

Weekend Forecast		
Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 29 Low 24 Snow	High 33 Low 32 Cloudy	High 34 Low 21 Snow

Pioneer Tribune

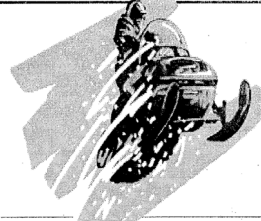
The voice of the Central U.P.

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Manistique Michigan

Thursday February 9, 2017

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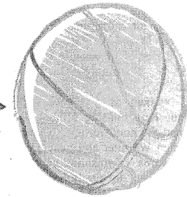
Relic Ride set for Saturday

See below



Players shine in CBC tournament

Page B2



News Briefs

Manistique Township fire destroys garage

MANISTIQUE TOWNSHIP – A garage in Manistique Township is considered a total loss following a fire Saturday.

According to a press release from Manistique Public Safety, volunteer firefighters responded to a report of a structure fire at 6:59 a.m. Upon arriving to the scene, firefighters discovered the two-stall garage, located at 1313N Scharstrom Road, was fully engulfed in flames.

The garage contained a vehicle, a snowmobile, an ORV, and other contents. All were heavily damaged and are considered a total loss.

Firefighters were able to contain the blaze within the garage and protect the house, which suffered only minimal heat damage to the siding. Officers remained on scene for several hours, putting out hot spots and venting the garage from smoke.

There were no injuries to civilians or firefighters during the incident. The homeowners are Mr. and Mrs. Craig Herbst who were at home when the fire began.

The suspected cause of the fire is electrical, but it remains under investigation at this time.

Manistique Public Safety was assisted by the Doyle and Hiawatha Township fire departments.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 11 – 25th annual Long Riders Relic Ride, Jack Pine Lodge, 11 a.m., proceeds donated to charity

Feb. 11 – 12th annual Father-Daughter Dinner Dance, First Baptist Church, 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Feb. 11 – GFWC Manistique Mystery Dinner Theater, The 40 Bar and Grill, 5 p.m.

Feb. 11 – Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship, St. Francis de Sales School gym, 8:30 a.m.

Feb. 25 – Snofest and Little Jiggers Kids Fishing Derby, Manistique Central Park, 9 a.m. registration, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Feb. 25 – Frosty 5K Run/Walk, Manistique Central Park, 9 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. race start

Feb. 25 – Cardboard Classic Sled Race, Manistique Central Park Sledding Hill, 1:30 p.m.

March 4 – Elks Chili Cookoff, Manistique Elks Club, 5-11 p.m.



Sitting, waiting, wishing... for a home

Pioneer Tribune photos

The Eva Burrell Animal Shelter provides a home to many lovable cats and dogs patiently awaiting adoption. Above, Blue, neutered male Australian cattle dog/terrier, American staffordshire mix is just two years old and has undergone training via the shelter's prison training program. At left, Jessie, a spayed female domestic shorthair mix three years old and currently awaiting for a forever family to adopt her.

Eva Burrell Animal Shelter continues to provide for animals in need

MANISTIQUE – For nearly 18 years, the Eva Burrell Animal Shelter has provided a safe haven for dogs and cats in need. With multiple programs, a steadfast group of volunteers, and plenty of community services, it's easy to see why the shelter remains an integral part of the area.

According to EBA President Victoria George, the list of shelter accomplishments and goals continues to grow, thanks to the multiple volunteers who maintain both the facility and its programs.

In addition to the 13 board members, who each volunteer in some capacity with the shelter, there are approximately 35 volunteers and one full-time and four part-time staff members who assist with animal care.

"Mos: board members work with the animals and do fundraising for us, beside board functions," George said. "The volunteers help with the animal care."

In 2012, the shelter began working with the Alger Correctional Facility to institute a dog training program. In this unique program, inmates work to train shelter dogs to make them more appealing to potential adopters. George explained the program has continued steadily and has even expanded to include the Newberry Correctional Facility.

Since the shelter operates as private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, donations are essential to maintain its operation and care for the pets. Any excess donated funds are regulated by the 13-member Eva Burrell Animal

Shelter Board of Directors and directed to needed improvements of the facility.

According to George, recent updates include the addition of a cat quarantine area and a new mechanical room, which accommodates a new boiler and piping, as well as an updated air exchange system to meet code requirements and benefit the health of the animals. As funding becomes available, the shelter will also be making improvements to the existing dog kennel area, cat rooms, and feline funhouse.

"Whether we use existing area we have or we add on would depend on cost and what

Animal shelter continued on A7

Two Germfask men face felonies after break-in

ST. IGNACE – Two Germfask men are facing felony charges after allegedly breaking into a Curtis business.

Zachary Roll and Christopher Bryant II, were arraigned in Mackinac County's 92nd District Court Feb. 2. They were charged with breaking and entering of a building, larceny from a building, attempted murder, possession of a dangerous weapon, and habitual offender.

According to a press release from the Michigan State Police – St. Ignace Post, troopers responded to a call at 2:15 a.m. Feb. 1 of a breaking and entering at the



Zachary Roll Christopher Bryant

Lakeside Grocery and Liquor Store in Curtis. Patrons of the Shipwreck Bar said they

observed the two suspects breaking into the liquor store.

Troopers arrived on scene and determined the witnesses had the suspects detained. However, one suspect had stabbed a witness who attempted to detain him.

The victim sought his own treatment for a non-life threatening wound.

Troopers reported that the suspects also allegedly arrived at the breaking and entering scene in a stolen vehicle.

Both suspects were taken into custody and remain lodged at the Mackinac County Jail.



Classifieds.....E5
 Community.....A4, A7, A8
 Lifestyles.....A5, A6
 News and Views.....A2, A3
 Outdoors.....B6
 Sports.....B1, E2

Hello, Jacqueline Davis Thanks for reading!



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing to encourage interested citizens to "meet and greet" Democratic State Sen. Gretchen Whitmer, as she begins her campaign for governor of Michigan Feb. 14 at 4 p.m. at the Boardwalk Room of the Comfort Inn, 617 W. Lakeshore Dr., Manistiquette.

While I worked as a school counselor in East Lansing High School, I had the good fortune to meet Gretchen Whitmer and hear her speak words of inspiration and encouragement to our honor students. At that time, some five or six years ago, we were hoping she might consider a run for governor.

Sen. Whitmer is a progressive, dynamic, determined, professional woman with strong legal and state government experience. She will not be cowed; she is an effective experienced leader.

Come and meet Sen. Whitmer and see what you think. Bring your daughters and sons along.

Sincerely,
Ellen Plackowski

Manistiquette

Dear Editor,

Before the election, many people, for numerous reasons, believed that Donald Trump was not fit to be president. Since he took office, these fears seem to be well grounded.

The first two weeks of his presidency have been total chaos. He has managed to get into a trade war with Mexico over the proposed wall. Did anybody ever think that Mexico would pay for that wall? That doesn't make sense? So, apparently, we will be paying for the wall by paying higher prices for everything we import from Mexico because of the proposed tariffs.

He had a nasty phone conversation with the Prime Minister of Australia, one of our closest allies. He has insulted leaders of other countries/allies including Germany.

The only country that he doesn't say anything negative about is Putin's Russia. He has praised Putin as being a great leader. Most

of the world views Putin as a thug, who kills his political opponents and journalists. Intelligence agencies have all stated that Russia/Putin attempted to influence the U.S. election. Trump refuses to acknowledge that.

What influence does Putin have over Trump? Could it be that Trump has business dealings in Russia? We don't know, because the billionaire Trump refuses to release his income tax records.

Another very concerning factor is Trump's inner circle, the people to whom he listens. Steve Bannon, the president's chief political strategist, has a seat on the powerful National Security Council. Bannon was head of Breitbart, an alt-right media outlet that promotes white nationalism and anti-Muslim sentiment. Bannon now believes that we are in an "existential war" that will probably become a major world war. Very frightening!

Donald Trump seems to want to be the world's "bully". We all remember the phrase, "bull in a china shop". In the present case,

the china shop is the United States and world peace.

Richard Johnson
Manistiquette

Dear Editor,

I was a public observer at the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce board meeting last week. There are many things that I could comment on about the meeting.

I find one that is most concerning to me. It is about the current board president accepting a donation of \$3,000 with conditions attached.

The conditions, as how it was explained at the meeting were if members do not vote in the direction the donor would like, the money must be returned to the donor.

To me this is the worst kind of corruption, pay for votes.

We the public know that the chamber is having mismanagement problems and is in need of money to solve some IRS tax, state tax and other issues. This has put a stain on the organization already. I do not

think that pay for votes is the way to remove the stain.

There are many people involved in trying to reorganize the groups such as the EDC, MMA, and chamber into a combined organization that will put forth a fresh and new look to our community. I support their efforts.

Instead of dividing us, let's come together and do something good for our community. With the new

organization we all have a voice in how it is run. Instead of just a few people making decisions for our community we all can participate with this new and efficient organization.

Manistiquette is a great community that I have been proud to be a part of for over 20 years.

Thank you,
Sally Musson
Manistiquette

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities frowns upon Michigan's phased-in income tax cuts

LANSING – Two new national reports released Monday show that "triggered" and phased-in tax cuts over a number of years, like Michigan lawmakers passed as part of the roads plan and have recently proposed on the state income tax, are poor fiscal policy that could harm the state's future ability to provide critical services for its residents, businesses and communities. Using a phase-in or revenue trigger to pass tax cuts at a time when they clearly aren't affordable or palatable has already wreaked havoc in other states, according to research from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Phasing in State Tax Cuts Doesn't Make Them Fiscally Responsible concludes that this method of enacting tax cuts often leads to serious structural problems in state revenue systems, forcing harmful cuts in public services, increases in other taxes, or both. They also let state lawmakers avoid accountability, allowing them to avoid the public scrutiny that would accompany a public debate about the trade-offs and consequences of these proposals.

While the aforementioned report is a harbinger of Michigan's future problems if a phased-in income tax cut is passed, the Center's other report released today, Revenue "Triggers" for State Tax Cuts Provide Illusion of Fiscal Responsibility, specifically notes Michigan as a bad example at present. As part of the 2015 roads

plan, Michigan already passed a different revenue-triggered tax cut that will not take effect until 2023. That's two national reports on two bad tax policies, and the Michigan Legislature is pursuing them both.

"The ink is barely dry on the triggered income tax cut and now lawmakers want a phased-in cut as well. A 50-year fiscal threat is still a threat. Our schools, our roads, our police and fire services, our courts and our healthcare all depend on state revenues, and are all in danger with any cut to the state income tax," said Gilda Z. Jacobs, president and CEO of the Michigan League for Public Policy. "Unaffordable tax cuts threaten our state's future by eroding the foundations of thriving communities, and dragging them out over time just means chipping away at the budget with painful cuts year after year."

Eleven states have enacted large, phased-in cuts in corporate or personal income taxes since 2011 that will cost a combined \$8 billion a year once fully implemented. Kansas' income tax cut and subsequent budget mess has been getting some attention in Michigan lately, and Arizona and North Carolina have had similar problems. These states have had to make drastic cuts to their budgets, including slashing public education funding, money for colleges and universities, and road funding. Mississippi just enacted a phased-in income tax cut in 2016 and Moody's has already

given the state a negative credit outlook. Michigan is now poised to make the same mistake, with two proposals to cut and repeal the Michigan income tax, including one that will happen over more than 50 years.

Phased-in tax cuts have caused serious financial problems in some states that have adopted them and will likely continue causing problems as they are phased in or adopted in additional states, because:

• Policymakers usually do not have access to up-to-date, multi-year forecasts of how much states expect to spend in the year phased-in tax cut is fully in effect or an estimate of total revenues available at that time. Such forecasts could be done in most cases, but they are almost never done.

• By making income tax cuts easier to enact, phased-in cuts promote the shifting of tax responsibilities from wealthy residents to less-affluent ones. Income taxes require more of wealthier residents than families with middle to low incomes, while the opposite is true for the other major state taxes, such as sales and excise taxes. As a result, when states cut income taxes and increase other state taxes, they shift the cost of state services away from the rich and toward the middle class and struggling workers.

• Delayed tax cuts offer no meaningful benefit over tax cuts that take effect immediately. There are no proven practical or

economic benefits of phasing in tax cuts.

• Delayed tax cuts are politically expedient because they enable policymakers to claim credit for cutting taxes while avoiding accountability for the consequences.

• Delayed tax cuts are hard to reverse once enacted. While it would require only a simple majority of the Legislature to cut taxes and make corresponding deep cuts to colleges and other things paid for with state tax dollars, supporters of reversing these tax cuts in some states would have to persuade supermajorities to enact restorations. This makes it even more important that lawmakers and voters consider these proposals knowing all the facts and potential consequences.

• Proposals to phase in deep tax cuts are often based on the incorrect claim that states can cut taxes significantly without undermining their ability to continue funding services as long as they cut taxes gradually over time. This claim ignores the fact that the cost of providing a given level of services rises over time due to inflation, population growth, and other factors. Phasing in tax cuts offers the appearance of prudence even when the tax cuts are fiscally irresponsible. States considering phased-in tax cuts should evaluate carefully the cost and consequences.

The reports are available at www.cbpp.org.

Report: Continue funding for cancer research

By Mona Shand

LANSING – Medical researchers are hoping the bipartisan support that's been given to the study of cancer continues under the Trump administration.

Saturday was World Cancer Day, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology has released its annual report called "Clinical Cancer Advances 2017." Dr. Harold Burstein, a breast-cancer specialist and co-editor of the report, said remarkable progress has been made - the payoff for decades of research that's led to a better understanding of the immune system and human genomes.

Burstein said federal funding is critical in the battle against cancer.

"One of the groups most dependent on federal research grants are young people in their 20s and 30s who are perhaps at their scientifically most cutting edge in terms of their thinking and experimentation," Burstein said, "and we need to support their work

if we're going to have progress."

