



Pioneer Tribune

The voice of the Central U.P.

Weekend Forecast		
Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 36 Low 31 Snow	High 35 Low 20 Snow	High 35 Low 28 Cloudy

Volume 140 No. 46 2 sections 12 pages

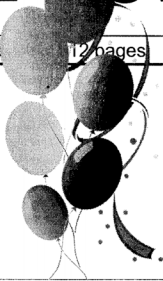
Manistique

Thursday, March 16, 2017

\$1

School to hold annual carnival Sunday

See events



Girls dominate ice at state championship

Page B1



Quick facts

- The Schoolcraft County Economic Development Corporation recently re-branded as "Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce".
- The group will include members of the Manistique Merchants Association and the former Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce

Tourism group readies to work

Tourism, commerce focus of former EDC

MANISTIQUE — The Schoolcraft County Economic Development Corporation has re-branded itself and will now be known as Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce. The new organization intends to combine the efforts and members of the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce, Manistique Merchants Association, and the EDC.

According to a press release from the organization, Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce will serve residents, visitors, and businesses of Schoolcraft County by combining the administrative duties, expenses, and operations of multiple organizations in order to reduce an overlap in services.

At the annual membership meeting of the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce in December, the members present voted to dissolve the organization. The membership also voted to move forward with the combination

Tourism group continued on A8

Upcoming Events

March 16 — Pigs vs. Punks, Manistique Middle/High School gymnasium, 7 p.m.

March 19 — St. Francis Carnival, St. Francis de Sales School, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

March 25 — Eagles Chili Cook-off, Manistique Eagles Club, 2 p.m.

March 25 — Coffee with a Cop, Michigan State Police — Manistique Detachment, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

April 1 — Mom to Mom Sale, Manistique Senior Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

LITTLE BUILDING, BIG DIVIDE



The former Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce building sits empty Wednesday morning, despite the recent flurry of activity and debate surrounding its sale to the city of Manistique.

City's purchase of chamber building causes stir, raises questions

MANISTIQUE — The past week has proved to be a whirlwind for those involved with the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce and the building it occupied. In only a matter of days, a longtime organization dissolved, a building changed hands, and a newly formed group was left reconsidering its next move.

The chain of events began last Tuesday, when the Manistique City Council held a special meeting to discuss its opposition to the dissolution of the chamber of commerce, and also to vote to purchase the chamber building. At the time, Manistique City Manager Sheila Aldrich noted that she was concerned that the recent turmoil at the chamber of commerce would result in the closure of the building. In order to preserve the building, especially in light of the city's new campground, located across the street from the chamber and opening this summer, she said the city would use its recreation department to maintain a visitor's center.

On Wednesday, the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

held a special meeting. Currently, the board consists of Bonnie Garvin, Amy Braun, Kevin Knafla, Paul Walker, John Brazda, Dennis Jankowski, and board president Gerry Reese. All were present except Cheryl Cox, a recently appointed member who Reese claims resigned during a recent meeting. It is unclear whether Cox submitted a letter of resignation, which is required by the board's bylaws.

Wednesday's meeting commenced with Reese telling the many area business owners and members of the public attending the meeting that they must leave unless they were paid members of the chamber.

"It's an open meeting, but we are going to have a closed session," Reese said as he began walking throughout the building to specifically ask attendees if they were members. One audience member reminded Reese that if the meeting is open, the general public and membership may be asked to leave once the closed session begins.

"That's fine, and I appreciate the comment,

but if you can't contain it and be civil I'm going to ask you to leave," Reese said, adding that the request was being made because of "confusion" caused during the chamber's last meeting.

At one point an attendee noted that Reese was acting "confrontational" and that would be no way attract new members.

"Well, the organization is dissolving," said Reese. "I have an open meeting until the closed session, and that's only going to last to get a secretary and we're going to go into a closed session."

At that point, Reese stopped to ask if the "TV" was there, meaning an area broadcast news station, and then proceeded to ask that person to leave.

Schoolcraft County Commissioner Craig Reiter, also attending the meeting, noted to Reese that a "closed session" was not listed

Chamber building continued on A7

mBank releases statement in response to city

MANISTIQUE — The following statement is being released by mBank regarding the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce building in response to the March 10th City of Manistique's press release claim that the Chamber was headed for "imminent" foreclosure and they stepped in to prevent it.

