon... 105 5/2 = one... half... 106 Heegan & Clinton... 107 Review a manuscript... 108 Seashore... 109 60s, in Japan...



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Answers for Dec 27 puzzles on Page 3B. Includes a 4x4 grid and a 9x9 Sudoku grid.

SUDOKU. Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills. The object of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers.

DOUBLE TAKE. By Mark Szorady. A cartoon illustration of a man at a computer screen.

OH BOY! IT'S CHRISTMAS VACATION! A cartoon illustration of a family on vacation.

HOROSCOPES Dec. 31 - Jan. 6. Your Horoscope by Charles Cooper. ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're on the move...

ROARING TWENTIES. In the grid below, twenty words can be found that fit the category for today. Circle each word that you find...

BLAKEERIFASW... A word search grid with a list of words to find.

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Development Continued from A1

In the meantime, the project partners are working simultaneously on three additional grant applications, beginning with a "Category A" grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation. Initial paperwork for that grant was approved, and the full application must now be submitted by Jan. 15.

Also in the works is another Rural Business Enterprise Grant from USDA, which would help provide matching funds for the MDOT grant. A pre-application for that grant will go before the County Board of Commissioners at their meeting tonight (Thursday).

Finally, officials are getting ready to apply for a Community Development Block Grant which could eventually pay for utilities and infrastructure throughout the parks.

Committee members note that their overall focus has changed dramatically from the original goal of developing two separate industrial parks. It is even different than the revised idea of developing the sites and linking them through a common road.

Now, the various projects have all come together under a single umbrella, which has been appropriately given a new name - not the city's Pine Street Park nor the county's Elm Street Park but a combined "Pine Elm Industrial Park."

Accordingly, the groups and agencies involved in the effort have also expanded to include the city, county, EDC, Schoolcraft County Brownfield Authority, the Michigan EDC, the Central Upper Peninsula Planning and Development (CUP-PAD) Regional Commission, the Michigan Association of Counties and the Michigan Department of Corrections.

The addition of the Corrections Department to the list represents one of the biggest changes to the project, necessitated by this fall's closure of the Camp Manistique Correctional Facility.

While state and local officials await a study examining the idea of multi-county regional jails, either at Camp Manistique or elsewhere in the Upper Peninsula, other signs point to possible private-sector uses for the former Schoolcraft County prison facility.

According to industrial park committee member Laurie Jasmin, manager of the county EDC, a number of businesses have already inquired about the 30-acre prison site.

January 1, 2008. All properties owned and leased by SMH will be tobacco free! Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital.

Canadian National Railway will be willing to construct a spur from their adjacent tracks into the site, which would be another key ingredient. But clearly, access would also be needed for cars and trucks.

"If we're looking at a new business at the prison, you have the problem of how to get a road to them," Aldrich says. "We looked at an extension of Pine Street and we looked at a road going through the county property and running back to the prison. The best idea is to do both. That way, you can come and go from either direction and travel all the way through the area."

Before roads could be built or any improvements take place, the county needs to resolve yet another long-standing issue on its Elm Street property: making up for wetlands that would be lost through development.

Local officials have been working with U.P. Engineers and Architects to create a wetlands mitigation plan, and funding is now needed to move that plan to phase two.

The DEQ requires mitigation to take place at a 2:1 ratio, creating two acres of new wetlands for every one filled and developed.

According to the U.P. Engineers' proposal, that would be accomplished in this case using county-owned property in an adjacent area.

The firm says that 1.8 acres, or 78,513 square feet of the county site is regulated wetland. Of that, about 60 percent would be maintained in the southeast corner of the property. As part of the overall landscape development and storm-water management plan, another 11,800 square feet of wetlands would be constructed.

However, developing the property for businesses would require 34,546 square feet of wetlands to be filled.

To make up for that, mitigation would be carried out on a plot of land along Weston Avenue, just across the Manistique River on the city's west side.

Among other things, the work would include removing fill around the perimeter of an existing wetland. Clean sand removed from the site would then be used as fill material at the industrial park, potentially lowering the costs of that project.