The report named immunotherapy as this year's biggest advance. In just one year, Burstein said, the Food and Drug Administration approved five new uses for cancer immunotherapy, expanding treatment options and improving lives for patients with advanced and early-stage cancers.

Not only has cancer treatment improved, Burstein said, but preventing it in the first place has as well. He cited the HPV vaccine as a major advance, and said progress is being made in other areas.

"Recently, a report from Australia that Vitamin B compounds like nicotinamides can help prevent second skin cancers in people who've already had one skin cancer," he said. "So active prevention strategies are emerging early for some of the first times."

Burstein said he hopes the Trump administration places an emphasis on medical research

because it's giving people what they often need most: hope.

"For a long time, I think, people had been a little nihilistic, feeling that there wasn't demonstrable or measurable progress in cancer care," he said. "That's really no longer the case."

Advances included in the report

range from new genetic tests that may help people lower their risk of certain cancers to new treatments that target molecules that help cancers grow. The report outlined the importance of emerging research on using the so-called liquid biopsies in cancer care.

The report is online at asco.org.

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Note: The Pioneer Tribune welcomes letters from its readers; however, individuals are limited to one letter per month. One rebuttal letter per individual is permitted. Letters to the editor must be no more than 500 words in length. All letters must be signed by the author and an address and telephone number must be included. Letters are due by noon on Tuesday the week of publication.

The Pioneer Tribune reserves the right to refuse letters and to edit letters for accuracy, concision, appropriateness, and according to AP guidelines.

The Archives

This week in the Pioneer Tribune...

50 Years Ago February 9, 1967

The present and future uses of the Laser beam in the communication and industrial fields was graphically described to members of the Manistiquette Rotary Club Monday noon by Richard Howell of the engineering department of the General Telephone Company. Howell explained and demonstrated how the Laser beam, a thin shaft of light, is used to transmit thousands of telephone calls simultaneously over vast distances. He added that with some 10,000 new phones being installed daily throughout the United States new developments like the Laser beam are being perfected rapidly. The Laser beam is a non-dispersing source of light which is composed of helium and neon gasses. This light when harnessed can serve a great variety of uses in communications, medicine, photography and industry. Howell stated. It has sufficient force to drill holes in diamonds and may be used to chart and photograph the ocean floor. In the area of medicine it can restore sight loss due to displaced retinas and remove cancerous tissue. According to Howell, the Laser beam may eventually be used to cut holes in mountains and track enemy missiles. James Love, manager of the Manistiquette office of the General Telephone Company, introduced the guest speaker.

• Timberwolf Patrol of Troop 400, led by Fred Cayka, took first place honors in the annual Klondike Derby of the Red Buck District held at the Gladstone golf course last weekend. The Wolverine Patrol of Troop 400, led by Frank Hentschell, placed third, while the Rebel Patrol of Troop 402, led by David Walters, placed fourth. Competition covered first aid, fire building, cooking, knots, signaling and flag etiquette. Adult leaders attending were Ted Hentschell, George Chvala, William McKenzie and Joe Bosanic.

• The Top O'Lake Michigan Chamber of Commerce will undertake a drive to name Manistiquette as the home port for a new 60-foot steel fishery study boat now being constructed for the State Conservation Department. The vessel, being constructed in Escanaba and scheduled for completion in July, will be manned by biologists seeking accurate, up to date information on Great Lakes fish stocks that is needed to manage sport and commercial fishing on these waters. The Department of Conservation has said that the big boat's home port will be "somewhere on northern Lake Michigan," and Chamber President David Kelly said Tuesday he is starting action to promote Manistiquette as that port. Kelly said he planned to contact Rep. Charles Vanaman as well as Harry Whitley, a member of the State Conservation Commission.

35 Years Ago February 11, 1982

A new state trooper has been assigned at the Manistiquette post of the Michigan State Police. 31st Troop, Cole J. began work here Jan. 31 after transferring from the Northville post in the Detroit area. Graduating from the state police academy in 1978, Cole's only assignment before coming to Manistiquette was at the Northville post. He said he requested the transfer here because he had spent several vacations in the Upper Peninsula, including Manistiquette, and liked the area. He replaces Trooper Robert Holmberg who accepted a promotion and transfer recently. Cole's wife Belinda, and children Regan 3, and Richard 7, remain in Northville while Cole searches for permanent living quarters here. Born in Flint and raised in Traverses City, Cole says he hopes to stay in Manistiquette for some time, "until it gets promoted, which will be a few years yet."

• Hoop Shoot state finalist from the local Elks Club contest is Bonnie Reno of Cooks. After winning the local contest in the 10 and 11 year-old age group, Bonnie also won the district contest held in Negaunee and placed third in the state finals held in the Pontiac Silverdome Jan. 9. Another local winner, Sarah Lang, in the 8 and 9 year-old age group, also placed third in the state at the Silverdome. Bonnie sank 15 of 25 free throws to take third in the state.

• Last Saturday, 12 Schoolcraft County 4-H members officially weighed and entered their beef steers in the U.P. Fair Steer Project. Members in this year's contest included Marcy, Donna and Tom Gagnon, Brad, Todd and Scott Troxler, Heather Ross, Sherrie Smith, Susie and Alan Macauley, Kurt Stuebel and Garnet Koepcke. The 4-H'ers have an outstanding group of crossbred steers this year with starting weight averaging about 750 lbs. This club has an outstanding track record with three Grand Champions in the past five years. Leaders for the club include Erwin and Sara Gagnon, Ray and Vern Troxler and Joan Bowler.

20 Years Ago February 13, 1997

A long-time safety concern in Thompson Township was recently eliminated with the installation of a brand new street light at the intersection of M-149 and County Road 455, west of Indian Lake. According to Township Treasurer Thelma Aha, residents in the area complained that the lack of lighting at the intersection was a hazard and created problems with people finding the road, cars stopping in time, and seeing traffic coming off of 455. Aha said the total cost of the project to the township \$2,170, and that work was completed in January.

• Seven young basketball players from the local area advanced to the next level after taking part in district competition for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship at Manistiquette High School last Saturday. Age-group winners in the girls' competition were: Michelle Nelson of Manistiquette (age 10); Donna Lyntz of Manistiquette (age 11); Stacy Erickson of Manistiquette (age 14). Also advancing in the girls' division were Bobbi Van Damme (age 12) and April Forsberg (age 13), both of Gladstone. For the boys, local winners included Brett Tallman of Manistiquette (age 11); Brett Fox of Cooks (age 12); Greg Ryan of Manistiquette (age 13); Matt Stram of Manistiquette (age 14). Jesse Merenger of Escanaba (age 10) also advanced.

10 Years Ago February 8, 2007

• Germilack Township is receiving a federal grant and loan to upgrade its water system. According to a Feb. 1 announcement from U.S. Sen. Bert Stupak, the township will receive \$975,000 grant and a \$395,000 low-interest loan from USDA Rural development. The loan will be repaid over 40 years at an interest rate of 4.125 percent. The money will be used to install a second water production well, a new 75,000 gallon ground-level accumulation storage tank, a centrifugal pump station, 4,500 feet of 12-inch water main, 4,000 feet of eight-inch water main, water meters, a standby generator and a river crossing.

• From humble beginnings with a little over \$100 in assets and an office on the manager's front porch, Manistiquette Federal Credit Union has grown to an organization with more than \$16 million and a modern headquarters on East Elk Street. MFCU celebrated that growth, and four decades of service to the community at its 40th annual dinner meeting held Feb. 5.

• Manistiquette High School seniors Pat McDonald and Abby Wilson were crowned 2007 Winterfest King and Queen during halftime ceremonies at last Friday's varsity basketball game.

Winter Trails Day will take place Saturday, free rentals available

RAPID RIVER – The seventh annual National Winter Trails Day event at the Rapid River National Ski Trail is set for Saturday. The event will take place from noon until 4 p.m.

Winter doesn't have to be a time of year when you feel like you are trapped inside. National Winter Trails Day is designed to encourage people of all ages to get outdoors and enjoy winter.

Due to a long-standing partnership between Brampton Bike and Ski, Entrees Etc., numerous ski trail volunteers, and the Hiawatha National Forest,

cross country skis and snowshoes will be available free of charge for the public to use. Mike Williams of Brampton Bike and Ski will provide cross country skis, boots and poles, as well as snowshoes for children and adults.

Volunteers who groom the ski trail during the winter will be on hand to outfit

everyone with the proper gear and to teach the fundamentals of both skiing and snowshoeing. To ensure that adequate equipment and instructors are on hand, pre-register for the event by calling Brampton Bike and Ski no later than 4 p.m. Feb. 10 at (906) 428-2135.

In addition, Mary Malnor of

Entrees Etc. will be on hand with hot drinks, steaming soup, and a blazing bonfire.

This local event is one of 100 events across the country and one of only two events in the Upper Peninsula. It had originally been scheduled to take place in January, but was delayed due to unseasonably warm weather conditions.

The Rapid River National Ski Trail is located six miles north of Rapid River on U.S. Highway 41. For more information, call the Hiawatha National Forest at (906) 474-6442.



News Briefs

Whitmer to attend Manistique Meet and Greet

MANISTIQUE – Gretchen Whitmer will visit Manistique Feb. 14 for a Meet and Greet event. Whitmer will be vying for the position of Michigan's governor in 2018.

Whitmer has served as a county prosecutor, state representative, and as the first woman to be the Democratic leader of the Michigan Senate.

During her legislative tenure, Whitmer advocated for education, access to health care, civil rights, and protections for workers, kids, women, and seniors. In the two years following her time in public office, Whitmer returned to private legal practice, and taught at the University of Michigan. In June of 2016, the seven judges of the Ingham circuit unanimously selected Whitmer to serve as the Ingham County prosecutor.

"Michigan needs a leader who isn't afraid to level with people about the real problems we face and bring them together around bold solutions," Whitmer said. "For too long our leaders have failed us. They haven't been straight with people, and they've politicized our problems instead of solving them. We deserve better.

We deserve a leader who will put people first, and work for good-paying jobs, high quality education, and economic opportunities for all," she continued. "A leader who will never cut corners when it comes to people's health and safety. A leader who will fight for us. And that's why I'm running for governor."

The Meet and Greet will take place at 4 p.m. in the Boardwalk Room of the Comfort Inn in Ingham County.

League helps workers claim millions of dollars through available tax credits

LANSING – The Michigan League for Public Policy's annual Money Back in Michigan report released recently outlines seven different federal and state tax credits that offer thousands of dollars to Michigan taxpayers but are often overlooked. Many workers aren't aware that they are eligible for these credits and don't apply for them.

The information on each tax credit includes specific guidelines on how to determine if you are eligible and how to apply for the credit. In addition to reaching residents directly, Money Back in Michigan also includes sample articles for media outlets and organizational e-news and newsletters, fliers for posting in local businesses and community centers, and printable materials to be shared by partner groups, libraries and elected officials.

"Too many Michigan residents across the state are working hard but still struggling and these credits can make a huge difference in their lives, but only if they know about them," said Gilda Z. Jacobs, president and CEO of the Michigan League for Public Policy. "This

money often goes directly back to the local economy to pay for gas, groceries or child care, keeping these workers afloat while also benefiting our communities. We see everyone who interacts with Michigan residents as a partner in promoting these vital tax credits and hope everyone will join us in spreading the word."

The federal and state Earned Income Tax Credits are the most significant tax credits available to Michigan workers, and the League is working hard to promote them to those that are eligible. For tax year 2016, a two-parent family with two children can receive up to \$5,572 (depending on income level) from the federal EITC. For the 2014 tax year (most current state data available), about 775,500 households received the Michigan EITC, putting \$11.2 million back into the local economy.

But the League is also looking to expand these credits to help more residents.

If the Michigan EITC were restored to 20 percent of the federal credit, as it was in 2011 before being cut by the Michigan

Legislature, the average credit would have been \$477 instead of the \$143 it was. Additionally, the state EITC pulled nearly 6,800 taxpayers out of poverty in tax year 2014 compared to 22,000 in tax year 2011.

The League is urging Congress to expand the federal EITC to workers with low wages who are not currently raising children in their homes. These proposals would make between 459,000 and 541,000 workers in Michigan eligible for an EITC or allow them to receive a larger EITC, including up to 27,000 veteran and military members, 98,000 rural households and 160,000 workers under the age of 25.

"The EITC is an extremely effective pro-work, anti-poverty tool, and lawmakers should be working to improve its reach and impact," Jacobs said. "The federal EITC is still leaving out half a million Michigan workers entirely, taxing many into poverty in the

process. Restoring the Michigan EITC back to 20 percent of the federal credit will have a major impact on working families and the cities and towns they live in."

County data on the Michigan EITC, including how many households received it, how much money it contributed to the local economy and what the benefits of restoring it would be available at www.mlpp.org/our-work/eitc. State legislation, Senate Bill 26, has already been introduced this session to restore the Michigan EITC to 20 percent of the federal credit.

Taxpayers should be aware that due to new practices, the IRS will not issue refunds for the federal EITC or Child Tax Credit until after Feb. 15. People should avoid refund advances or loans, as they often have very high interest rates. Residents can also see if they're eligible for the EITC and get free tax help at michiganfreetaxhelp.org.

Foundation donates to Big Bay Robotics team

COOKS – The Gene Haas Foundation recently donated \$2,000 to the Big Bay de Noc Robotics team No. 4715, "The Bear Bots," under the direction of teacher Ryan Barron.

"This donation will help us represent our small U.P. school in robotics competitions in Escanaba in March and Traverse City in April," said Barron.

This donation will help pay for transportation, hotel costs, building materials, and registration fees. The Gene Haas Foundation will also be providing a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who will be pursuing a career in the STEM or robotics field.

This donation will help pay for transportation, hotel costs, building materials, and registration fees. The Gene Haas Foundation will also be providing a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who will be pursuing a career in the STEM or robotics field.