In 2013, mBank was happy to assist the Schoolcraft Chamber of Commerce with financing to support their ongoing operations. As is generally known in the public, the Chamber has experienced financial difficulties and failed to timely pay back the loan. In a letter to the Chamber dated March 7, 2017, the Chamber President and Board were formally offered a proposal to forgive the loan and released all parties if they voluntarily surrender the building and assets to mBank. mBank would have then been the legal owner of all Chamber assets, but instead Chamber

leadership sold those assets to the City to retire the debt owed. Had the Chamber leadership voluntarily surrendered the assets, mBank had planned to donate (free of any costs) the building and all the fixture and furniture contents (valued at over \$75,000 in 2013) to the new planned combined Tourism and Commerce Organization after dissolution of the existing Chamber. mBank communicated this offer over the last couple weeks in several meetings with various Chamber and business members, along with county officials, and finally in an email on March 9th to the City Manager prior to final consummation of the sale of the assets. The Chamber assets were never going to be foreclosed on, there was no foreclosure proceedings commenced, and they could have never occurred unless mBank permitted it. The building and all the assets inside were going to be donated

to the community once the bank took ownership for use by the new combined Tourism and Commerce Organization.

The City leadership decided otherwise and wanted the building for their own use so they apparently negotiated a private deal with some members of the Chamber Board in a clandestine manner. Transparent government at its finest. mBank, as a very large taxpayer in the City, and a bondholder of the Manistique DDA debt, as well as a member in good standing of the Chamber, pledges that it will take all appropriate actions (including legal if necessary) to ensure that the City and Chamber actions were proper and legal and did not violate state or federal laws.

With respect to the new planned combined

mBank statement continued on A8

Quick facts

- The city of Manistique recently purchased the former Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce building.
- The city's recreation department will operate a visitor's center at the location.
- The city is also looking to obtain three acres surrounding the building.

City will reopen visitor center

Recreation department to head up center operations

MANISTIQUE — The city of Manistique recently announced that it will be reopening the visitor center located at 1000 W. Lakeshore Drive. The building was formally the home of the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce.

According to a news release from the city, the center will be run under the auspices of the Manistique Recreation Board, which oversees Little Bear West Arena, Manistique Central Park, and many other recreational activities. This year it will also run Folkfest.

"We look forward to working with the various countywide agencies, businesses, and organizations that make up the entire Schoolcraft County and surrounding area," said Recreation Board Chairperson Mike Powers. "All city and county organizations are welcome to use and volunteer at the new center."

Manistique City Manager Sheila Aldrich stated, "With the campground opening in mid-June we are anticipating a large influx of tourists and visitors requesting information for places to stay and things to do throughout the area. At city hall last summer, we responded to hundreds of requests for information on Kitch-it-i-kiipi and other surrounding attractions.

"Hopefully the new visitor center will reduce that pressure on our city hall staff," she added. "We thank Zellar Millopps Corp. for their assistance in this matter. This came at an opportune time due to the chamber's notice of imminent foreclosure and the IRS and state tax notices to levy on the premises. We appreciate the donations that helped us purchase the building."

The news release noted that the city is applying for a DNR Land Acquisition grant, due April 1, to purchase the surrounding three acres for the development.

"This will lay the foundation for the MDOT Pure Michigan U.S. 2 Scenic Byway running from St. Ignace to Thompson and the potential trailhead for the Iron Belle bicycle and hiking pathway," explained Aldrich. "This will bring added dollars into the local city and county economy.

The future of tourism and business looks bright with the new initiatives going on throughout the city, county, and surrounding area," she added.



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Hello, Janet Wild
Thanks for reading!



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FROM THE EDITOR'S DISK

It's not often I am removed from a meeting. In fact, in all my years working within the journalism industry, I have never been removed from a meeting. This changed last Wednesday, and it is not something I would like to experience again.

For those who have not heard, there was quite a commotion at the last Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meeting, but it was not caused by the public — it was caused by the board president. I have attended a few chamber board meetings, mostly following the turmoil caused by the termination of the former executive director and subsequent violation of the debt the organization had amassed. As part of my duty to provide unbiased information to the public, I attended meetings to relay the current situation of the chamber and what the board was doing to correct the issues.

In each meeting, I was allowed to attend, record, and report the meeting. I was often greeted by name.

During some of these board meetings, and in separate conversations with the board president, concern about the board's bylaws was expressed. The board president was most perturbed by the bylaws — noting that they were outdated and, in some cases, not applicable to the organization in its current form. However, during the meeting Wednesday, the board president was quick to quote from the bylaws, which he claimed stated that only members of the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce may attend meetings (The actual excerpt from the board's bylaws states that "meeting also open to general membership.")

Though private, non-profit organizations are not subject to the Open Meetings Act, the board's bylaws do not explicitly prohibit the public from attending, and past precedent would lead one to believe the public was welcome. In addition, at several points during the meeting, the board president stated that the audience could stay, but not during the closed session the board would take part in.

However, the board president became increasingly agitated whenever he was questioned, respectfully, by either the public, dues-paying members, or even his fellow board members. Some, including myself, stayed, unsure of how to react to this hostile behavior as he stomped around and began pointing people out to ask if they were members.