At the board's December meeting, Chairman Keith Aldrich said they'd been saving money in the industrial park account for matching future grants, but also suggested that using it might be one of the only ways to pay for wetlands work.

Options could include taking the \$17,800 from the county's delinquent tax revolving fund - something commissioners have been increasingly reluctant to do - or using money that has been restricted in the industrial park fund.

At the board's December meeting, Chairman Keith Aldrich said they'd been saving money in the industrial park account for matching future grants, but also suggested that using it might be one of the only ways to pay for wetlands work.

McKinney pointed out that all their future plans for roads, utilities and development cannot move forward without the wetlands mitigation.

"Getting that \$17,000 for the wetlands is the next step. It's essential. Nothing else happens without it," he said.

Looking ahead, industrial park committee members expect to know the fate of their three grant applications this spring.

As is often the case with economic development funding, receipt of the grants hinges on one central element: the creation of new jobs.

Aldrich says the recent enthusiasm shown by state agencies is mainly due to private-sector interest in the prison property and the prospect of creating new jobs through development there.

At the same time, Online Engineering hopes to expand, perhaps opening up 10 to 15 positions for highly-skilled workers, and Manistique Machine may also create several new jobs.

"That's what it all comes down to," Aldrich says. "These are job-creation grants. If a business doesn't go in at the prison, we don't have job creation and the whole thing could fall apart. But if we get a business there, and if these other jobs come through, I think all of this will start coming together very fast."

The Thompson Historical Advisory Committee would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following businesses, organizations and individuals for helping us bring The Christmas Schooner museum to Manistique.

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SMH suit

Continued from A1

"purportedly based on guidance by the Office of the Attorney General," the suit says. The hospital says that action including the half-million dollar fine and shutdown of the swing bed program will lead to a number of short- and long-term effects, and that SMH would be "irreparably damaged."

Makowski said the most immediate result would be the end of their seven-year project to build a new \$35 million health care facility.

In order to obtain financing for that project, SMH has applied to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for a 100-percent loan guarantee. That approval, originally expected several months ago, is now on hold until the hospital can certify that they have no outstanding financial concerns.

There is no way they can do that until the swing bed dispute is settled, Makowski said.

"We've asked the court to resolve this in a speedy manner," he stated. "If it doesn't happen within 30 days, then we're perilously close, if not over the line of HUD's pa-

Rate hikes

Continued from A1

With the deferral plan, residential and commercial customers will instead see 2008 utility costs going up about nine percent.

For a residential customer using 750 kilowatt-hours a month, the bill will increase from \$63.06 to \$68.64.

Edison Sault normally uses low-cost hydro generation to produce about 40 percent of the electricity it sells. The remaining 60 percent must be bought, at a higher cost, from outside sources.

Due to lower lake levels, which translate to lower volumes of available water, Edison Sault expects that hydro generation could make up only 20 percent of its electricity sources in 2008. That would mark a 50 percent decrease in hydro generation compared to having full water available for generation.

Water levels on Lake Superior reached an all-time recorded low for the month of September. Edison Sault says Water supplies have improved slightly since that time, but the lake's elevation is still well below its long-term average.

If water levels on Lake Superior return to normal, the scheduled future increases in Edison's PSCR deferral plan would be reduced.

According to the company, another major reason for the increase in is the substantially increased cost for outside power purchases in 2008. One of Edison's favorably-

perhaps as early as 2010," the suit says. For that reason, Makowski describes the case as "a fight for our survival."

If the hospital were to shut down some day, he says, the area would lose an institution that employs 225 people and has an annual payroll over \$12 million.

In last week's press release, Makowski said, "Schoolcraft County would lose its largest employer, hundreds of con-

struction jobs would not materialize, and patients would be forced to seek emergency and other care at hospitals literally counties away."

The suit seeks a number of remedies, including a judgment that the state cannot enforce its five-day rule in such a way that hospitals are required to violate Medicare law.