Controversial pipelines receives OK in Michigan

By Mona Shand

LANSING – A \$4.3 billion natural-gas pipeline that will run through Michigan has been given the green light, sparking concerns about safety, the environment and the direction of energy policy in the state. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has given the ET Rover Pipeline its stamp of approval, saying the project's benefits outweigh concerns to landowners or surrounding communities.

But Nancy Shiffler, the chair of the Beyond Natural Gas and Oil committee for the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club, says the construction will pose numerous environmental risks, in addition to those that come from the hydraulic-fracturing process.

"Parts of the pipeline go through forested areas which are habitat for migratory birds and a couple of invasive bird species, and then the pipeline is going to travel

under or through some important wetland areas," she explained.

The pipeline already has stirred up controversy across southeastern Michigan, including several incidents in which police had to be called to intervene between surveyors and homeowners. Energy Transfer, the company behind the project, also is responsible for the Dakota Access Pipeline.

Energy Transfer has touted the 510-mile pipeline as a "reliable, long-term supply of affordable natural gas," and says it has met all necessary safety standards to begin construction, however, Shiffler believes there were oversights in the regulatory process.

"They're supposed to consider alternatives to the pipeline, but they essentially dismissed the potential that the power needs could be met with an increase in renewables and other alternatives," she said.

The pipeline is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

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OBITUARIES

Connie L. Carney

MANISTIQUE — Connie L. Carney, 75, of Manistique, Mich., passed away on Thursday, Feb. 2, 2017, at Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility in Manistique surrounded by her family. Connie fought a courageous battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) for 11 years. She took everything from her except her mind, spirit, smile, and her good nature.

She was born March 24, 1941, in Manistique, the daughter of William and Laura (Cameron) Anderson and attended Manistique area schools. On Dec. 6, 1958, the former Connie L. Anderson married Rodney E. Carney in Manistique. They lived and raised their family in Manistique Township. Rodney preceded her in death on Dec. 31, 1988.

Connie was a homemaker who also worked seasonally at the Wyman State Nursery in Manistique.

She was a member of the area bowling leagues for 25 years and attended the Cedar Grove Mennonite Church for many years. She enjoyed a good walk and going to the casino, and loved spending time with her family, grandchildren, and caregivers.

She always cared more about how

everyone else was doing, even when she was going through so much herself. She would always welcome you with a light in her eyes and a bright smile.

Connie is survived by her children, Laurie (Mickey) Schnurer, Bill (Terri Frenette) Carney, and Brenda (Rob) Bosanic; grandchildren, Ashley (Travis Smith) Schnurer, Cody (Emily) Schnurer, Khrisstey (Matt) Margaret (Lanford) Fuller. While attending Grand Blanc High School he worked at Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club and became the head caddy for the first and subsequent Buick Open golf tournaments, caddy for pro golfers. He also managed the family-owned professional kennel where champion Boxers and German Short-Haired Pointers were bred for showing, many coming top finishes at the Westminster Kennel Club and the Chicago International competitions.

While employed at Chevrolet Manufacturing, he attended GMI (General Motors Institute) and studied industrial management. He also studied photography at the Flint Institute of Art and Mott Community College where he worked with J. Salinger who published a number of his works. As a musician, he played upright bass with classical and blues groups, performing with several Motown recording artists in the 1960s.

After moving to Manistique in 1983, he realized his dream of training and racing sled dogs. A highlight of his mushing career was his innovative design of upright dog houses, now favored by many Iditarod kennels and featured in Mushing Magazine.

After a few years of competing in mid-distance races in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Canada and throughout Michigan, he started a 4-H Junior Mushing Club in Manistique. Under his mentorship, area youth learned about animal care and training through 4-H, Camp CanDo,

and his many classroom presentations for elementary and middle school students. As a Camp CanDo volunteer, he also started the first running club and even before there was a "track", area kids excelled in the sport.

As a trained hospice volunteer, Carl became close friends with 100 year old Leroy Winter, who shared many memories of growing up in Garden. Carl took Leroy

in his wheelchair to weekly Mass at the SMFC. After Leroy died, Carl placed a memorial stone in Leroy's name at Mother Mary's shrine at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. He also placed a memorial stone for Raquel Lundgren-Rodriguez at the Shrine and also at the water fountain across from the post office. Raquel and her family adopted Carl's sled dog family when he could no longer care for them. For the past eight years, Carl had served as the EWTN Media Missionary for St. Francis.

Carl is survived by Marty (Phelps) Fuller, his wife and friend of 48 years; daughter, Tonya (William) Terry; son, Carl Thomas (Angela); special nephew, Steven Richard Reno; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandsons (Ryder, Hunter and Emmett); sister, Deborah Roseanne Bald; brother, William Arthur Fuller; several nephews and cousins; and his aunt and uncle, Loretta and Gene Lanford.

Carl was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Michael; brother-in-law, U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant Richard "Phelps" brother-in-law, Thomas Bald; along with several cousins and friends.

Per Carl's wishes, the family will celebrate his life at a private service to be planned at a later date.

Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mbfuneral.com.

Carl T. Fuller, Jr.



Carl T. Fuller, Jr.

MANISTIQUE — Carl Thomas Fuller, Jr., 73, of Michibay Drive (PO Box 194), Manistique, Mich., died with congestive heart failure on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2017.

He was born July 22, 1943, in Flint, Mich., the first-born son of Carl Thomas, Sr., and Mary Margaret (Lanford) Fuller. While attending Grand Blanc High School he worked at Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club and became the head caddy for the first and subsequent Buick Open golf tournaments, caddy for pro golfers. He also managed the family-owned professional kennel where champion Boxers and German Short-Haired Pointers were bred for showing, many coming top finishes at the Westminster Kennel Club and the Chicago International competitions.

While employed at Chevrolet Manufacturing, he attended GMI (General Motors Institute) and studied industrial management. He also studied photography at the Flint Institute of Art and Mott Community College where he worked with J. Salinger who published a number of his works. As a musician, he played upright bass with classical and blues groups, performing with several Motown recording artists in the 1960s.

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After a few years of competing in mid-distance races in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Canada and throughout Michigan, he started a 4-H Junior Mushing Club in Manistique. Under his mentorship, area youth learned about animal care and training through 4-H, Camp CanDo,

Frances E. Vezina

BROWNSTOWN, Mich. — Frances E. Vezina, 80, of Brownstown, Mich., passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2016.

Frances was born in Manistique,

Mich., on Oct. 27, 1936 and was a graduate of Manistique High School.

Services will be announced at a later date.

Jessie Jeanette Landis

COOKS — Jessie Jeanette (Weigandt) Landis, 86, of 1051 S. Co. Rd. 442, Cooks, Mich., was called home to her Lord on Thursday, Feb. 2, 2017, from Schoolcraft County Medical Care Facility in Manistique, Mich., where she had resided for the past two years.

Jessie was known by her middle name — Jeanette — to most people. She was born Sept. 16, 1930, in Saginaw and would be the oldest of five daughters born to Alexander and Mary (Gray) Weigandt. The family moved to Cooks in 1939 to take over the Cooks Telephone Exchange from her mother's parents George Washington and Jessie (Rivers) Gray. Jessie Jeanette would become a switchboard operator for the family business, a job which would lead to finding her future husband.

Jessie joined the Cooks Congregational Church on March 30, 1947, where she publicly confessed Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and was received by Pastor Serge F. Hummon. She held the longest membership in the church until her passing. She was very active throughout the years; she taught Sunday school and Vacation Bible School; was a deaconess, served on the East Delta Parish Council, and was a member of the Ladies Aide. She attended services regularly until she became physically unable. She loved to sing the "old" hymns, a favorite being "Have Thine Own Way, Lord."

Jessie attended school at Cooks, graduating with the class of 1949. During her high school years she spent the fall, as did many of her schoolmates, earning money by picking potatoes for local farmers.

Jessie married her best friend and love of her life, Bernard Roy Landis, on Sept. 24, 1949, first by Justice of the Peace Henry Ranguette in Escanaba, and later at the First Congregational Church of Isabella by the Reverend Derryl Abbot. Their over 67 years of marriage and devotion for each other were a beautiful gift to their family. They resided for a short time at Nahma Junction, but soon moved to Cooks where they built their family home. Jessie loved her home and always made it a welcoming place to all who entered. She was a stay-at-home mom/homemaker whose children appreciated coming home from school to fresh bread, cake, or cookies, and someone who was genuinely interested in their day. Jessie put the "home" in homemaker whether it was at her residence, in a little trailer by the lake, or in a Soo Line boxcar converted to a living car. She was an excellent cook and baker, and her Sunday and holiday dinners were memorable family gatherings for a family that she treasured.

Jessie had many interests including raising flowers, preserving food (especially canning tomatoes), visiting casinos, playing cards and cribbage, solving crossword puzzles, fishing, traveling to many states including



Jessie Jeanette Landis

Alaska, watching television (especially game shows and figure skating), and reading poetry. She loved to crochet, and do other needlework and crafts until arthritis made it too difficult. She absolutely loved baseball and encouraged both sons in Little League. She spent many hours watching their games and practicing with them. The Detroit Tigers were "her" team, and she spent countless hours listening to their games on the radio, watching them on television, and attending games. The Tigers now have an angel in the outfield.

Jessie was an active member of the Cooks Community Club in the 1960s, librarian for a satellite library in Cooks for the Mid Peninsula Library Federation, worked on many election boards, and was an employee of the News Nook in Manistique.

She was very proud of her five grandsons who earned the Eagle Scout Rank. She had so wanted to learn to dance when she was a girl, but being a part of a large family during the Depression put an end to that dream. She was thrilled when her grand/great-granddaughters took dance lessons and one even became a dance instructor. She had a generous, giving spirit and never forgot family/friends birthdays and other special days. She will be greatly missed.

Jessie is survived by her devoted husband, Bernard Roy Landis of Cooks; daughter, Laurie (Douglas) Rasmussen of Gladstone; son, Bryan (Sherry Boudreau) Landis of Cooks; special daughter, Barb Landis of Manistique; sisters, Joann (the late Leonard) Lund of Swartz Creek, Jeri (the late Darryl) Bertrand of Manistique, and Jeanine (the late Jim) Zellner of Manistique; sister-in-law, Lorraine "Betty" Pippo of Rapid River; six grandchildren: Christina (Gary) Knutson of Kinloch; Robert (Jackie) Landis of St. Marie, Brian (Julie) Landis of Green Bay, Brad (Ashley) Landis of Escanaba, Lance Rasmussen of Bethel, Maine, and Heidi (Andy) Bunch of Marinette, Wis.; great-grandchildren, Mackenzie Knutson, Robbie and Lexie Landis, and Jacob Landis; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Allan Roy Landis; and her sister, Joyce Cousins.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at Cooks Congregational Church in Cooks. The funeral service will follow at 1 p.m., at the church, with Pastor Darryl Pizzala officiating. A luncheon will follow. Burial will be in the Inwood Township Cemetery in the spring.

Memorial donations may be directed to the charity of your choice. Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mbfuneral.com.

Adeline M. Goudreau

GULLIVER — Lifetime Gulliver resident, Adeline M. Goudreau, 87, of 1614W Gulliver Road, 432 Gulliver, Mich., died Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2017, at the Northern Comfort Specialist Care in Thompson Township.

She was born Aug. 14, 1929, in Engadine, Mich., the daughter of Emil and Alma (Hendrichsen) Price and attended school in Mueller Township.

On Dec. 30, 1949, the former Adeline M. Price married Robert L. Goudreau in Manistique. They made their home and raised their family in Gulliver. Robert preceded her in death on Dec. 24, 2009.

She was a member of the Divine Infant of Prague Catholic Church of Gulliver. Adeline was a homemaker who enjoyed cooking, gardening, and playing cards. She especially enjoyed entertaining her friends and relatives, at her family home. Most importantly, she enjoyed spending time with her family and grandchildren whom she loved very much.

She is survived by her son, Ron



Adeline M. Goudreau

(Nancy) Goudreau of Gulliver; daughters, Lucy (Doug) Thomas of Manistique and Debbie Moulton of Harrison, Mich.; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and her brother, Edward Price of Gulliver; along with many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her son, Robert Edward Goudreau; granddaughter, Melanie Schnurer; and her brother, Richard Price.

Visitation will be held from 1-4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6, at Messier-Broullire Funeral Home in Manistique. A prayer service will follow at 4 p.m., at the funeral home, led by John Hogan.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery at Manistique. Memorial donations may be directed to the Eva Burrell Animal Shelter, 6091W US Highway 2, Manistique, MI 49854.

Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mbfuneral.com.

Marilyn L. DuFour



Marilyn L. DuFour

MANISTIQUE — Marilyn L. DuFour, 86, of Manistique, Mich. and Satsuma, Fla., passed peacefully Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017, at Haven Hospice Center of Palatka, Fla.

Marilyn was born and graduated high school in Silverwood, Mich. She worked for the Grand Trunk Railroad in Detroit, Mich., for eight years. From 1959 to 1968 Marilyn and her then husband Herbert Prond owned and operated Herb's 40 Bar in Manistique. She later married Gerald DuFour, her husband of 46 years. Together she and Gerry owned the Crump Pump Bar in Linwood, Mich. During that time, Marilyn was actively involved with the Order of the Eastern Star.

Marilyn was a member of St. Alban's Episcopal Church. She and Gerry enjoyed golfing with their church group and great friends in Manistique. They were officially snowbirds. She enjoyed fleeing from the snow, residing in Palatka, Fla., for the winter months. She was an active member of the Ladies of the Putnam County Shrine Club in Palatka.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents, Mildred (Elsie) Richmond and Leonard Robert; two brothers, Robert and Lyle Robare; and stepson Richard (Chico) DuFour.