At one point, Robert Crumb, current CEO of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital, a dues-paying member of the chamber, pointed out that the board president's behavior was unacceptable and that he was possibly violating Robert's Rules of Order (the board's bylaws state that meetings "will follow Robert's Rules of Order").

In the approximately three minutes it took for the board president to procure a phone and place a call to law enforcement, the local department of public safety director walked through the door. While I expected officers to remind the public to remain peaceful and continue to allow the meeting to take place (or even calm the board president), we were instead asked to vacate the property, as we were trespassing.

While public safety officers were merely performing their duty, the board president's actions were in stark contrast to what he had allowed previously — in stark contrast with past tolerance and "open door" policies.

It should be noted that a motion was made by one board member, and seconded by another, to remove the president due to his behavior. These members were told by another member and the board president that no such motion would be entertained. At one point, three members refused to take part in the meeting, leaving three board members and the board president to vote. According to the board president, one other member had resigned following the board's last meeting. It is unclear whether this person had submitted their resignation via written notice to the board.

A point of interest would be that, according to the board's bylaws, two of the members who partook in the vote Wednesday are not believed to be legitimate members of the board,

as "after serving two full terms of office on the board, members shall be ineligible for re-election or appointment to the board until one full year has elapsed." The ineligibility of these members was discussed in at least one prior meeting I attended. Since the board recently added three new members, I would not foresee difficulty in finding two more chamber members willing to serve on the board.

The sole item on the agenda was to consider the sale of the chamber building to the city of Manistique. The city council, in a special meeting Tuesday, had voted to make an offer to the chamber to purchase the building.

I am still not clear about the swiftness in which this business was conducted; why this proposed transaction was not discussed more openly in a public forum is perplexing to me. I can certainly understand the need for executive sessions, but a certain exclusionary tone is set when the city holds a closed session on the matter and the chamber board holds a meeting in which the public is mistreated by the board president and removed by the police.

Is this a tone we want set in our community? I am working under the assumption that those willing to work within this area are reasonable adults with the cognitive ability needed to process information and, if necessary, peacefully question it.

With a county and town of this size, it is essential that residents, businesses, and government officials work together to ensure, not only that it survive, but that it thrive. We cannot financially afford turning businesses and tourists away due to internal fighting.

In addition, the situation begs the question of when the county and city will meet regularly, once again, to discuss and plan for the well-being of our little community. When will our government and organization leaders put personalities aside to benefit the whole? Is working silently against a particular person worth the animosity it creates?

Wouldn't it be more mature and beneficial to work, in the public eye, to mend the fractures created by hostility, unneeded discretion, and toxicity spread through rumors and social media?

I feel as though an undesired mistrust of the public that supports the area is beginning to develop.

I would have never thought that I would read attending local meetings because adults and representatives of this community are acting more akin to squabbling children than rational adults. City, county, and organizational meetings are to be utilized as a tool for operational transparency. They are open forums in which the public can rightfully and respectfully express their opinion and vision for this area — this area occupied by personalities of all shapes and sizes.

No board has the right to make any member of the public feel unwelcome and as though, because they may not understand the Open Meetings Act or Robert's Rules of Order, they don't belong. No one person or group's agenda can take precedence over another's, we are a community — we are whole.

I refuse to take a side on this or any issue that I may have the fortunate or unfortunate task of covering. My job is to relay information.

I would, however, like to relay some advice to anyone who made it through the few minutes it took to read this:

If there is always a middle ground — find it. If you don't like the way an appointed board member, organization or official is operating — say something; it is better to appropriate, and, again, respectfully, air grievances and work toward a solution than to follow a route of vengeance in the shadows. If you love this community and want to see what it can become — listen, collaborate, and move forward. We all have fingers, and we can all aim them accordingly, but if we're all standing around pointing fingers, how can we use our hands to work?

Good luck, Manistique. May the adults of your present work to ensure a respectable community for the children of your future. I know I will be in the middle, doing what I can.

Dear Editor and citizens of Manistique

After reading the article in the Pioneer Tribune dated March 9 about city questions chamber vote, I felt compelled to respond. These are the facts surrounding this story as I experienced them.

First a little refresher, late last summer a scandal regarding Folkfest and the chamber director surfaced, which eventually led to a police investigation. Many local business owners, myself included, started to wonder about the future of the chamber.

As people started to ask questions, it turns out the chamber had many problems. Payroll, unemployment, and sales taxes had not been paid with fees and penalties mounting. Chamber membership was down by 50 percent. You can well imagine that many of us felt something had to change.

Let me point out the city manager was on the chamber board the last several years when said board was totally derelict in their duties. In last week's paper, the city manager was quoted "we have become very keenly aware" — where was her "keen awareness" of a properly functioning chamber the last several years? The city council just bought the building from the chamber that was virtually destroyed while their city manager was on the board. Does that sit well with you?