Specifically, it asks for a temporary restraining order against the enforcement, seeks a preliminary or permanent

injunction, and requests a declaratory judgment stating that the five-day rule cannot be enforced against hospitals in the federal Medicare program, "because such enforcement, to the extent that it requires involuntary transfer of patients from the hospitals to a skilled nursing facility over their objection, is a violation of federal law and therefore invalid under the doctrine of federal preemption."

The case is expected to be heard by the federal court in January, either in Marquette or Grand Rapids.

Makowski said he's disappointed with the way the case began, with the complaint from the MCF.

In an interview with the Pioneer-Tribune last month, MCF Administrator Ruth MacAlpine said they had merely reported a "clear violation" of state rules and needed to protect their interests.

"If we have available beds and the hospital is keeping patients longer than they should be, that's an issue, as far as we're concerned," she said.

But Makowski describes it as "the community turning on itself."

"The real horror of this thing is that the community did this, we did it to ourselves, with one governmental agency turning another," he said.

He's likewise disappointed with the state's unwillingness to resolve the matter.

"They could have taken care of it," he said. "They understand our position. They understand that Medicare operates differently in every other region in the country. But they chose not to make a decision. They said 'we want it resolved, too, but we'll hold off and let the courts decide.' To me, that's a bit Mickey Mouse. They forced our hand, and now we have to fight this. We will do what we have to do."

NOTICE OF SHOW CAUSE HEARING AND JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE HEARING NON-PAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES

On March 1, 2007 real estate with unpaid 2005 and/or prior years property taxes was forfeited to the Schoolcraft County Treasurer pursuant to the General Property Tax Act, Public Act 206 of 1893, PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.157, as amended.

The Schoolcraft County Treasurer is acting as the Foreclosing Governmental Unit in proceedings to foreclose on this property for unpaid property taxes.

There are two hearings scheduled to finalize the foreclosure process. This publication is intended to provide additional notice to parties of interest in these parcels as to the nature, time, and location of these hearings.

A Show Cause Hearing is scheduled for 9:00am-12:00pm, January 24, 2008 at Treasurer's Office, 300 Walton St, Room 169, Manistique, MI 49854.

Any person with an interest in the property forfeited to the County Treasurer may appear at the show cause hearing and redeem that property or show cause why absolute title to that property should not vest in the Foreclosing Governmental Unit.

A Judicial Foreclosure Hearing is scheduled for 10:30am, February 7, 2008 at the Circuit Courtroom, Courthouse, 300 Walton St, Manistique, MI 49854.

At this hearing the Foreclosing Governmental Unit shall ask that the court enter a judgment foreclosing the property as requested in the petition for foreclosure. A person claiming an interest in a parcel of property set forth in the petition for foreclosure, who desires to contest that petition, must file written objections with the clerk of the circuit court and serve those objections on the Schoolcraft County Treasurer, the Foreclosing Governmental Unit. The docket number of the petition is 07-3934-CZ.

If you are a person with an interest in property being foreclosed:

- You have the right to redeem this parcel from the foreclosure process by payment of all forfeited unpaid taxes, interest, penalties, and fees prior to the expiration of the redemption period. You should contact the Schoolcraft County Treasurer for the amount required to redeem.
You may lose your interest in the property as a result of the foreclosure proceeding.
The title to the property shall vest absolutely in the Foreclosing Governmental Unit unless all forfeited unpaid delinquent taxes, interest, penalties, and fees are paid by March 31, 2008.

PLEASE NOTE:

The following list represents parties that appear to have title, lien, or other apparent rights to the parcels being foreclosed by the Foreclosing Governmental Unit.

This notice is required to be given by law, even if the party no longer claims or desires an interest if it appears they hold any undischarged, apparent, or potential title or lien right to the property.

Listing of a party does NOT necessarily indicate that they are the owner of a parcel, or that they are liable for the property taxes.

This list is NOT an offering of property for sale. These parcels are NOT being sold, auctioned, or otherwise made available by virtue of this notice.