Survivors include her husband, Gerald DuFour, sons, Kurt (Linda) Prond, Lyle Prond; stepchildren, Tony (Robin) DuFour, Julie (Roy) Hinkson; Sam (Mary) DuFour; grandchildren, Kelly (Eric) Bradley; Angela (Rod) Zullo, Kurt Jr. (Teresa) Prond; step-grandchildren; Holly (Dave) Flynn, Steve (Katie) Hinkson, Sara DuFour, Anna DuFour, Blake DuFour; and several great-grandchildren.

Memorial services for Marilyn will be announced at a later date.

Cinderella Shaffer



Cinderella Shaffer

MANISTIQUE — Cinderella Shaffer, 89, of Manistique, Mich., died Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017, at Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility in Manistique.

She was born May 6, 1927, in Huntspur (Mueller Township), Mich., the daughter of Edward and Carabelle (Sities) Lupton and attended school there.

On Aug. 13, 1946, the former Cinderella Lupton married Eugene C. Shaffer in Manistique. They made their home and raised their family in Manistique. Eugene preceded her in death on March 31, 1992.

Cindy was a homemaker who enjoyed cooking, camping, going for a ride, and taking a trip to the casino. She loved spending time with her family.

Cinderella is survived by her child, Jean Ann (Kenneth) Wolfe of Manistique, Linda (Freida Dave Winters) Demers of Manistique,

and her many classroom presentations for elementary and middle school students. As a Camp CanDo volunteer, he also started the first running club and even before there was a "track", area kids excelled in the sport.

As a trained hospice volunteer, Carl became close friends with 100 year old Leroy Winter, who shared many memories of growing up in Garden. Carl took Leroy

in his wheelchair to weekly Mass at the SMFC. After Leroy died, Carl placed a memorial stone in Leroy's name at Mother Mary's shrine at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. He also placed a memorial stone for Raquel Lundgren-Rodriguez at the Shrine and also at the water fountain across from the post office. Raquel and her family adopted Carl's sled dog family when he could no longer care for them. For the past eight years, Carl had served as the EWTN Media Missionary for St. Francis.

Carl is survived by Marty (Phelps) Fuller, his wife and friend of 48 years; daughter, Tonya (William) Terry; son, Carl Thomas (Angela); special nephew, Steven Richard Reno; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandsons (Ryder, Hunter and Emmett); sister, Deborah Roseanne Bald; brother, William Arthur Fuller; several nephews and cousins; and his aunt and uncle, Loretta and Gene Lanford.

Carl was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Michael; brother-in-law, U.S. Marine Staff Sergeant Richard "Phelps" brother-in-law, Thomas Bald; along with several cousins and friends.

Per Carl's wishes, the family will celebrate his life at a private service to be planned at a later date.

Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mbfuneral.com.

Alison J. Murphy-Johnson

MANISTIQUE — Alison J. Murphy-Johnson, 63, of Manistique, Mich., passed away on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2017, at the home of her in-laws, Clyde and Doris Johnson, at Indian Lake.

She was born Jan. 22, 1954, in Aurora, Ill., the daughter of James and Mary (Murphy) Murphy and graduated from high school in Aurora.

She moved to the Manistique area in 1997 from St. Charles, Ill., and made her home at Indian Lake.

On Aug. 11, 2010, the former Alison J. Murphy married Douglas C. Johnson at Indian Lake. He preceded her in death on October 29, 2010.

She loved her pets and animals and also enjoyed listening to music. Alison is survived by her brother, Patrick (Margo) Murphy of Orlando, Fla.; sister-in-law, Tampa Murphy of



Alison J. Murphy-Johnson

Cleveland, Ohio; and her in-laws, Clyde and Doris Johnson of Manistique.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Michael Murphy.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to noon Friday, Feb. 17, in the Augustine Hall of the Zion Lutheran Church in Manistique. A prayer service will follow at noon, in Augustine Hall, led by her father-in-law, Clyde Johnson. Refreshments will follow.

Burial will be held in Hiawatha Cemetery at Hiawatha Township.

Memorial donations may be directed to Zion Lutheran Church in Manistique or to Eva Burrell Animal Shelter in Manistique.

Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mbfuneral.com.

Betty Jean (Ostlund) Gagnon

MARQUETTE — Betty Jean (Ostlund) Gagnon, 79 of 120 Dandelion Lane Marquette (Chocoley Twp) passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2017, at her home while in the loving care of her family and UP Home Health & Hospice.

Betty was born Sept. 29, 1937, in Ishpeming to Carl and Helen (Handberg) Ostlund. She graduated from Ishpeming High School, class of 1955. Betty worked for the local cable company for 18 years.

Betty was a life long member of the Trinity Lutheran Church where she was active in many church activities including serving on the church council, a former Sunday school teacher, Morning Circle, soup luncheons, and was one of the "good bye girls" serving funeral luncheons. Betty's favorite place to be was camp, where she enjoyed canoeing and kayaking. She was also very talented with handcrafts: including knitting, crocheting and tatting and enjoyed playing the piano daily. Betty was also a wonderful gardener.

Betty is survived by her husband Edward Gagnon, whom she married on Sept. 20, 1975; four daughters, D.L. (Iva Walton) Betts of Isleton, Calif., Julie (Randy Demars) John-



Betty Jean (Ostlund) Gagnon

son, Christine (David) Rantanen and Michelle Gagnon of Manistique, Mich.; a brother, George (Marilyn) Ostlund of Ishpeming; her mother-in-law, Laura Gagnon of Marquette; brothers-in-law, and sisters-in-law, Keith (Sharon) Gagnon of Howell, Mich., Rosanne (Lovell) Fleury of Onaway, Mich., Mary Lou (Gary) Maki of Ashwaubenon, Wis., and Patricia Gagnon of Marquette; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous very special nieces and nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Kathleen Hogan; and a brother, Kenneth Ostlund.

Betty's family greeted relatives and friends on Friday, Feb. 3, from 10 a.m. to noon at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ishpeming where a memorial service was held at noon. Rev. Kenneth Lahners officiated.

A luncheon followed the service in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Trinity Lutheran Church Memorial Fund or UPAWS at upaws.org in memory of Betty Gagnon.

Betty's obituary may be viewed at bjorkandzulkie.com where relatives and friends may leave a note of remembrance.

OBITUARIES

Pat LaFolle-Gutierrez

MANISTIQUE — Pat LaFolle-Gutierrez, 90, of Manistique, Mich., passed away on Friday, Feb. 3, 2017, at Schoolcraft County Medical Care Facility, where she had lived for the past five years in the gentle and loving care of the nurses, aides, and staff.



Pat LaFolle-Gutierrez

Pat was born on Feb. 16, 1926, in Garden, Mich., the youngest daughter of John and Pearl (Farley) Heric. She was a graduate of Manistique High School with the Class of 1944. In 1948, the former Patricia Ann Heric married Harrison G. LaFolle. Together they raised three sons and operated LaFolle's Malt Shop, where her homemade chili became a favorite with customers. Pat gained notoriety with Harrison's family as she hosted them for countless Wednesday evening meals. She also worked at Homer's Bar and Sunny Shores Restaurant.

Pat lost her beloved husband Harrison in 1964. She later married Jess Gutierrez in Manistique, and together they owned and operated the Three Mile Supper Club for a couple of years. They also started a small rural mail route, which they turned into a large contract mail delivery service, employing over two dozen trucks with routes covering Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Pat, Jess, and her son Paul moved to Oshkosh and then to Madison, Wis., to run their J & J Mail business until their retirement, with Pat driving seri on the midnight Chicago

run for many years. In the 1990s the three moved to Las Vegas, where Pat enjoyed matching wits with the casino blackjack dealers and poker machines.

Following the death of her husband, Jess, and her son Paul, Pat returned to Manistique in 2001; living next door to her sister Bonnie LaMuth at the Heritage House. She enjoyed reading, knitting, cooking, playing cards, bingo, and working crossword puzzles.

Pat is survived by her sons, Pierre (Loretta) LaFolle of Traverse City, Mich. and Michael (Karen) LaFolle of Manistique; grandchildren, Craig (Tracy) LaFolle of Richmond, Va., Jeff LaFolle of Gulf Shores, Ala., and Zack (Nicki) LaFolle of Golden, Colo.; great-grandchildren, Brandi LaFolle, Lauryn (Matt) Cramer, and Annabelle LaFolle; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Pat was preceded in death by her husbands Harrison and Jess; son, Paul; an infant son; and her sisters, Bonnie LaMuth, Pearl Bennett, and Mona Popish.

Graveside services will be held at Fairview Cemetery in the spring. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Schoolcraft County Medical Care Facility, Manistique, Mich. Messier-Broullier Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mb-funeral.com.

Lovetta Rourke

MANISTIQUE — Lovetta "Chick" Rourke, 89, of Manistique, Mich., died on Jan. 10, 2017, in Lexington, Ky.



Lovetta Rourke

She was born June 29, 1927, in Detroit, Mich., the daughter of Cicero and Bessie (Osborne) Acton and lived in Kentucky. At a young age she moved to Troy, Mich. and attended schools there. She lived most of her life in the Detroit area.

Lovetta worked for the Burroughs Corporation in Detroit for many years and later became a real estate agent in the Detroit area.

She moved to Fairport, Mich., in 1984. While living there, she owned and operated Fayette Antiques for 10 years and later operated Wolf Hollow Antiques in Cooks. She had a passion for antiques.

Chick then moved to Florida and Kentucky, returning to Manistique in 2012. She loved shopping and

enjoyed tending to her garden.

Lovetta is survived by her daughter, Janice McCurry-Unger of Cooks, Mich.; son, Michael McCurry, of Nicholasville, Ky.; grandchildren, Travis Gauthier, Justin Gauthier, Sarah Unger, Crystal Van Meter, Christopher McCurry, Johnathan McCurry, Lindsey McCurry, Rosannah Unger, and Ed Unger; numerous great-grandchildren; sister, Grace Kirkwood of Clawson, Mich.; and her brothers, John Acton of Clarkston, Jack Acton of Troy, Cicero "Simi" Acton of Troy, and Richard "Bud" Acton of Empire, Mich.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a grandson, E.J. Unger; her sister, Freda Amberg; and her brother, Milton Ison.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 15, at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, Mich.

Emerald Elementary releases honor roll list for second marking period

MANISTIQUE — Manistique Emerald Elementary recently released the honor roll for the second marking period of the 2016-17 school year. The honor roll includes grades three through five.

Receiving all "A's" in the third grade were: Ajay Berger, Alexis Casey, Cambria Dougherty, Ella Henry, Grace Mason, Tanner Papple, Aly Petreluis, Paige Stoll, Kaden VanForn and Ella Ziemba.

Also obtaining high marks in third grade were: Gwendolyn

Brewster, Logan Drouin, Natalie Gauthier, Logan King, Landyn Klyk, Alexandria MacGregor, Jaycee Rivard, Jayden Veltkamp and Landon Weber.

Receiving all "A's" in the fourth grade were: Clara Cunningham, Kanny Flodin, Madelin Fezzer, Carter LaVigne, Johnny MacGregor, Griffin Maline, Brianna Tiglas, Abigail Valier, Calista Watchorn and Cheyenne Williams.

Receiving outstanding grades in the fourth grade were: Kevin

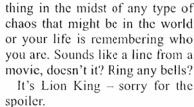
Eaker, Donald Belleville, Nicholas Berendt, Bayleigh Buttermore, Jordan Carroll, Benjamin Gilroy, Isaac Kasietta, Ateah Larsen, Isella Larsen, Malyn Lewis, Blake Mason, Dennis Seeley, Haily Segerstrom, Malia Stube, Masin Tryan, Bryson Wood and Tyler Zimmel.

Receiving all "A's" in the fifth grade for this marking period were: Caleb Bergey, Landen Dougherty, Garrett Frazer, Austin Hinkson, Jaletta Knight, Danielle Lund, Olivia Mackie, Tamara Natleau,

Alexander Noble, Jenaya Reque-Goudreau, Nathan Schoenow and Ella Schuetter.

Additional fifth grade honor students include: Mikayla Alfrich, Alayna Black, Bethany Block, Michael Bonche, Felicia Clifton, Wyatt Demers, Drake Dubord, Aubrey Ekstrom, Kyle Flodin, Walker Gierke, Joel Gillespie, Parker Grahps, Jaclin Hawkins, Nevaeh Herlik, Carsyn Hinkson, Mattisyn Hunkeler, Hunter Johnson, Emma Jones and Jacob Rivard.

THE DINNER DIVA BY LEANNE ELY. If there is one thing that can unite a polarized America, it's having a meal together. Look, we all need to eat in between watching CNN or Fox News. And wherever you stand (or sit) politically at the table, is really none of my business. Is it? The most important thing in the midst of any type of chaos that might be in the world or your life is remembering who you are. Sounds like a line from a movie, doesn't it? Ring any bells? It's the Lion King — sorry for the spoiler. But it's so true — who are you isn't based on chaos but rather, based on your own character, your integrity and your resilience. We all get hit with "stuff" from time to time. We get depressed, we get knocked out of our seats and sometimes even thrown under the bus. But... and still... There's the family — they need you. Whatever your family looks like — you still have responsibilities that aren't going to go away. There's still a meal to be prepared. There's still people that need to be fed. There's still souls that need to be nurtured. So with that in mind, I invite you to bring your family back to the dinner table. This simple act will revolutionize your family and give you the peace you deserve. Feed them — heart, body and soul. P.S. — Garlic Lime Chicken is one of my most famous recipes



Leanne Ely

Garlic Lime Chicken Serves 4 Ingredients: 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon pepper 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper 1/8 teaspoon paprika

3 tablespoons lime juice 1/3 cup low sodium chicken broth Directions: In a small bowl, combine first 7 ingredients; sprinkle mixture on both sides of chicken breast halves. In a skillet, heat butter and olive oil together over medium-high heat; saute chicken until golden brown, about 5 minutes on each side; remove from skillet and

keep warm. Add lime juice and chicken broth to the skillet, whisking up all of the browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Cook until sauce has reduced slightly. Return chicken to the skillet to thoroughly coat with the sauce; serve. Leanne Ely is a NYT bestselling author and the creator of http://SavingDinner.com, the original menu planning website.