In November, the chamber had a special membership meeting where a lively discussion took place about the future of the chamber. At that time, a committee was formed to begin efforts toward a merger of what was left of the chamber, the EDC, and the merchants association. Members from each group were on the committee. No one from city hall was present. The Pioneer Tribune covered the meeting with a front page article the following week.

In December, the annual chamber membership meeting was held with ample notification and an agenda item that read "collaboration with other peer organizations". During discussion on that agenda item a motion was made from the floor to dissolve the chamber as it exists and merge the three organizations. It passed overwhelmingly! No one from city hall was present.

At the chamber board meeting in January the president called for the formation of a dissolution committee, which I was asked to serve on. No one from city hall was present. Our committee proceeded to spend many hours learning about the process, compiling necessary forms and information and developing a financial plan for dissolution.

We were scheduled to report at the February meeting which was mysteriously cancelled. Then as you know, an "emergency" city council meeting was held March 8 where council voted to buy the chamber building. A special chamber meeting was held March 9 and they voted to sell the building to the city. Two of those four voting member's terms had expired. The conduct of that chamber meeting was reprehensible and would require another whole letter.

The Mustard Seed has paid dues to the chamber for decades and the inference that our vote matters less than absentee decrees from city hall is unconscionable. I feel this back door deal is an egregious

abuse of power. This demands a fight.

Respectfully,
Cindy King

Dear Editor,

A letter from a small-town councilman to the president of the United States.

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing you in great hope that this letter and the signatures of those small-town councilmen and women who have joined me in this cause, will encourage you to designate the financial resources necessary to stop the invasive species known as the Asian Carp, from entering the Great Lakes and destroying the ecosystem and the multi-billion-dollar fishing industry that operates from Chicago, Ill. to Buffalo, N.Y. and beyond.

To date, funding for the bulk of Asian Carp prevention efforts has come through the EPA.

Regardless of our individual beliefs in the need for greater or lesser regulation of the use of our natural resources, we stand united in the belief that an aggressive, non-native, apex predator such as the Asian Carp must not gain access to the pristine waters of Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Superior, Lake Ontario, and Lake Erie. Without the full financial support of the federal government, we will not succeed.

Please join us in preserving an American way of life on the Great Lakes that has financially sustained us for generations. Indeed, since before the dawn of the American Nation, no greater non-human threat to our way of life has ever existed on the Great Lakes. Please fund this initiative and ask your Canadian counterparts to join in this effort. Together, we can save the Great Lakes.

Respectfully yours,
Joshua M. Brugger
City of Grand Haven
councilperson

Dear Editor,

I am calling this letter, "March Madness Month in the Legislature", because legislators are going mad against teachers again! Michigan legislators are currently writing bills that work against the teaching profession, eliminating teacher's pensions as long term stakeholders, and they are union bashing.

House Bill 4163, which would prohibit school calendar and schedule as a bargaining topic, is one method designed to remove the voice of teachers from the decision making process in local school districts.

After years of new law at the federal and state levels, the role and rewards of being a teacher across the state, and the country for that matter, have diminished exponentially. If you want to see how the government and legislation can destroy a profession look into the history of education law.

A few examples, but not all, of recent Michigan Education Law are thus: prohibited teachers to bargain job placement and recall if laid off, removed seniority status, cuts, or no real increases, to the school aid fund by hundreds and hundreds of dollars per student which impacts each and every class room, granted local boards the option of 80/20 or hard cap for health insurance (most districts imposed the one that cost the district less and employees more). In 2012, the legislature

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

made major changes to teacher pension contributions and pension plans, and currently have plans to deconstruct it even more. Gov. Snyder and the State of Michigan, from 2010-12, unconstitutionally (teachers believe and trust the appeals court will rule) took three percent of our wages for retirement health care costs with no guarantee it will be there when retirement time comes. This decision remains in the court of appeals to this day.

Let's not forget the never ending moving targets of standards and

benchmarks, testing and testing designs, student proficiency levels, teacher evaluations and status, on line learning, charters, vouchers, and now, Betsy DeVos!

The big questions remain about how many more bargaining rights will be targeted and taken from the teaching profession. Who will the people blame for failing schools when legislators finally remove

Letters

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The Archives

This week in the Pioneer Tribune...

50 Years Ago March 16, 1967

• A stricter food handling ordinance, tabled for several months, was revived, discussed, and ultimately introduced at the regular meeting of the City Council Monday night. The ordinance is almost identical to one adopted by the county Board of Supervisors last year. The city has delayed action because of uncertainties as to how it would affect churches and fraternal organizations and their serving of meals to the public. There was discussion as to whether these groups should be exempted from the \$5 fee that would be charged after inspection and approval, but it was pointed out that these groups, in serving to the public, compete with establishments that do pay the fee, and that it was not large enough to prevent a group from participating. Councilman Harold Carlson introduced the ordinance, which will be voted on at the next meeting March 27.