There is no procedure for purchasing these parcels from the Foreclosing Governmental Unit at this point in the foreclosure proceedings. Those parcels that are foreclosed and not redeemed may become available at public auction in or after July of 2008. These parcels remain the property of their current owner until redemption rights have expired. No party should make any attempt to inspect or enter upon these parcels assuming them to be for sale until the final list of foreclosed parcels is determined and offered at auction in summer, 2008. Most of these parcels will be redeemed from foreclosure. Entering upon them or contacting current property owners may constitute trespassing or undesired solicitation and may subject the offender to criminal prosecution. The street address of the parcels listed is based on local records and is not guaranteed to be the actual location of the property.

The amount due listed indicates the balance which was due as of forfeiture on March 1, 2007. The current amount required to redeem must be obtained from the Schoolcraft County Treasurer, as additional penalties, fees, and interest have accrued since forfeiture.

Table with 6 columns: Name, Parcel #, Amount, Name, Parcel #, Amount. Lists various property owners and their associated parcels and amounts.

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Thursday, December 27, 2007



Above: Kim Vallier splits two Newberry defenders and goes up for two of her 20 points in the Emerald's 20 point victory over the Newberry Indians at home Friday night. Below: After picking off a pass, Bailee Lawrence drives the length of the court and scores in first half action Friday night. Lawrence finished the night with 11 points and seven assists. (Pioneer-Tribune photos)



## Girls overcome tentative start to beat the Indians

The Lady Emeralds gave coach Lauri Ashbrook an early Christmas present, wrapping up a 64-42 non-conference win over the visiting Indians from Newberry last Friday.

Out of sync and playing tentative ball in the first half, the Emeralds took advantage of their size to open things up after intermission, outscoring Newberry 43-24 in the final 16 minutes of play.

"In the second half, we really worked on getting the ball into Kayla [LaMuth] at the post, where she took advantage of her height to score," Ashbrook said.

LaMuth finished the night one better than her goal, scoring 19 points.

Leading 6-2 off a basket by Melanie Neddow, the Emeralds slid, committing costly turnovers, and soon trailed 12-8 late in the opener. But back-back baskets by Bailee

Lawrence evened the score as the quarter came to an end.

The Emeralds were down by one when Jessica Neddow hit a triple to put them back on top, and from that point, the Indians were no match for Manistique, which dominated play on both ends of the court.

Holding a three-point advantage at the half, Manistique doubled its lead when Kim Vallier scored early in the third.

Vallier finished the night with 20 points.

The Emeralds pushed their lead to 12 (36-24) when LaMuth hit two, was fouled, and scored again from the free throw line.

With just two to her credit in the first half, LaMuth notched 11 in the third.

Manistique added 24 points in the final eight minutes of play.

Efforts by the Indians to shut down LaMuth at the post

opened things up for Vallier, allowing her to score 13 points in the fourth quarter.

Manistique stretched its lead to 20 when Lawrence scored her 11th point late in the contest.

While LaMuth and Vallier put a lot of points on the board, Ashbrook credits the first-half turnaround to Lawrence.

"Bailee had six of her 11 points in the first half and added seven assists," the coach said. "She kept her composure and gave us a lot of good looks to help us out of our first half struggles."

The Emeralds shot 26 of 46 from the field and out-rebounded the Indians 33-23. LaMuth and Mel Neddow had nine boards each.

The Emeralds will host Negaunee Miners this Friday.

Scoring: Vallier 20, LaMuth 19, Lawrence 11, M. Neddow seven, Alison Cook 4, J. Neddow 3.

# Emeralds face frustrations in loss

What started out looking like a cakewalk ended in a one-point loss for the Manistique Emeralds varsity basketball team last Thursday night. The Emeralds hit the court, made it look easy at the start, quickly fell behind, then managed to dig themselves out of a huge hole — but in the end suffered a 56-55 non-conference loss to the visiting Braves from Gladstone.

With the call from their coach to score, the Emeralds' three captains (Corey Gonyea, Cody Kangas and Josh Mickelson) each talked one before the Braves found the net in the opening minutes of the contest.