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Cedar Street Cinemas MOVIE GUIDE The Lego Batman Movie Running Time: 1hr 41min Showed 7:00 pm nightly RATED: PG A Dog's Purpose Running Time: 2hr 0min Showed 7:15 pm nightly RATED: PG Sunday Matinee 1:00 p.m. Show lineup beginning Friday, Feb. 10 Downtown Manistique | Movie Guide: (906) 341-6622



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Lifestyles Briefs

Manistique resident achieves 4.0 GPA at MSU

MANISTIQUE — Manistique resident Lindsay Knuth, daughter of Randy and Julie Knuth, received a 4.0 grade point average in her fall semester at Michigan State University.

Knuth was among only 435 of 5,679 engineering students attending the university to achieve this accomplishment. She is majoring in applied engineering sciences.

Two local students among MTU graduates

HOUGHTON — Two local students were among the more than 350 graduates honored at Michigan Technological University's midyear commencement held on the Houghton campus Dec. 17.

Snyder to temporarily head the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality - curing the Flint Water Crisis, is a 1974 Michigan Tech grad.

Kevin Creagh, director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources was the commencement speaker. Creagh, who made national headlines when he was tabbed by Michigan Gov. Rick

Local graduates include: Hunter Ashbrook, daughter of Travis and Laurel Ashbrook, Bachelor of Science in sports and fitness management; and Amanda Laramie, daughter of Daniel Laramie, Bachelor of Science in environmental engineering.

Vegetarian Food Fair to be held February 23

MANISTIQUE — There will be a free Healthy Options Vegetarian Food Fair Feb. 23 from 5:30-7 p.m. The fair takes place at the First Baptist Church in Manistique and is sponsored by the Manistique

Seventh-day Adventist Church. Free Sampling and recipes, additional health resources for managing diabetes, obesity, heart disease, hypertension, stress, and smoking cessation will be available.

Catholic Service Award nominations sought

MARQUETTE — The Catholic Diocese of Marquette is seeking nominations for the Legacy of Faith Catholic Service Award. The award was developed to create awareness of those who show exemplary leadership and commitment to carrying out the mission of the Catholic Church in word and action. It recognizes lifetime dedication and service to the Catholic Church. Nominees must have significant demonstrated leadership and service to the Catholic Church, their community, and beyond.

For additional information on the Catholic Service Award criteria and a nomination form, visit www.LegacyOfFaith.net or contact diocesan Executive Director of Stewardship & Development, Terri Gadzinski at (906) 227-9108 or e-mail: tergadzi@dioceseofmarquette.org. The nomination deadline is May 1.

Schoolcraft EDC names new board members

MANISTIQUE — The Schoolcraft County Economic Development Corporation recently added changes in board membership.

represent business sectors that will be very beneficial in future decision making and guidance.

The EDC board unanimously approved new board members: Dave Muxlow, Grover Real Estate, owner/broker; Eric Sherbinov, Habitat for Humanity ReStore manager; and Scott Chartier, Community Home Medical.

The new board members join the EDC Board: Jennifer Watson-Gould, Limestone Federal Credit Union (chair); Kevin Knaffla, Big Springs Inn/Jack Pine Lodge (vice-chair); Renae Kennedy, ONLINE Engineering (secretary); PJ Stoll, Graymont (treasurer); Don Erickson, St. Francis de Sales Schools; Maryann Boddie, Manistique Area Schools; Rex Ben Paris, St. Francis de Sales Parish; Bob Crumb, Schoolcraft County Memorial Hospital; Joel Schultz, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; Allan Ott and Craig Reiter, county commissioners; and Stephanie LaFollette and Kyle Seeley, student advisors.

The EDC board also acknowledged a letter of resignation from Manistique City Manager Sheila Aldrich, and Manistique Mayor Jan Jefeoff. The additions and resignations were later approved by the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners. "We are very pleased to have Dave, Eric, and Scott join the EDC board," said Jennifer Watson-Gould, EDC board chair. "They

Winter, winter, winter! I thought I would share a few tips on beating the "winter blues". The first thing is to open curtains and let sunshine in when possible. Our bodies get less vitamin D in the winter and the sun is the best way to get this vitamin. Include a little physical activity in your day—even if it's just inside the house. This will boost your mood and improve your circulation. Motivate yourself with some music perhaps.

You also should get social. Getting out and visiting with people will improve your mind and your overall mental health. A way to start out with this is to join us for our annual Hotdog Roast, which will be held at the center Thursday, Feb. 16. We ask for a \$5 donation, which includes char-roasted quarter pound hotdogs, cooked by our "chefs", Dan and Cliff Barber and Wes Turan. There will also be homemade potato salad made by staff, and baked beans, prepared by Deb Blanford with a dessert. If anyone out there wants to help us out by making the dessert, we would gladly buy the supplies to do so. Aunt Guerdia is unable to this year — she will be missed.

Pat Smith gave a beautiful afghan, which will be given away to a lucky winner at the hotdog roast. Have you lost a loved one recently? Whether it has been a month

or three years since you loved one died, you might want to consider joining the six-week session of Good Grief. It is going to be held at the center, beginning Tuesday, March 7, at 4:30 p.m. There is no charge, but they do ask you to register by calling North Woods at 341-6963.

Past participants have said how helpful the sessions were to understanding the journey of grief, learning some coping strategies and mostly, sharing their stories with others who cared.

We receive several telephone calls asking when the next food distribution is. The Feeding America Food truck no longer comes to Schoolcraft County, due to a lack of funds. I contacted Sharla Kimmel of Community Action Agency, and she was kind enough to share her dates for the year. I would suggest that you clip it and save it. Here goes:

1. The Bi-Monthly Food Distribution Program, which is for those age 60 and older are scheduled for the following dates:

Thursdays — Feb. 2, April 6, June 1, and Aug. 3. You must be pre-registered, as you have to present a card in order to get the food. You can do this by contacting Sharla Kimmel at 341-2452.

The truck will be at the VFW hall from 11 a.m. to noon the truck

leaves at noon sharp). This program is a drive through. You pull up and they put it in the car for you.

2. The Quarterly Food Distribution (TEFAP — The Emergency Food Assistance Program) is open to all in need of emergency goods. This program is located inside the VFW Hall from 9 a.m. to noon. The dates are: Thursdays - March 9, June 8, and Aug. 3.

From working several food pantries in the past, I would suggest you make sure you give them a "thank you", as most of the workers are volunteering their time.

A great big "thank you" goes out to Vera Cones and Harless and Arleta Clemons for getting the "Time-piece" newsletter ready for mailing.

Door prizes were given by Phyllis Frankovitch and Janet Kelli, Leila Thill and Judy Parrish gave miscellaneous donations.

I sincerely wish to thank Ralph Burt "Mudcat" for being there for us repairing, fixing, shoveling — you name it, he does it.

The Medical Loan Closet received donations from Greta Peterson and

Millie Rhode. A large donation of baskets were given by St. Francis. Laura Lee Tegman dropped by with a coffee and tea donation.

A monetary donation has been received in memory of • Marie Sellman from Al and Irene Grimm

BRIDGE Jan. 30: 1st-Nancy Brown, 2nd-Judy Provo, 3rd-Larry Savoie, 4th-Doris DeMars, CF-Jackie Bruce. Hostess, Nancy Brown.

BRIDGE Feb. 3: 1st-Audrey Savoie, 2nd-Judy Provo, 3rd-George Hough, 4th-Eva Wendling, CF-Jeanne Redeker. Host: George Hough.

500 Feb. 3: 1st-Ruth Jones, 2nd-Terry Jones, 3rd-Chris Keener, Should'a Stayed Home-Don't a Nelson.

Birthdays this week: Feb. 9-Betty Heintz, Judy McEachern, Bonnie Garvin, Irene Hinkson, Feb. 11-Ernie Clark and David Henry, Feb. 12-Patsy Calhoun, Feb. 14-Jim Hardy and Sue Borowski, and on Feb. 15-Ellice Tennant. Happy birthday wishes to all!

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

BY CONNIE ERENETTE

GOOD GRIEF SIX WEEK SERIES



Whether it's been three months or three years since your loved one died, please consider joining this six week session of Good Grief. Learn an understanding of grief's journey, coping strategies, and share stories with others who care.

Manistique Senior Center Tuesdays - 4:30 p.m. Beginning Tuesday, March 7. REGISTRATION REQUIRED

call North Woods 906-341-6963 to register and for more information

Sessions are FREE of Charge

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Big Spring Inn WEEKLY SPECIALS: Wed. - \$9.95 Wings Friday - Fish Fry Saturday - Prime Rib

Long Riders

Breakfast will be available from the restaurant at that time. Sled judging will take place at 10 a.m. Prizes will be announced for registered relics that are 1973 or older. The categories will include best of show, most unique, worst of show, and senior rider (oldest). The ride is scheduled to leave Jack Pine at 11 a.m. From

the restaurant, they will take Trail 413 south to Trail 7, then south to Big Spring Inn before returning back to Jack Pine Lodge. All snowmobiles, regardless of age, are welcome to participate in the ride along.

Only 1973 and older sleds will not be required to have a Michigan registration or trail

permit for the one day event. As in prior years, proceeds from the registration and raffles will be donated to a local charity.

For more information, contact Jack Pine Lodge at (906) 573-2414, Big Spring Inn at (906) 644-2506 or email moreinfor@jackpineup.com.

Admission to the Long Riders

club is not exclusive. Those interested in becoming an official Long Rider must only be prepared to ride snowmobiles, fish the club's derbies, and according to one member "just hang out." Confirmation is subject to a majority vote at the club's annual meeting, held the day of the Relic Ride.

continued from A1

Animal shelter

"we are able to raise," she explained. "If we have extra from a year of operations, then we know we can set that aside for improvements."

George noted that these updates will be aimed to provide more effective quarantine areas, natural lighting, and non-porous surface materials - making it easier to sanitize.

In addition to donations, the shelter had several fundraisers each year in hopes of boosting its funding. One such fundraiser, the annual "Souper Luncheon", will take place in March. The event boasts a variety of homemade soups along with biscuits, breads, beverages, and desserts. Donations benefit the cats and dogs cared for by the shelter.

In April, there will be a day in which adoptions will be offered without fees.

"Bissell sponsors any cats or dogs adopted out that day," George explained. "They cover the adoption fee."

The shelter will also soon utilize Funds2Orgs to raise funding by collecting gently used or new shoes.

"They will pay us per pound on the shoes we collect... and then they collect those shoes and distribute them to developing countries," George explained. "They help individuals in those countries to start their own business by selling these shoes. It's kind of a win-win. We get benefit here with the homeless animals, and they also are helping other people."

She added that drop off boxes for the shoes will be located at businesses throughout Manistique. These locations will be announced once plans are finalized.

George explained that the shelter recently received a donation of 500 pounds of Dr. Tim's Premium All Natural Pet Food from Dr. Tim Hunt, of Bayshore Veterinary Hospital in Marquette.

"We do the Community Assistance Program - if someone falls on hard times, instead of a

family having to give up their pet because they can't afford to feed him, we would supply them with some food during their time of struggle," George said. "We would like to keep the animals in a good home, if possible, versus them having to come to the shelter."

In addition, she noted that the shelter is teaming up with the Meals on Wheels program, which provides meals for home-bound senior citizens.

"If they have financial troubles, Meals on Wheels said that they can bring a bag of pet food with them when they deliver the meals for their client," George said, adding that keeping pets in the homes of their family is a priority.

During the month of February, she explained the shelter is making it possible for pet owners to spay or neuter cats or bully breed/mix dogs for free. The shelter will pay the full cost on a first come, first served basis until the funds for this program run out. To take advantage of this program, residents may contact the Thompson Veterinary Clinic at 341-2813.

In the ongoing program. Free Pets for Vets, the shelter waives adoption fees for any veteran or ac-

tive duty member of the military. Adoption fees are also waived for any senior citizen wishing to adopt a senior animal via the Seniors to Seniors program.

Currently, George said the shelter is housing more dogs than cats. Of those dogs, she noted that one, Blue, has completed the shelter's prison training program and is ready for adoption.

"He was listed on Craigslist for free because the owner had lost their home," George said. "With him being part-pit-bull mix... lots of times those end up as just fighting dogs, unfortunately."

"We were able to contact the owner and get her to release him to us so we could then get him trained and get him adopted out to a family," she added.

The shelter also takes in dogs with health conditions - returning them to a healthy state before offering them for adoption.

Overall, the shelter currently has four dogs in-house and up for adoption, two in training at the Newberry Correctional Facility, and nine in training at the Alger Correctional Facility. Once trained, the dogs will return and be able to be adopted.

There is one cat, Jessie, currently available at the shelter. All available pets may be viewed on the shelter's website, www.upebas.org. The animals are also sometimes highlighted on the Eva Burrell Animal Shelter Facebook page.

Other services offered by the shelter include lost animal assistance. Animals found may be brought to the shelter for care - these stray animals will be held for 14 days before being placed up for adoption. George said lost animals are usually photographed and the owners sought via the shelter's Facebook page. Anyone who has lost a pet may also stop by or call the shelter at 341-1000.

Residents may assist the shelter in continuing operations and projects by making donations. These may be sent to Eva Burrell Animal Shelter, 6091 U.S. Hwy 2, Manistique, MI 49854. Residents may also visit the shelter's website, www.upebas.org, and click on the kitten under the "Make a Tax-Deductible Donation".

continued from A1

News Briefs

Star Wars Night set to take place February 26

MANISTIQUE - For those who have dreamed of living within the world of Star Wars, an opportunity awaits. The eighth grade students at St. Francis de Sales School will host Star Wars Night Feb. 26.