• The Girls Scouts and Brownie Troops of Manistique are observing National Girl Scout week this week following the annual Scout rally Saturday in the Lincoln School gym. The rally, which was well attended by parents and friends, opened with a flag ceremony by members of the Lakeside Browne Troop 9 and Junior Girl Scout Troop 8. Scout-in-charge was Claire Messer; flag bearers were Wendy Wallace and Lori Fredericksan and color guard was Carla Kotchen and Linda Levin. Skits were presented by the troops after which Mrs. W. J. Wallace, cookie sale chairman, distributed material to the troop leaders for the current cookie sale. Leaders are: Mrs. Charles Greene, Mrs. Ronald Morton, Misses Beth Berger and Debbie Cockram, with Mrs. Denton Moir. Troop committee chairman: Mrs. Dino Pirola and Mrs. William Swanson, Mrs. Duane Waters, Mrs. Donald Curran, Mrs. M. Chandanias, Mrs. Ingmar Levin, Mrs. Lyle Kotchen, Mrs. W. J. Wallace and Mrs. David Kelly.

• Glen Jenks was named manager of the Manistique Division of Edison Sault Electric Company Wednesday by Richard Y. Burnett, president of the electric utility. Jenks has been acting manager of the Division since the illness and death of Mr. Clarence Vance. July of this year will mark 31 years of service with ESELO for Jenks. The only break in this long tenure was more than three years of overseas service during World War II with the 531st Combat Engineers. Prior to moving to the Manistique Division in 1958, Jenks was line foreman for the Sault Division of the electric power company. Married to the former Dorothy Neal of Sault Ste. Marie, the Jenks have one son, Joseph, now serving with the 5th Marines in Vietnam.

35 Years Ago March 18, 1982

• The Schoolcraft County Overall Economic Development Committee will meet tonight, March 18, at 7 p.m. in the Courthouse. Included on the agenda is discussion on the proposed Economic Development Corporation for Schoolcraft County including a review of the purpose of an EDC and the options being considered for Schoolcraft County.

• A new law that goes into effect April 1 is no April Fool's joke. It requires children under four years old to be properly restrained when riding in cars. The law, Public Act 117, says that children under one year old must be buckled into a federally-approved safety seat when riding in cars. The same goes for children between one and four if they are riding in the front seats.

• Construction on the county's senior citizens housing project will probably be delayed until late summer after the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development reject the plans submitted by the County Housing Commission. The Housing Commission learned of that rejection, which came last month, at its annual meeting held last Thursday. In a Feb. 17 letter to Housing Director Eileen Matles, a HUD official cited "unnecessary amenities" in the "over-engineered" project plans as reason for the rejection. Architect for the project, Lou Barone of Architects Group Unlimited of Green Bay has redesigned the project to meet the HUD objections. At last week's meeting, the Housing Commission approved the plan revisions for resubmission to HUD for approval.

• A local chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is being formed to serve the Manistique area. The local quartet features Dave Bloom, John Stapleton, Bob Sands and Carl Wegner. The coaches were Connie Christman and Cheryl Vaughn. The new chapter will be affiliated with the Pioneer District of the Society, composed of chapters located in Michigan and Ontario, Canada.

20 Years Ago March 20, 1997

• Many of the streets in Manistique were snow-covered, quiet and untraveled late last week after a late-winter storm dumped 15 inches of snow on the area. The storm arrived Thursday afternoon and continued through Saturday, closing schools and businesses and affecting travel plans for residents. All things considered, Schoolcraft County got off lightly. Other parts of the Upper Peninsula were buried in as much as 30 inches of new snowfall.

• The Manistique Area Schools' Students of the Month for February were: Don Erickson, sixth grade; Rachel James, seventh grade; Tami Bruggeman, eighth grade; Sara Johnson, ninth grade; Josh Burrell, tenth grade; Jenea White, eleventh grade; Julie McManus, twelfth grade.

• The team from Lakeside Elementary School won the fourth grade championship at last Saturday's CBC Basketball Tournament. Team members were Christine Bartholomew, Nikki Bontekos, Jessica Christman, Kyle Eimerman, Nikki James, Danielle Lancour, Tessa Marks, Megan Moore, Brittany Popour and Kelsey Veltkamp. The coaches were Connie Christman and Cheryl Vaughn. Winning the fifth grade was the Big Bay de Noc team. Members were Anna DuFour, Rachel Knop, Lindsey Lax, Brooke Lucas, Any Parkinson and Amber Stilson. The coach was Jessica La Tulip.