His team down by six, Glad-

stone's Andy Lauscher evened the mark when he scored his sixth point of the night at 4:23 mark in the period.

From there, the Emeralds jumped out to a 14-7 lead as Jared Turan hit his first bucket of the night late in the period.

The Braves' Kyle Jensen hit a triple, took advantage of an Emerald turnover and scored from just inside the arc to narrow the gap to one (14-13) at the end of the quarter.

Four points by Josh Mickelson summed up the Emeralds' offensive effort in the second. Meanwhile, the Braves added 19 to their point total, including nine from three-point range, to control a 32-18 lead at the half.

Down by 14, the Emeralds managed to cut their deficit in half (34-27) when Gonyea hit from three-point range midway through the third quarter.

Despite several calls against them, the Emeralds showed a lot of composure and pulled within two when Gonyea hit his second triple of the third quarter with 41 seconds left in the frame.

Trailing throughout the second and third quarters, the Emeralds retook the lead at the 4:51 mark in the fourth when Kangas scored his final points of the night.

Trading baskets with the Braves, Manistique hammered out a 51-49 advantage when Scott Giles scored with 1:17

left in the game.

Still up by two with 20 seconds remaining, the Emeralds had the opportunity to put it away when Kangas drove from the baseline and scored. But the senior was called for charging.

The noise meter at local station WTIQ spiked with that call, as Kangas fouled out after recording an almost unheard of four offensive fouls in one game.

As Kangas went to the bench, the Braves' Andy Cretens hit the back end of a pair from the line, cutting the margin to one.

Close games are hard to win when calls don't go your way, and the Emeralds had two go against them in the final sec-

onds of the game.

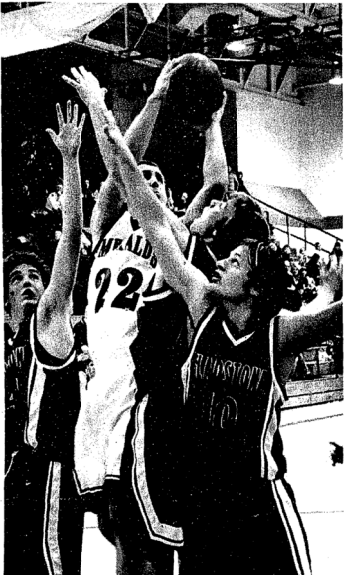
With the Braves still trailing with 18 points in the loss, Cody Kangas added 12, Gonyea 10, Giles eight, Terry Martin four, Turan two, Garde Kangas one.

Manistique will travel to Negaunee tonight (Thursday) for their annual Christmas vacation battle with their conference foes, the Miners.

The Emerald junior varsity also lost its game against Gladstone, dropping a 70-45 decision.



Above left: With 40 seconds left and the score tied at 53 in last Friday's varsity basketball game against Gladstone, Josh Mickelson put the Emeralds up by two with this shot. Manistique was unable to maintain the advantage and went on to lose the game. Mickelson scored 18 points in the 56-55 loss to the Braves. Above right: Before fouling out of the game, Cody Kangas got off this shot under heavy pressure from Gladstone. Despite picking up a very unusual four offensive fouls, Kangas still managed to notch 12 points in the game. (Pioneer-Tribune photos)



## Fundamentals the focus of new K-6 basketball program at MAS

Early in the new year, the Manistique Area Schools will kick off a brand new coed basketball program for elementary and early middle school students. The program is set to begin Monday, Jan. 7, and run through Feb. 23.

According to elementary physical education teacher Chris Marana, who is serving as coordinator, player sign-ups were recently held for the program, which grew out of meetings in early December that involved a dozen coaches, parents and school staff.

Open to boys and girls in grades 4-6, the goal of the program is to teach the fundamentals of the game. Practices will focus on teaching basic basketball skills, while games will give players the chance to im-

plement what they have learned.

Fourth and fifth grade students will have one practice per week at Emerald Elementary School, beginning right after school and lasting for about an hour.

Sixth grade boys and girls will have two hour-long practices a week, also held at Emerald Elementary and beginning at 3:45 p.m.