The event takes place in the St. Francis de Sales School gym from 3-5 p.m. Activities will include Star Wars-themed games, such as: Lightsaber Toss, Shoot the Stormtrooper, Dagobah Obstacle Course, Escape from the Trash Compactor, Light Beam Challenge, and Blow Up the Death Star.

Concessions will be available in the Cantina, with a possible glimpse of Han Solo or Obi-Wan Kenobi. An assortment of Star Wars crafts will also be available, along with face painting and a costume contest.

The highlight of the evening will be an appearance by "Darth Vader". He, and members of Vader's 501st Legion, will be available for pictures.

Admission is \$5 per person and all proceeds will benefit the St. Francis eighth grade class trip to Washington, D.C. in June.

Bay College will host Laser Tag event Feb. 24

ESCANABA - Bay College will host a Laser Tag event Feb. 24 and 25. The event will be held in room 952 of the Joseph Heirman University Center.

Tickets are on sale at the Bay College Box Office, and it is recommended that tickets are pre-purchased to allow participants to sign up for a specific time block. Tickets are \$5 in advance, with limited day of event tickets on sale for \$7 on a cash-only basis.

Eighteen participants may play at once and each ticket is good for a one-hour time block. There will

be an estimated 40 minutes of play time.

The event runs from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Teams and individuals can sign up to play.

Laser tag is open to all ages, although it is recommended that participants be seven and older.

Concessions will be available at the event. Proceeds from the event will be used to fund the trip for water technology program students. Contact Dave Lair at dave.lair@baycollege.edu with questions regarding the program.

Career Fair will take place March 1 in Escanaba

ESCANABA - For the second year in a row, Bay College will be hosting a Career Fair at their Bay College campus. Both students and the public are welcome to attend either or both events, as different businesses will be represented at each venue.

The Escanaba Career Fair will be on March 1 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Joseph Heirman

University Center at Bay College. The Iron Mountain Career Fair will be on March 2 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (CST) in the Lower Level of the Bay College campus.

Businesses may contact Becky Landenberger at becky.landenberger@baycollege.edu or by phone at (906) 217-4266 to reserve a table. Send your request prior to Feb. 15 to guarantee a table.

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Mackinac Financial Corporation reports 2016 fourth quarter, annual results including two acquisitions with full operational integration

News Briefs

MANISTIQUE — Mackinac Financial Corporation (Nasdaq: MFNC) (the "Corporation"), the bank holding company for mBank, today announced 2016 net income of \$4.48 million, or \$7.72 per share, compared to net income \$5.60 million, or \$9.90 per share, in 2015. The 2016 results include expenses related to the acquisitions of Niagara Bancorporation, Inc. ("Niagara") and First National Bank of Eagle River ("Eagle River"). Year-to-date transaction related expenses, largely associated with the early termination of the Eagle River data processing system, totaled \$3.10 million with an after-tax impact of \$2.05 million on earnings that equated to \$3.33 per share. Adjusted core net income (exclusive of all transaction-related expenses) for 2016 was \$6.53 million, or \$1.05 per share.

Net income for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2016 increased 6.6% to \$1.70 million, or \$0.27 per share, compared to \$1.60 million, or \$0.26 per share, in the prior year period. Acquisition-related expenses of \$1.8 million in the fourth quarter reduced net income by \$1.1 million, or \$0.02 per share, on an after tax basis. The adjusted core net income for the fourth quarter of 2016 (exclusive of all transaction related expenses) was \$1.81 million, or \$0.29 per share. No further transaction related expenses are anticipated from Eagle River or Niagara in 2017.

mBank, the Corporation's primary asset, recorded net income of \$6.05 million in 2016, compared to \$6.94 million, in 2015. Acquisition-related expenses totaled \$2.66 million, with an after-tax impact of \$1.75 million. Adjusted core net income (exclusive of all transaction-related expenses) for 2016 was \$7.80 million.

Total assets of the Corporation at December 31, 2016 were \$983.52 million, compared to \$739.27 million at December 31, 2015. Shareholders' equity at December 31, 2016 totaled \$78.61 million, compared to \$76.60 million at December 31, 2015. The book value per share equated to \$12.55 compared to \$12.32 per share a year ago. Year-end tangible book value was \$11.29 per share and the per share market price was \$13.47, or 119%. Weighted average shares outstanding totaled 6,236,067 for year-end 2016 compared to 6,241,921 for the same period in 2015.

Key highlights for the 2016 results include:

The 2016 acquisitions of Niagara and Eagle River added approximately \$194 million in assets, \$115 million in loan balances and \$163 million in core deposits to the Corporation. Since the December 2014 Peninsula Financial

Corporation acquisition, the Corporation has grown assets, including organic growth, approximately \$370 million from \$613.94 million to the current \$983.52 million, an increase of 60%.

Total interest income of \$37.98 million for 2016 compared to \$33.51 million for the same period in 2015.

Total new loan production for 2016 was \$301.9 million versus \$234.70 million for the same period in 2015, an increase of \$67.20 million, or 29%.

Net Interest Margin remains very good at 4.19%. Net interest income

before loan provisions increased from \$29.12 million in 2015 to \$33.10 million in 2016, a 14% increase.

Credit quality at the bank remains strong with a Texas Ratio of 11.76% compared to 6.34% one year ago, and nonperforming assets of \$8.91 million, or .91% of total assets, compared to \$4.86 million, or .66% of total assets, for the same period in 2015. The change in credit quality metrics is predominantly due to the acquired loan portfolios of Eagle River and Niagara. The Corporation's pre-transaction diligence has been accurate to date as to the purchase accountings marks associated with both loan portfolios, and management remains comfortable with the overall carrying values.

Increased contribution from secondary mortgage market activity with loans totaling \$53.2 million. 2016 income from this source totaled \$1.58 million compared to \$1.07 million for 2015, equating to an increase of 47% in overall production.

Gains on sold SBA (Small Business Administration) loan premiums for 2016 were \$9.90 million compared to \$6.1 million for the same period of 2015.

Total loans at year-end 2016 were \$781.86 million, a \$163.47 million increase equating to 26% from \$618.39 million at December 31, 2015. Eagle River and Niagara accounted for approximately 18% of the total. In addition to the aforementioned balance sheet totals, the Corporation services \$221.35 million of sold mortgage loans and \$52.98 million of sold SBA and USDA loans. Total loans under management equal \$1.06 billion. Legacy company loan growth (excluding Eagle River and Niagara) was \$50.31 million, or 8.1%, with the largest sector increase in our commercial lending area which grew approximately 12.5% in 2016 totaling over \$56 million. Balance sheet retail loans, predominantly mortgage, decreased by approximately 11.5% primarily due to client refinances into secondary market mortgage loans.

Total new loan production for 2016 was \$301.9 million versus \$234.70 million for the same period in 2015, an increase of \$67.10 million, or 29%. Commercial production accounted for \$169.40 million and aggregate mortgage (mainly 1-4 family) and consumer production was \$132.5 million. The Upper Peninsula region contributed \$163.30 million, Northern Lower Peninsula \$58.9 million, Southeast Michigan \$60.9 million and the newly acquired Wisconsin markets \$18.8 million.

Commenting on new loan production and overall lending activities, Kelly W. George, President and CEO of mBank stated "We are very pleased with the new loan opportunities and production in all of our markets. Loan production is up over \$67 million from the prior year with all business lines experiencing large increases from 2015 levels. This increase includes SBA lending, which outpaced prior year results and remains a key initiative for our company to help our local markets and businesses get access to capital to expand and grow their economic bases. As can be seen, our legacy bank footprint in Michigan had a strong

year of loan production and generated solid organic growth to augment the pickup in loans from both acquisitions. Both of those acquisitions also helped with the overall mix and improved the granularity of our loan portfolio. We are also very excited about the momentum in our new markets in Wisconsin and the opportunities to develop new client relationships and build on existing ones now that all operational and cultural items have been fully integrated."

Nonperforming loans totaled \$4.12 million, 53% of total loans at December 31, 2016, up \$1.585 million from 2015 balances of \$2.539 million. Total loan delinquencies greater than 30 days resided at a nominal .83%, or \$6.47 million. Mr. George, commenting on credit quality, stated, "Our credit quality metrics remain strong with no systematic issues within our loan book as we remain vigilant to ensure continued prudent underwriting standards and not stretch for loans that do not meet our policy guidelines. The slight increase in metrics is related to the acquired loan portfolios through our 2016 acquisitions, similar to what we experienced in 2014 with the Peninsula Bank ("Pen") acquisition. These metrics are expected to normalize in 2017 as they did with Pen. We remain comfortable with our purchase accounting marks and corresponding accretion levels from both transactions this year. We further believe our loan loss reserve methodology will continue to adequately support total reserves when combining all purchase accounting marks and mBank stand-alone loans."

2016 net interest income and net interest margin were \$33.10 million and 4.19%, compared to \$29.12 million and 4.30%, for 2015. The increase in net interest income was due to the Niagara and Eagle River acquisitions as well as organic loan growth from the legacy operations. The Corporation also had increased net interest contribution due to the accretive attributes associated with the purchase accounting adjustments related to the three acquisitions completed in the past two years.

Mr. George stated, "We have been successful in maintaining our strong net interest margin within this historically low interest rate cycle through the use of both core and wholesale funding strategies coupled with disciplined loan pricing. With expected future rate increases on the horizon, we will be proactive in reviewing both loan and core deposit pricing in our markets in an effort to continue

to maximize margin dollars without taking any undue long term interest rate risk. The bank's balance sheet remains short term in nature and prudently structured to take advantage of any future movements upward in short term interest rates which will be beneficial for future earnings."

Total deposits of \$823.51 million at December 31, 2016 increased by \$213.19 million (including approximately \$ 63 million of core deposits from the Niagara and Eagle River acquisitions accounting for 76% of the total increase) from deposits of \$610.32 million on December 31, 2015. Mr. George, commenting on overall deposits and liquidity, stated, "The company maintains a strong liquidity position with many different funding sources to support loan growth and operations. We remain committed to growing core deposits in our local communities through a very competitive product and service mix. We will also continue to utilize alternative funding sources such as internet CDs and managed levels of wholesale deposits to adequately position the liability side of our balance sheet to best match up our asset duration for long term sustainability of our margin."

Noninterest income, at \$4.15 million for 2016, increased \$2.26 million from \$3.89 million in 2015. The primary reason for the improvement was increased year over year activity in the secondary mortgage market as well as SBA gains. Income from sold secondary mortgages totaled \$1.58 million compared to \$1.07 million in 2015 while SBA gains were \$300 million compared to \$1.61 million in 2015. Noninterest expense, at \$29.88 million in 2016, increased \$6.00 million from 2015. The 2016 increase was largely attributable to the acquisition costs including the aforementioned Eagle River data processing termination fee. There were also customary increases in salaries and benefits given additional employees and increased occupancy expense due to the acquired branch offices. Consistent with management's operating diligence prior to both acquisitions, the Corporation has reached the expected levels of overall efficiencies and targeted accretion levels of earnings.

Total assets of the Corporation at December 31, 2016 were \$983.52 million, up \$244.25 million from the \$739.27 million reported at year-end 2015, with approximately \$194 million attributable to the acquisitions in 2016. The Corporation is "adequately" capitalized and the Bank is

"well-capitalized" with Total Capital to Risk Weighted Assets at the Corporation of 9.45% and 11.92% at the Bank.

Paul D. Tobias, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation commented, "Mackinac remains focused on expanding our community oriented and client focused bank through both organic growth and through targeted accretive acquisition opportunities. Our two 2016 transactions in Niagara and Eagle River complemented our legacy markets very well, providing more operating leverage and scale to drive higher monthly core earnings and increased market deposits and loans for a better mix of both. Our experienced management team and culture will remain focused on developing shareholder value through sound decision making and execution."

Mackinac Financial Corporation is a registered bank holding company formed under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 with assets in excess of \$950 million and whose common stock is traded on the NASDAQ stock market as "MFNC." The principal subsidiary of the Corporation is mBank. Headquartered in Manistique, Michigan, mBank has 22 branch locations; twelve in the Upper Peninsula, three in the Northern Lower Peninsula, one in Oakland County, Michigan and seven in Northern Wisconsin. The Corporation's banking services include commercial lending and treasury management products and services geared toward small to mid-sized businesses, as well as a full array of personal and business deposit products and consumer loans.

Community Showcase event set for Feb. 23

MANISTIQUE — The Manistique School and Public Library will host the third annual Community Showcase event Feb. 23. The showcase will take place from 5-7 p.m. in the library.

The Community Showcase provides a platform for area residents to display their passion, hobby, craft, etc. Participants are also welcome to sell items at the event. Selling items is not a requirement of participation.

The event will also feature the reveal of a new room with the library that will be available for public use. So please come in and check it out.

Those interested in participating in the event may obtain more information or reserve a table by calling 341-4316 or by emailing mhook@manistiquechools.org. Tables should be reserved by Feb. 20.

There will be light refreshments and entertainment provided during the event.

Intergenerational event planned for Feb. 22

MANISTIQUE — St. Francis de Sales will host an intergenerational event Feb. 22. The event, "A Walk Through Mass" will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium and is open to the public.

Included in the event is a pasta dinner (free will donation), activity centers, prayer service, singing, and more.

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RETIREMENT
Celebration**

for
Gliff Blose
from Clyde's Drive-In

Saturday, Feb. 11
VFW Hall - 4-8 p.m.

Family, Friends and Customers are all
welcome to celebrate with us!
Come enjoy dinner, cash bar available!