10 Years Ago March 15, 2007

• The Manistique Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council have both endorsed a local service club's plan to launch a major community beautification campaign. At Monday night's council meeting, Manistique Rotary Club member Tom Pugh unveiled plans for a five-year initiative to plant trees in certain areas of the city, enlist the support of homeowners to do the same, and encourage other organizations to help out. The initial goal of the project is to replace trees that once lined the city streets, but have vanished over the years due to age and disease.

• Haley Marie Norton, 12, of Cooks successfully defended her 2006 title and more at the 19th Annual Grand Lake Youth Pool Tournament in Escanaba last weekend. The daughter of Randy and Sue Norton and granddaughter of Lee Raredon, Haley was the top female finisher in last year's 8- to 12-year-old division. This time she was not only the top female but also won first place overall in the age group—the first time a girl had captured the overall crown. The feat was so unusual that tournament organizers only had a trophy for boys. That didn't matter to Haley, who promptly added a little skirt to the figure.

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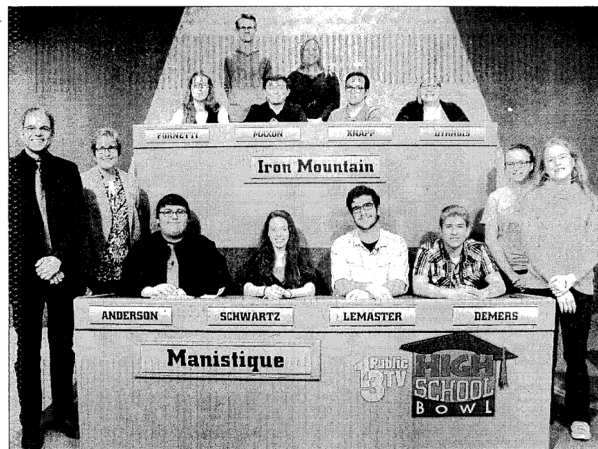
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Note: The Pioneer Tribune welcomes letters from its readers, however, individuals are limited to one letter per month. One rebuttal letter per individual is permitted. Letters to the editor must be no more than 500 words in length. All letters must 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.



TEAM WINNING

Courtesy photo
The Manistique Emeralds played the Iron Mountain Mountaineers in the third round of High School Bowl and won by a score of 180-150. Manistique will advance to the quarter-finals when they play Ironwood in Game 34, scheduled to air April 1. Running from November through the championship game in April, the High School Bowl series airs on Public TV 13 Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Mondays at noon. Find more information on the 2016-17 tournament at wrmvut.nmu.edu. Representing Manistique, seated from left, are players Isaac Anderson, team captain Abby Schwartz, Nick Lemaster and Stephan Demers. Standing are alternates Calli Ansell and Rayna Sherbinov, with Coach Jackie Burns. Players for Iron Mountain are, seated from left, Brooke Fornetti, Jacob Maxon, team captain Roman Knapp and Natalie Dykhuus. Standing is alternate A. Jay Gerou with Coach Kristin Sianchina. High School Bowl host Jim Koski is standing at lower left.

News Briefs

Great Lakes Recovery Centers to host Mental Health First Aid March 20

MANISTIQUE – Great Lakes Recovery Centers will be hosting Mental Health First Aid March 20. The event takes place from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Manistique. Open to all members and organizations of the community.

Mental Health First Aid helps residents identify and offer help to a person developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The course gives residents the training needed to reach out and provide initial support until appropriate treatment

is received or the crisis is resolved. Registration is free, however space is limited. Lunch will be provided.

To register visit greatlakesrecovery.org, under the "Community Services" tab, or call (906) 228-9699, ext. 1025.

Families encouraged to rent table at 'Mom to Mom Sale' set for April 1

MANISTIQUE – Rental space is still available for the Mom to Mom Sale set for April 1 at the Manistique Senior Center. Cost to participate is \$15 for a six foot

table with two chairs. This sale is for anyone wanting to get rid of items their children have outgrown.

The center will also have baked goods and punch available for purchase. For more information, or to reserve a table, contact (906) 573-2462 or 341-2705.

Letters

continued from A2

all of the decision making and the voices of the teachers who support students on a daily basis? Has any of this legislation done anything to improve the results of education? What problems does HB 1463 hope to fix?

Does the state of Michigan and the local school districts value local control? Is there no value in a teacher's role in the decision making process as long time stakeholders who have valuable input on how best to improve the day to day workings of public education?

Legislators come and go. School boards and administrators come and go. Teachers, on the other hand, spend their entire careers in community schools working with generation after generation of local students and families.

Why shouldn't they have a voice in school decision making and the calendar?