All practices will consist of players working together as a group, not divided into teams. The students will be given different-colored T-shirts to denote their various teams, but those teams will only be in effect for games.

The games will be played at Manistique High School on Saturday mornings, between 9 a.m. and noon.

Emerald varsity basketball players will be helping out with the games, serving as officials, running the scoring and handling other duties. Marana is also seeking some volunteer parent help for the program.

All students who show up regularly for practice sessions, have a positive attitude and work hard can expect to receive a fair amount of playing time, Marana says.

The cost of the program is \$30 per student, which includes the Manistique Youth Basketball T-shirt.

For more information, contact Marana at Emerald Elementary after the Christmas break. He can be reached at 341-4332, ext. 518.

## Carney-Nadeau tourney set

The 26th annual Carney-Nadeau Invitational Basketball Tournament will be held Jan. 11, 12 and 13 at the Carney-Nadeau High School Gym.

The event will once again feature four men's classes: B, C, D and E. In addition, there will be a 35 and Older division. Participants are allowed to play in more than one class. Placement in classes B and C will be determined by a first-round game. The winner will go to B and the loser will go to C. Each team in those classes will be guaranteed two games. Classes D and E will be determined by roster, league standing and past performance.

The winning teams will be awarded a trophy and 10 individual T-shirt awards. Second-place finishers will receive a team trophy. An M.V.P. award will also be given in each class.

The entry fee is \$80. Fees and rosters should be sent to: Paul Polfus, Box 55, Carney, MI 49812. Registrations can also be phoned to (906) 639-2866. The entry deadline is Sunday, Jan. 6.

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# Midgets 2-2 in busy weekend on ice

The Manistique Papers-Hoholik's Ace Hardware midget BB hockey team split games at home and away over the weekend to improve their season record to 6-3-1.

On the ice at Little Bear West Saturday, Manistique jumped out to 3-0 lead before Munising Timber Products found the net in the first period of game one.

James Rumlill took a feed from Andrew Ronquist and Joe DeLisle to put Manistique on the board just 10 clicks into the period. With assists from Tyler Glascock, Ronquist and Rick Matson, each scored to give Manistique the three-point edge.

Andrew LaCombe cut the margin to two when he picked up a loose puck and scored Munising's lone goal at the 1:44 mark in the period. James Katalin and Joe Deyo were credited with the assists.

The game came down to a defensive struggle in the second and third periods. Matson added his second goal of the day late in the second.

Ronquist recorded a hat trick and sealed the 6-1 win with two goals within a minute of each other midway through the third period. Matson and Jake Champagne got the assist on the first goal by Ronquist, Ryan Nagy the second.

Brad Hoholik was in the net



Forced out of the net, Manistique's goalie Brad Hoholik knocks the puck out of play while defenseman Garret Prater flies over Munising's Kyle Barr in game one of the double header at Little Bear West Arena Saturday. Manistique split with Munising, taking the first game 6-1 and dropping the second 5-3. (Pioneer-Tribune photos)

for Manistique. Munising started and finished strong in game two, recording a 5-3 victory.

The visitors went up 2-0 in the first period off goals by Eric Brock and LaCombe.

Manistique evened the mark with goals by Glascock and Rumlill in the second.

Manistique was outscored 3-1 in the final 13 minutes of play. Glascock got the lone goal for Manistique. Ryan

Kobus scored once, Katalin twice for Munising. Brandon Johnson was in the net for Manistique.

Shorthanded and injured, Manistique headed to Marquette Sunday, took a 2-1 win

in game one, but suffered a 3-2 defeat to Iron Range in the second contest.

"We went up there missing one [Glascock] and had a couple hurt, but we played two very solid games," coach Bill Hoholik said. "With Tyler not there, Joe [DeLisle] really put on a show. Whether he was taking off on a breakaway or coming out of a pile of three with the puck, the man just does not stop skating. We have a lot of talent on this team, but I just can't say enough about Joe. He is a pleasure to watch."