SNO Fest

SATURDAY
February 25
Manistique's Central Park

Little Jiggers

Kids Fishing Derby

- 9am Registration
- 11am to 1pm Fishing
- \$5 per hole
- Prized and more

Frosy 5K

- 9am Registration
- 10am Start time - Central Park
- Participants receive T-shirt and finishers medal

**Cardboard Classic
Sled Race**

- 1 pm Registration
- 1:30pm Race Starts
- Central Park, Sledding Hill

FREE Skate

Little Bear West Arena

- 6-9pm FREE Admission sponsored by Manistique Kiwanis and YETI Key Club
- Skate rental available - \$2 per person

For information or to register, stop at City Hall or contact Kristi King, Recreation Director at (906) 341-2290 or by email at manistiquecreation@ve.com

sticks & Pucks

Wednesdays
3-5 pm
\$3 per person
Through March 15, 2017
Little Bear West Arena

Participants must provide their own sticks and helmets

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Thursday, February 9, 2017

Pioneer Tribune

Sports Brief

Strong third gives Westwood boys a winning edge

MANISTIQUE — Trailing 6-2 early in Friday night's game on the road in Manistique, the Westwood Patriots evened the mark at six points at the end of the first quarter of play. They then hit three shots from behind the arc, jumping out to a 21-13 halftime lead on their way to a 47-37 Mid-Peninsula Conference win over the Manistique Emeralds varsity boys' basketball team.

The Emeralds were 15-of-50 from the floor, five of six from the free throw line.

Westwood hit 15-of-40 shots from the floor, 13-of-23 from the free throw line.

With the loss the Emeralds fall to 1-12. Westwood improves to 2-10.

Manistique played host to a 31-pointing Wednesday after press time and will then travel to Westwood Friday.

Ishpeming (6-6) is coming off a 65-47 victory over Iron Mountain.

Manistique — 6-7 13-9 -37

Westwood — 6-15 16-10 -47

Manistique — Rice 2, Hoholik 5, Block 3, Arnold 7, Nichols 10, Armock 8, K Sealey 2

Westwood — Pierpont 10, Adriana 3, Burke 4, Antilla 4, Beckman 13, Laakso 10, Hewitt 3

Coming up in Sports

MANISTIQUE EMERALDS

Varsity Boys Basketball
Fri., Feb. 10 vs. Westwood at Westwood, 6 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 14 vs. Engadine at Engadine, 6 p.m.

Varsity Girls Basketball
Fri., Feb. 10 vs. Westwood at Westwood, 4:30 p.m.

Mon., Feb. 13 vs. Iron Mountain at HOME, 6 p.m.

Varsity Wrestling
Sat., Feb. 11 MHSA Individual District Tournament at Munising, TBA.

Wed., Feb. 15 vs. MHSA Team Regionals at Munising, TBA

BIG BAY DE NOC BLACK BEARS

Varsity Boys Basketball
Fri., Feb. 10 vs. North Central at North Central, 6 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 14 vs. Mid Peninsula at HOME, 6 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 16 vs. Stephenson at HOME, 6 p.m.

Varsity Girls Basketball
Thurs., Feb. 9 vs. Carney at HOME, 6 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 16 vs. Mid Peninsula at Mid Peninsula, 6 p.m.



Courtesy photo

For the third year in a row, the Emerald girls' swim team brought home the Mid-Peninsula Conference Championship plaque. Pictured front row, from left, are Anna VanDyck, Shelby Mishniakiewicz, Abby Schwartz, Melanie Jones, Abby Burnham, Coach Beth Aldrich, Calli Ansell. Back row, Mia Hyland, Maddie Schwartz, Kylie Johnson, Mackenna Ozanich, and Mag Espinoza.

Third time Conference Champs

ISHPEMING — Swim Coach Beth Aldrich was beaming with pride when her teams competed in the Mid-Peninsula Conference Championship. Swimming against Ishpeming/Negaunee and Westwood in Ishpeming on Tuesday, the emerald girls' swim team, led by Abby Burnham and Calli Ansell, brought home the trophy for the third year in a row.

Although the boys were only able to put three swimmers in the meet, they swam well, finishing in a distant third. On Feb. 2, the Emeralds hosted the Westwood Patriots with the girls coming away with a 99-73 win. The Emerald boys lost 52-66.

As the season winds down, swimmers' times continue to drop as they begin to excel in their craft. Darren McCaffrey and Kylie Johnson both recorded individual first place finishes for the first time. A number of veteran swimmers also continued to win their events.

The season ended for some last night on the road in the Sault, but continues this week and next week for the nine swimmers going to U.P. Finals.

Stats vs. Westwood
First place finishes:
Boys: Dan Phillips, 200 freestyle, 2:57.84; Darren McCaffrey, 50 freestyle, 37.56; Joe Barr, 100 butterfly, 1:15.87; Darren Hicks, 500 freestyle, 7:23.32; Barr, 100 backstroke, 1:10.6

Girls: Abby Schwartz, 200 freestyle, 2:42.54; Abby Burnham, 50 freestyle, 31.64; Kylie Johnson, 100 freestyle, 1:28.46; Meg Espinoza, 500 freestyle, 8:29.5; A. Schwartz,

Anna VanDyck, Johnson, Burnham, 200 freestyle relay, 2:23.65; VanDyck, 100 backstroke, 1:26.72; Shelby Mishniakiewicz, 100 breaststroke, 1:41.81; Burnham, Espinoza, Calli Ansell, A. Schwartz, 400 freestyle relay, 5:19.06

Second place finishes:
Boys: D. McCaffrey, Hicks, Barr, Brendan McCaffrey, 200 medley relay, 2:38.1; Hicks, 200 individual medley, 2:55.83; Phillips, 100 freestyle, 1:18.46; D. McCaffrey, Hicks, Phillips, B. McCaffrey, 200 freestyle relay, 2:30.59

Girls: Melanie Jones, Misniakiewicz, Ansell, Espinoza, 200 medley relay, 2:52.46; Burnham,

Emeralds swim continued on B4

Emeralds Cheer Challenge

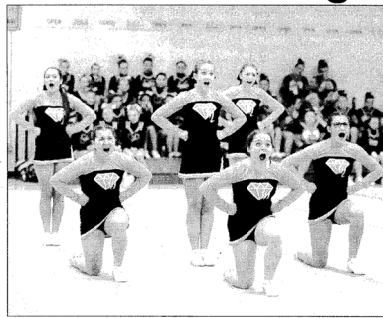
MANISTIQUE — With weather cooperating, the Manistique Emerald competitive cheer team held their annual Manistique Invitational Feb. 2. After the final three round scores were tallied, Escanaba took first overall with a combined score of 703.90. Second went to Gladstone with a 670.42. Norway took third, and Manistique fourth.

The girls will not compete again until districts in East Jordan Feb. 17.

Division 3 Results: Escanaba 703.90 (213.70, 198.90, 291.30); Gladstone 704.2 (207.10, 184.52, 278.80)

Division 4 Results: Norway 637.68 (194.60, 180.68, 262.40); Manistique 632.18 (198.80, 165.58, 267.80); Munising 632.08 (197.7, 179.28, 263.80 / 8); Iron Mountain 628.64 (195.70, 177.54, 263.40 / 8)

Manistique Middle School also compete finishing with a two-round score of 303.70.



Joe LeBlanc photo

With faces full of expression, the Emeralds hosted their annual Cheer Challenge last Thursday. Additional photos can be viewed at www.mstqioneertribune.smugmug.com.

Strong finish not enough for Lady Emeralds on road

IRON MOUNTAIN — An 18-point fourth quarter wasn't enough to lift the Lady Emeralds past Iron Mountain last Thursday night. Trailing 13-12 at the end of the opener, things went cold for Manistique in the second and third quarters of the Mid-Peninsula Conference contest.

Taking advantage, Iron Mountain held a 38-27 lead going into the final eight minutes of play on their way to a 51-45 victory.

"Cold shooting in the second and third quarters was too much for us to overcome tonight," said Coach David Winkler. "Finally in the fourth quarter we made our run, but it ended up being a little too late. It was nice to be in a game down the stretch with a chance to win."

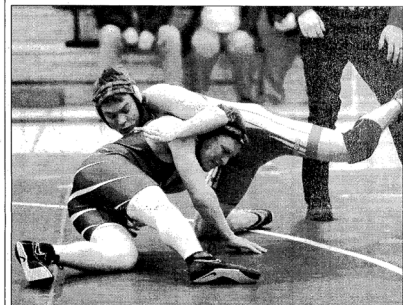
With seven points from Madison Berry and six from Renae Schueter, Manistique paced Iron Mountain 18-13 in the final period, but could not get over the hump. Berry finished the night with 15 points to lead the Lady Emeralds in scoring. "We came out of the gate on a

mission," Winkler said. "Our defense throughout the first quarter was tenacious. Joslyn Muth was given the job of defending Riley Poupore, one of the leading scorers in the conference and she responded by playing the toughest defense I've seen all year. Within the first two minutes of the game she had forced Poupore into two personal fouls, the second of which was just a frustration foul because she was sick of how physical Joslyn was playing her."

Winkler went on to say a switch in the second quarter to a zone defense by Iron Mountain created issues for his offense.

"We began to struggle on the offensive end, which affected our defense as well," Winkler said. "We really lost our energy for the majority of the second quarter and allowed them to build a little lead heading into the half. The girls gained some

Emerald girls continued on B4



Courtesy photo

Pictured wrestling at last week's Super Duals, Louis Berry captured the Mid-Peninsula Conference Championship in the 145-pound weight class in Ishpeming Saturday.

Berry Mid-Pen Champ

ISHPEMING — Without the services of Emerald standout Tanner Gonzalez, the Manistique Emeralds wrestling placed fourth at the Mid-Peninsula Conference Championship last Saturday in Ishpeming.

Westwood won the championship, earning 144 points. Ishpeming scored 118, Negaunee 117, Manistique 79, Iron Mountain 75, Norway 73, and Gwinn 40.

With Gonzalez sidelined with an illness, Louis Berry was the lone Emerald to capture a title. Berry acquired the 145-pound title, pinning Elek Kallioinen of Westwood. Tony Williams (112) and Caleb

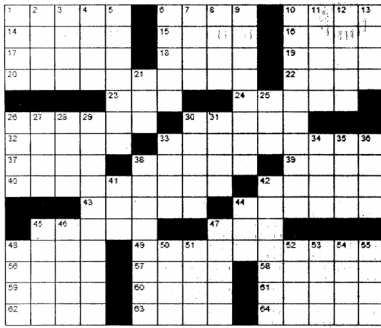
Swanson (285) lost their bid for a title. Williams was pinned by Westwood's Wyatt Carlson. Swanson was pinned by Negaunee's Mike Pizzola during the championship round.

Manistique will host the Michigan High School Athletic Association Team Districts tonight (Thursday). The Emeralds will take on Newberry at 6 p.m. The winner will go up against Ruydard for the championship.

Following the team districts, Manistique travels to Munising to compete in the MHSA Individual Districts Saturday.

Find us on SmugMug. Not every sports photo we take can be included in the weekly edition of the Pioneer Tribune. All the sports pictures from the events we attend can be "viewed" and purchased here. Stop by and take a look. <http://mstqioneertribune.smugmug.com/Sports-Photos>

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- ACROSS**
- 1. Anagram of "Incur"
 - 6. Russian emperor
 - 10. Exposed
 - 14. A kind of macaw
 - 15. Gown
 - 16. Egg-shaped
 - 17. A seal
 - 18. Biblical garden
 - 19. Guns an engine
 - 20. Fanatical
 - 22. To endure (archaic)
 - 23. Offer
 - 24. Sharpens
 - 26. Streamlet
 - 30. Mandicant
 - 32. Willow
 - 33. Silent
 - 37. Past tense of Leap
 - 38. Held on tightly
 - 39. Small island
 - 40. Onetime
 - 42. Building addition
 - 43. Lummoxes
 - 44. Fast
 - 45. Fugitive
 - 47. Dandy
- DOWN**
- 48. Oceans
 - 49. Pilotage
 - 56. Meal in a shell
 - 57. Angers
 - 58. Audio communications
 - 59. Bit of gossip
 - 60. Tidy
 - 61. Make improvements
 - 62. Anagram of "Sees"
 - 63. Not guys
 - 64. Discharges
 - 1. Coarse file
 - 2. Murre
 - 3. Badgers
 - 4. Colored part of an eye
 - 5. Gauge
 - 6. Inclination
 - 7. Fizzy drink
 - 8. Assist in crime
 - 9. Regenerating
 - 10. Delimitation
 - 11. Stave off
 - 12. Praises
 - 13. If not
 - 21. Petroleum
 - 25. Possessed
 - 26. Part in a play
 - 27. End
 - 28. Bites
 - 29. Causing irritation
 - 30. Infractions
 - 31. Graphic symbol
 - 33. Narrow opening
 - 34. Feudal worker
 - 35. Steigh
 - 36. Alluring
 - 38. Roiling
 - 41. Suffering
 - 42. Clothing
 - 44. Soak
 - 45. Achievements
 - 46. Shoestrings
 - 47. Clenched hands
 - 48. Anagram of "Ties"
 - 50. District
 - 51. Calf's meat
 - 52. Docile
 - 53. Bright thought
 - 54. Pig sound
 - 55. Gestures of assent

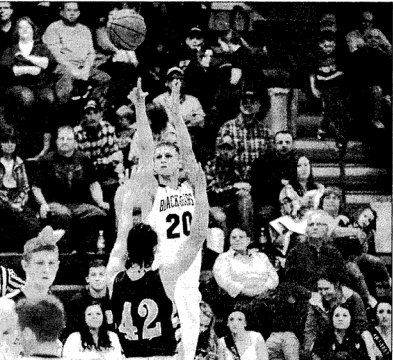
CBC Champs

Courtesy photo
There was a whirlwind of activity going on at all the gymnasiums throughout Manistique Saturday as one of the long-standing CBC fundraising events took place. Elementary basketball teams across the Upper Peninsula competed for the coveted first place trophies in their respective brackets at the annual CBC Basketball Tournament. Taking first place in the fifth grade boys' division was the Manistique team. Their roster included front row, from left: Isaiah Brow, Ethan Munson, Parker Graphos, Caleb Bergey, Michael Krummich, Mike Michalk. Back row: Landen Dougherty, John Lund, Wyatt Demers, Kyle Flodin and Michael Bouche.