Respectfully,
Robin Mulligan
Manistique

Dear Editor,

Where is Congressman Jack Bergman?

In 1969, a young Marine named Jack Bergman took the Oath of Enlistment and swore to support

and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic. For 30 years he was "on point" defending and protecting the American dream and the American promise.

Congressman Bergman reaffirmed that oath when he was sworn in as a member of the United States House of Representatives. Gen. Bergman is the highest ranking military officer ever elected to Congress.

Unfortunately, Bergman seems reluctant to meet with his constituents unless they are financial contributors. Attempts to convey thoughts that pertain to the security of America or to the other issues that concern the citizens of the 1st District have repeatedly fallen on the deaf ears of his staff, so I find that my only recourse is to go public with this appeal.

General, you must call for and/or fully support an investigation into the alleged hacking of our election process by the Russian Federation, and public disclosure of the findings.

Additionally, you must call for and/or fully support an investigation into our current president's tax returns to assure the American public that there have been no con-

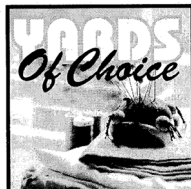
tanglements – loans, debts, gifts etc. – between the Russian Federation and President Trump or any of his many far flung business interests.

And again, the findings must be made public.

General Bergman, you are still "on point". Lights out has not yet been called. Taps has not yet sounded. You must do the job you swore to do. Defending America means finding the truth wherever it may lead.

Sir, I hope that someday you will find that courage you had as a young Marine and face the Americans that you represent as bravely as you faced this country's foes in the past.

Respectfully,
John Hunter
Traverse City



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- City's actions interferes with members desire to merge community resources and personnel.
- Ask your City Manager to step down.
- Three City Council Members terms end this November. So **RECALL** is not an option. *(Members can not be recalled in the year their term ends.)* **REMEMBER, the November election will be our RECALL process.**

Subscriber Service Information

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Paid for by Concerned Citizens

Park to host artist program

— **ONTONOGAN** — Applications are being accepted for the Porcupine Mountains Artist-in-Residence Program for the 2017 spring, summer and fall and 2018 winter residencies.

The Artist-in-Residence Program is open to artists and artisans whose work can be influenced by the unique northern wilderness setting of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park.

Located in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Michigan's largest state park encompasses 25 miles of wave-washed shores, four inland lakes, entire river systems, countless waterfalls, enchanting wooded peaks, and an escarpment, which rises slowly from the edge of Lake Superior until it plunges abruptly into the Carp River valley.

Still, the park's most impressive feature — and the reason for its creation — is the virgin forest of eastern hemlock and northern hardwoods and the variety of flora and fauna that it supports. Because of these attributes, the park is an ideal location to inspire creativity.

The Artist-in-Residence Program offers writers, composers and all visual and performing artists an opportunity to experience the natural beauty of the park and to express it through their art form. Each year a number of artists will be selected for residencies lasting a minimum of two weeks.

Artists will be given the use of a rustic cabin located on the Little Union River and, if requested, a three-night backcountry permit so that they may live in and explore the park's 60,000 acres of natural beauty, ranging from stunning vistas to 90 miles of rugged backcountry trails.

During their residency, artists will be asked to share their experiences with the public through demonstrations or talks. The artists are required to contribute an art piece representative of their stay.

Selection will be based on artistic integrity, ability to reside in a wilderness environment, a willingness to donate a finished piece of art inspired by their stay in the Porcupine Mountains, and the artist's ability to relate and interpret the park through their art medium. The program is open to all art forms except those that may be inconsistent with the mission of the park.

Applications for the 2017 spring, summer and fall and 2018 winter residencies must be received by March 31. Application materials for the Porcupine Mountains Artist-in-Residence Program can be found at www.porkies.org/artist-in-residence.



COLLEGE BOUND

Jessica LaMarch from Bay College recently held a question and answer session for Big Bay de Noc seniors. Big Bay has several seniors from the class of 2017 who applied to and were accepted by Bay College. Pictured are: Erik Johnson, Mason Yonker, Bryce Clarkson, Marissa Rochefort, Allison Roberts, Nathan Chandler, Zachary Middaugh, Robbie Ray, Caitlin Sefcik, Halle Potvin, Alexis Henry, Ariel Cousineau, Elizabeth Moberg, and Tyler Johnson.

Courtesy photo

MSU Extension will host farm, garden short courses

— **CHATHAM** — Extension short courses are scheduled at the North Farm to support Upper Peninsula citizens' use of season extension technologies to produce food both for themselves and for the local markets.

The primary goal of The North Farm, a collaborative operation supported by Michigan State University Extension and Michigan State University AgBioResearch located in Chatham, is to support the growth of new farmers producing nutrient-rich food for Upper Peninsula markets.