After skating through a scoreless first period, Manistique nabbed a 1-0 lead when DeLisle scored unassisted in the second.

Tied at one, Manistique got the win when Tyler Monroe tallied off an assist from DeLisle and Garret Prater in the third.

Facing a 1-1 score early in game two, Manistique went ahead 2-1 in the second period but gave up two unanswered goals in the third on their way to the loss.

Ronquist and Prater scored for Manistique. Hoholik tended goal in both contests.

Manistique will take on Marquette this Saturday, with the puck set to drop at 2:30 and 5:30 p.m.



THE FLOWER OF THE HOLY NIGHT



Many local residents had full calendars the past several weeks, with Christmas concerts and programs taking place from one end of the community to the other. Above: The four-year-old class at St. Francis de Sales performs during their recital as members of the three-year-old class sit patiently in front. Left: Mike Lettman, Casey Hook and Scott St. John perform during the Manistique High School Band's annual Christmas concert. (Pioneer-Tribune photos)

## MMA announces winners of final Christmas Cash drawing for 2007

The Manistique Merchants Association has announced the winners in its final Christmas Cash drawing for 2007.

The winners were:  
\$50 Emeric Bosanic Sr. (Save-A-Lot), Len LaFleur (Jack's SuperValu).

\$25 Donna Winters (Petique), Dorothy Brandstrom (Pioneer-Tribune), Bette Hough (Limestone Federal Credit Union), Helen Lyngs (Manistique Oil Co.)  
\$10 Nona Sundin (Pamida),

Susan Krummich (Manistique Federal Credit Union), Roma Cayia (Peoples Store), Phyllis Burge (Purvin Health Mart), Michelle Allstead (Wells Fargo Bank).  
Winners may pick up their MMA gift certificates at the Peoples Store.

## JV wins again, overpowers Newberry to take 7-1 record

The Lady Emeralds junior varsity owns a 7-1 record after beating their latest victims last Friday night. With three players in double figures, Manistique cruised past the Newberry Indians 59-35.

The Emeralds jumped out to a 20-11 lead in the first quarter, and shut down the Indians in the second, pushing their advantage to 21 (39-18) at the half.

Newberry managed to cut the deficit to 15 early in the third before Ashley Henry hit a triple to take the Emeralds' margin back to 18.

Despite scoring just seven points in the third, the Emeralds held a 16-point lead heading into the final quarter.

A basket by Marcy Hoholik sent the Emeralds on a 10-0 run early in the last eight minutes of play.

Hoholik's final basket of the night increased the Emerald advantage to 26 (56-30) with

4:42 to play in the non-conference match-up.

"We got off to another quick start, shot the ball pretty well, and were able to get some good looks inside the post," coach Craig Heper said.

Manistique was 23 of 55 from the floor, including three from three-point range, and sank 10 of 16 from the free throw line.

Abby Wood led the Emeralds with 16 points. Emily Heper added 12, Hoholik 11, Carley Kangas eight, Henry seven, Chantal Albright and Kim Schuetter two points each, Brandy Gould one.

Heper led the Emeralds in rebounds with 10.

The Emeralds will host the Negaunee Miners Friday.



Chantal Aldright puts up a shot from outside in last Friday's junior varsity victory over Newberry. (Pioneer-Tribune photo)

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NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of certain mortgage made by JAMES W. BOYD and JUDITH A. BOYD, Husband and Wife, hereinafter called Mortgagors, to NORTH COUNTRY BANK & TRUST, N/A mbank, a Michigan banking corporation, of 130 S. Cedar Street, Manistiquette, MI 49854, dated January 19, 1998, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Schoolcraft, State of Michigan, on January 15, 1998, in Liber 125 of Mortgages, Page 573, in which there is claimed to be due, as of November 29, 2007, the principal sum of Twenty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty and 22/100ths Dollars (\$28,701.22), and also late charges in the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred Forty-three and 45/100ths Dollars (\$1,243.43), for a total of Twenty-nine Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-four and 65/100ths Dollars (\$29,944.65), plus

LEGAL NOTICE

interest at the rate of 8.55% per annum, and no suit or proceeding has at law or in equity been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of January, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale to be held by the State of Michigan at the Public Sale Building, 220 W. Main Street, in the City of Manistiquette, Michigan, at the place of holding the circuit court within the county in which the premises to be sold are situated, in said mortgage, or as much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amounts due, as aforesaid, on said mortgage, with the interest thereon, and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including but not limited to fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be payable by the undersigned necessary to pay the interest in the premises.