Joe LeBlanc photo
With three seconds left on the clock, Meagan Yonker attempts to fire one at the net in hopes of tying the game against Rapid River Monday. Additional varsity and junior varsity photos can be viewed at www.mstpioneertribune.smugmug.com.

Almost the spoiler



Joe LeBlanc photo
With perfect aim, Erik Johnson sends one to the hoop during Friday night's Homecoming loss to the Rapid River Rockets. Johnson finished the night with 12 in the book. Additional varsity and junior varsity photos can be viewed at www.mstpioneertribune.smugmug.com.

Rockets even the score

COOKS - It's been a rocky stretch for the Big Bay de Noc Lady Bears, who have dropped their last three outings on their home court. Looking to end the streak, Big Bay struggled early, dropping a 43-40 decision to the Rapid River Rockets Monday night.

Trailing the majority of the game, the Bears were within striking distance throughout the fourth quarter. With 2:14 left on the clock, Brooke Dalgord dropped a shot to give Big Bay a 40-39 advantage.

Taking their time, the Rockets regained points off a basket by Ashlynn Pryal with 1:33 left and added two more from the line as time expired to seal the win.

Dalgord finished the night with 20 points, 11 of which came in the fourth quarter.

It was a slow start for the Lady Bears who trailed 14-4 at the end of the first quarter. Dalgord and Holli Stapleton were the only Bears to

MUNISING - The Big Bay de Noc Black Bears (1-14) put a scare in the Munising Mustangs (12-2) in Munising Monday night. The Bears dropped a 58-57 decision to Munising in a contest that was not decided until the final buzzer. Trailing by five (56-51), Cade Contreras hit a three-point basket to cut the Bears' lead to two points with just 25 seconds left on the clock.

Fouled while driving the net, Eric Johnson extended the Bears' lead when he made one free throw. Up 57-56 Big Bay missed a pair from the free throw line that could have put the game out of reach, instead Contreras got the last shot sinking a basket as time expired to give Munising the win.

Rob Roy led Big Bay in scoring with 18 points, Erik Johnson added 15, Tyler Johnson 14, Knudson 6, Chandler 4.

Big Bay 14 12 10 21 - 57
Munising 6 21 15 16 - 58

The Rapid River Rockets spoiled a week of homecoming celebrations with a 56-46 victory over the Big Bay de Noc Black Bears last Friday night.

Up 7-4 early in the first quarter, the Bears trailed 10-7 when the Rockets hit a pair of three point baskets, including one at the buzzer by Jarret LaCasse. Rapid River pushed their lead to 16-7 before the Bears rallied tying the game at 21 points at the half.

Picking up where they left off, the Rockets held a 30-24 lead early in the third, but Big Bay managed to keep it close, trailing by six (36-30) when the period came to an end.

Rapid River went on to pace Big Bay 20-16 in the final eight minutes to seal the win.

Tyler Johnson led Big Bay in scoring with 13 points; his brother, Erik, added 12 points.

Big Bay 7 14 9 16 - 46
Rapid River 10 11 15 20 - 56

Big Bay - T Johnson 13, E Johnson 12, Lalonde 6, Chandler 8, Rarocan 2
Rapid River - Burglund 12, Sundling 11, Hardwick 14, LaCasse 6, Willemens 4, Landis 5, Orth 4

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Level: Intermediate

Word Search

S C R E W O M B A T S E R W
P R Y A C O C T Q E T V N
E L E F F A B H O N A A T
C A D S T A R T L E S P L R
K Z O G S T E E P L E S L A
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I N T D R A W O F T O N T
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C W D E P A E R E I K O M S

Aggressiveness Foothill Cared Soric Trendy
Accruing Forward Olive Spale Tweed
Aided Gloom Plazas Specks Uglies
Baffle Hastle Reaped Startles Valleys
Cardigan Hives Redone Steeples Vexed
Cheery Inlay Screw Thickly Volts
Cuddling Leafy Senses Tools Wafts
Engineer Napes Sheet Tosses Wombat
Floss Needless Smokier Transmitt West

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to canned goods. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 21 = a)

A. 14 26 16 4 21
Clue: Topping

B. 15 21 8 21 6 26 13 10 21 14
Clue: Healthy foods

C. 13 21 26 5 14
Clue: Kidney, red

D. 14 24 16 12
Clue: Liquid meal

Emerald girls

continued on B4

experience tonight in terms of strategy and game plan down the stretch." Manistique dropped a 60-50 decision to Gwinn Tuesday night.

Manistique 0-15 travels to Westwood Friday and will finish off the regular season playing their last four games at home starting with Iron Mountain Monday.

Manistique 12 7 8 18 - 45
Iron Mountain 13 16 9 13 - 51
Manistique - Berry 15, Kraatz 11, Iron 5, Schuetter 8, Math 6
Joslin 5, Schwartz - Swartout 7, Hoffman 7, Schilling 7, Poupore 20, Thomann 8

SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 18

Manistique Moose Lodge

Entry Fee: \$15 per person

EMERALD TOURNAMENT

FUNDRAISER

BROWN BAG AUCTION • CASH BAR • & SNACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE

Questions contact:
Mike Evink 616-836-1483, JR Miller 286-0670
Beth McLaren 341-2423 or Katie LaMuth 286-0661

Registration 5:30-6 pm • Play Begins 6 pm

18th Annual McDonald Lake Ice Fishing Derby

February 18 & 19

McDonald Lake in Gulliver

3 Prizes in 3 Categories

Longest Perch • Longest Pike • Longest Walleye

1st Tie Breaker - Weight 2nd Tie Breaker - First fish registered (All decisions by Derby Officials are final!)

OFFICIAL RULES:

- Fish must be caught on McDonald Lake.
- Fish must be caught by legal means.
- You must be pre-registered in order to WIN. Pre-registration deadline 12 NOON on Saturday.
- Fish Registration will be open:
 - Saturday February 18 - 8 am until 5 pm
 - Sunday February 19 - 8 am until 2 pm
- No person may win more than one prize category.
- Anybody 14 years old and over must be registered.
- All those registered will be entered into a raffle. The raffle will take place at the awards on Sunday.

Fish registration will be located at the public access site on McDonald Lake.

\$10.00 Registration Fee

"Children (13 & under) must be present and registered to pick up their door prize on Saturday at the registration tent between 8 a.m. and 12 noon."

Awards will be given at approximately 2:15 - 2:30 pm on Sunday, Feb. 19.

Advance Registration at:
• Gulliver Crossroads • BG's IGA Express • Top O' Lake

Derby Sponsors are not responsible for any loss, damage, or injury associated with this activity.

Emeralds swim

continued from B1

diving, 142.1; Ansell, 100 butterfly, 1:53.92; Bryce Allor, 100 freestyle, 1:31.39; A. Schwartz, 100 backstroke, 1:26.77; Maddie Schwartz, 100 breaststroke, 1:42.9

Third place finishes:

Boys: B. McCaffrey, diving, 103.55; D. McCaffrey, 100 freestyle, 1:38.13

Girls: Jones, 200 freestyle, 3:10.8; VanDyck, 200 individual medley, 3:30.47; Ansell, 50 freestyle, 35.11; Misniakiewicz, 500 freestyle, 9:15.12; Jones, 100 backstroke, 1:27.81

Fourth place finishes:

Girls: Espinoza, 200 freestyle, 3:17.33; Johnson, 200 individual medley, 3:44.53; Mia Hyland, diving, 100; MacKenna Ozanich, 100 freestyle, 1:39.57

Mid Pen Conference Championship Stats

First place finishes

Girls: Burnham, 50 freestyle, 31.38; Burnham, diving, 102.15; Ansell, 100 freestyle, 1:13.26

Second place finishes

Girls: Jones, A. Schwartz, Misniakiewicz, Burnham, 200 medley relay, 2:36.26; Ansell, 100 individual medley, 1:27.13; M. Schwartz, 50 breaststroke, 43.96; VanDyck, 50 backstroke, 39.75; Burnham, Ansell, A. Schwartz, VanDyck, 200 freestyle relay, 2:16.63

Third place finishes:

Boys: Hicks, 50 breaststroke, 38.44; Girls: A. Schwartz, 50 butterfly, 40.56; Jones, 50 backstroke, 40.66

Fourth place finishes:

Boys: Hicks, 100 individual medley, 1:19.12; D. McCaffrey, 50 backstroke, 48.28; Girls: Hyland, diving, 67.6; Jones, 100 freestyle, 1:22.93; Misniakiewicz, 50 breaststroke, 45.02



It was a packed gymnasium in Cooks Friday evening, as spectators not only came to watch the Black Bears on the court against the Rapid River Rockets, but also to attend the annual Homecoming festivities. After announcing this year's court, Ariel Cousineau and Nathan Chandler were crowned Homecoming king and queen. The royal couple were accompanied by Prince Hunter Johnson and Princess Trinity Davis.

Joe LeBlanc photo

NEWS FROM MAS

By MARYANN BOODY

Feb. 20 will be a big day for Manistique Area Schools and residents of Schoolcraft County as the Zellar and Training and Education Center - Z-TEC - will open to the public for the first time.

In celebration of the opening of Z-TEC there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house at 11 a.m. There will be refreshments available and the public is encouraged to attend.

The first occupants of Z-TEC will be the students of the Jack Reque Alternative High School. These students and their teachers will occupy approximately 5,000 square feet of the more than 39,000 square foot building in a "building within a building" concept.

Zellar Excavating and Sons, Inc. purchased the Z-TEC property from the state of Michigan in 2015. It was considered "surplus" property by the state in 2009 and placed on the market. In an article printed in the Pioneer Tribune on May 28, 2015 (www.pioneertribune.com/news/2015-05-28/Front_Page/Camp...

Manistique has new owner.html) the Zellers cited several business ideas that they were considering for the property that could potentially lead to the creation of several new jobs in the community. In that article the Zellers also stated, "We watch most of our young people graduate high school and immediately leave our area for better opportunities. The creation of the aforementioned dimension to our business not only generates revenue for us, but provides new and expanded services to the community and surrounding areas. Job creation is an integral part of a strong community and one of the few hopes of stopping or reversing the downward trends we see occurring here."

The opening of Z-TEC is the culmination of the plan that they set out to accomplish two years ago. With this new relationship and facility, Manistique Area Schools will be partnering with other educational service agencies to develop programs that offer skilled training for students and adults that local employees are seeking for their businesses.

If you are interested in more information about the opportunities available you and your business at Z-TEC email: ztec.opportunities@gmail.com or call (906) 286-2802.

FISH REPORT

BY RET. SGT. JOHN WALKER

Well, you know it says in the "Good Book" that a person cannot have too many friends. I say this to say the one real drawback to someone my age and needless to say getting older is there seems to always be a friend or a former classmate that passes away. I have said before in my articles when you get up in years if you were to make a list of your friends and those you worked with (also friends) by putting on one side those that are still around and on the other side those that have passed away, needless to say one is growing all the time as the other gets shorter. Another person I considered a good friend passed away the end of last month. Now the game warden and this person may not have always been on the same page years ago, but a lot of times as the years pass and things change, so do our relationships. After I retired and started all those projects both at home and at camp, there was always one place in

Manistique where you went for what you needed.

I told my sons and grandkids when I heard the news that there will definitely be a cutback on building deer blinds and all those other grandpa projects. One thing about grandpa's projects at his age some made good sense while others may have been debatable.

Some of these projects took a long time because I would spend all winter dreaming them up when it was impossible to work on anything. Then come spring off I would go to "Rainbow Ronnie's" to get what I needed. Now whenever you did this, you could kiss a half day goodbye because not only would you have to look around and find what you needed that would work on your project, but you had to sit down and solve all the world's problems with Ronnie.

I'm not sure our deep discussions ever really changed the world or any-

thing else for that matter, but some were really rather interesting when you consider it was being done using the best that Yooper wisdom could provide.

If you were to wonder what made this friendship between us and helped us to enjoy our deep discussions together you would have to know a side of "Rainbow Ronnie" that I did, that not everyone else came to know.

After I retired there seems to always be a project where a widow lady or a single person needed some help around their house. Whether it is a leaking roof or something else that needed fixing I would get drafted by Wife to help out. So off I would go to "Rainbow Ronnie's" to get what I needed.

I would find what I needed to do the job and then go in to pay. I sit here as I write this and can picture me coming in the door to pay and hear Ronnie saying, "What have you got going on today Johnny?" I would tell him so and so has

a leaking roof so I was getting some stuff to fix it. I would hate to say how many times Ronnie would say, I always liked and he would say the husband's name. But then he would look over at his wife and say to her, "That's OK!" Which meant Ronnie was donating the material to help someone out.

I always told him he didn't have to but he would always say that he wanted to help out and that would be that.

There are so many situations I know of where when someone was between a rock and a hard spot, Ronnie was there to help out. I know of churches that were doing some painting and such and went out to Ronnie's to get paint brushes and such and when Ronnie heard what they wanted it for and what they were doing, there was never a charge.

Nobody but his wife and the Good Lord really knows how many times Ronnie helped people out just because at the time they needed a friend and a

helping hand. I know of a good number of these times just because we were friends.

I am going to say something here that I would never say if Ronnie was still here. After all the help he had been for so many years I thought I needed to find a way to thank him. So I went and purchased a couple of gift cards for their Friday night fish fry for Ronnie and his

wife. I went out and gave them to Ronnie and thanked him for all the help he had been through the years.

Ronnie looked at the gift cards and seriously with a tear in his eye, said, "Johnny do you know how few people ever come in and say thanks?" I told him I was not that way. I am going to miss Ronnie and our times together and now there is one less friend around.

THANK YOU

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