Said premises are described in the mortgage as follows: Part of the Southeast Quarter

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MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Nicole M. Calkins and Married Woman, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successor.

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Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Schoolcraft County, Michigan, at 10:00 AM, on January 25, 2008.

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PROPERTY FOR SALE

Three building sites, 2 miles from city limits on Swanton (paved) Road, in Hawatha Township, in county setting neighborhood. A 20 acre (partial) (95%) parcel adjacent to the building sites and will be for sale. Call 906-341-6285.

RENTAL

Large home, 4-5 bedrooms, 2 baths, attached apartment, garage, large yard. Near lake. Take \$600 per month plus utilities, one year lease. Call 906-249-5437

NEED METAL PLATES TO COVER YOUR FISH SHACK?

We have them.

NEED YOUR NAME ON YOUR SHANTY?

We can make a metal plate that will withstand all the elements.

CALL US AT 341-5200 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Pioneer Tribune

212 Walnut Street - Manistiquette

906-341-5200

CITY OF MANISTIQUE

The City of Manistiquette is seeking request for proposals for the

MANISTIQUE RIVER SHORE FISHING ACCESS SITE PROJECT

contact City Hall at 300 N. Maple St., Manistiquette or phone (906) 341-2250 for details.

REQUEST DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, JAN. 8, 2008 AT 4 P.M.

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The Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility would like to extend their appreciation to the many people that donated their time and/or talent in many ways to brighten the holiday season for our residents.

We do not want to omit anyone, as the volunteers are too numerous to name individually, but please know we appreciate all the individuals and groups that remembered us this Christmas!

Once again, we enjoyed alot of music, caroling, gifts and goodies and special visitors!

Thanks to all of you, The Residents and Staff at Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility

Explore REAL ESTATE

PO Box 134 Garden, MI 49835

#173: Deep Water Frontage: Rare find! 250' of deep water frontage & 7 wooded acres on Big Bay de Noc. Perfect for all types of boats & water recreation. Also includes a manufactured home in good condition, a 2-car detached garage and an oversized pole building w/cement floors, electric and workshop area. \$249,000

#175: A private 5+ wooded acres w/260' of frontage overlooking several islands & fantastic sunsets. Good salmon and bass fishing in and around the islands are for all types of boats and boating w/ a couple of nubby marinas for docking and hunting lands nearby. Parcel is surveyed. \$120,000

Happy New Year to all!

AFTER HOURS CALL Penny McKay: (906) 644-2445 Bill Malloch: (906) 341-6848

NOTICE OF ELECTION SCHOOLING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there will be a school of instruction for precinct election workers for Accu-vote ballots to be held on Thursday, January 3, 2008 commencing at 5:00 P.M. in the Jury Room of the Schoolcraft County Courthouse, 300 Walnut Street, Manistiquette, Michigan 49854.

Please note that certification of precinct election inspector is two years. This Election School will address general provisions of elections, as well as issues specific to the January 15, 2008 Presidential Primary.

First time applications for the position of precinct election inspector may be obtained from the City Clerk, the Township Clerks, the Clerk of the Manistiquette Area Schools District Board of Education, or from the County Clerk's Office.

Daniel R. McKinney Schoolcraft County Clerk

Schoolcraft County Road Commission WEEKEND PLOWING

The Schoolcraft County Road Commission will not be plowing local roads on weekends unless there is an accumulation of snow greater than 4".

Primary roads and state highways will continue to be plowed on weekends.

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# Big Bay de Noc School



*We believe in the  
young people of our community*

manistique  
PAPERS