The North Farm is hosting a series of MSU Extension short courses starting in May on topics designed for market gardeners, small farms, and skill-seekers interested in diversified vegetable production.

These short courses are an in-depth exploration of farming fundamentals and best practices for diversified vegetable growers. This year's short courses will allow participants to get not only depth, but also breadth of knowledge on soil health, perennial fruit crops like raspberries and strawberries, growing small grains organically, and the role insects play on the farm," said Collin Thompson, MSU Extension educator and farm manager.

Each five-hour learning session has an emphasis on hands-on

activities so participants can practice what they learn, and includes the cost of materials for a project. "We want everyone to leave with something practical that they can use on their own farm when they get home," said Abby Palmer, education coordinator.

All workshops will be held on-site starting at 1 p.m. and will include a combination of experiential and classroom-based learning. The first course is Soil Health on May 21 featuring topics like how to build healthy soil, common soil amendments, and how to interpret soil tests. The hands-on portion of the course will include taking soil samples.

These courses are in their third

year. The instructor roster includes MSU Extension educators from around the state, as well as experts who live and farm in the UP. Short courses qualify for education hours through the MSU Extension Master Gardener program and Soil Health qualifiers for MAEAP Phase 1 Credit. Residents of Menominee County can qualify for a full scholarship to the program through the E.W. and Dorothy Granskog Memorial Fund; apply atmcommunityfoundation.org/index.php/e-w-and-dorothy-granskog-memorial-fund

Registration is required and can be accessed at www.msunorthfarm.org/short-courses.html. Questions? Contact Abby Palmer at palmerab@msu.edu or (906) 439-5058.

OBITUARIES

Lester L. Rogers

COOKS, Mich. — Lester LaVern Rogers, 85, of 16960 29.5 Road, Cooks, Mich., passed away on Saturday, March 11, 2017, at Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility in Manistique.

A memorial gathering will take place on Saturday, March 25, from 10-11 a.m. at the Cooks Congregational Church in Cooks. Services to follow at 11 a.m. at the church. Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique is assisting the family.

He is survived by his wife, Donna J. Rogers.

News Briefs

Alzheimer's Association program March 28

— **MANISTIQUE** — "The Basics: Memory loss, dementia and Alzheimer's disease", an educational program by the Alzheimer's Association, will be held March 28. The program will take place from 12-1 p.m. at Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital.

Alzheimer's disease or dementia, it's time to learn the facts. This program provides information on direction, causes and risk factors, stages of the disease, treatment, and much more.

For those affected by

To register call (800) 272-3900 or (906) 228-3910.

MDOT releases 2017 state construction maps

— **LANSING** — The Michigan Department of Transportation has posted the 2017 Paving the Way state construction map online for motorists to download. The public is encouraged to download the map and print it at home or at their nearest library or print service provider. The map is available at www.michigan.gov/ndotmaps, and will also be on display in all rest areas and Welcome Centers across the state.

"Using current technology to make our yearly construction map available to download is a great service to travelers planning ahead," said State Transportation Director Kirk T. Steudle.

The most up-to-date construction information for state roads is always available at www.michigan.gov/ndotmaps, as well as the Mi Drive mobile app, available on iTunes and Google Play.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application
City of Manistique

The Manistique City Council will hold a public meeting on a proposed Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application during its scheduled council meeting on March 27, 2017. The council meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. at The Comfort Inn, 617 W. Lakeshore Drive, Manistique, Michigan. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear public input related to a Trust Fund Grant Application for the acquisition of property on the northwest quadrant of the US-2 and Harbor View Drive intersection.

Jeff King
City Clerk

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Michigan Natural Resources Land & Water Conservation Fund
City of Manistique

The Manistique City Council will hold a public meeting on a proposed Michigan Natural Resources Land and Water Conservation Fund Application during its scheduled council meeting on March 27, 2017. The council meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. at The Comfort Inn, 617 W. Lakeshore Drive, Manistique, Michigan. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear public input related to a Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Application for the development of Blanchard's Paul Bunyan Park.

Jeff King
City Clerk

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application
City of Manistique

The Manistique City Council will hold a public meeting on a proposed Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application during its scheduled council meeting on March 27, 2017. The council meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. at The Comfort Inn, 617 W. Lakeshore Drive, Manistique, Michigan. The purpose of the meeting will be to hear public input related to a Trust Fund Grant Application to construct a multi-use trail along the Manistique River from US-2 north approximately 1,500 feet.

Jeff King
City Clerk

21
MAR
4
APR

Beginning Sewing Class

We will be holding Beginning Sewing Classes on Tuesday, March 21 or April 4 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. The cost will be \$15.00.

Instructor: Jackie Gores. Class limited to 8.

In this beginner class you will learn basic sewing and how to work with your machine. You will also make a pillow case by the end of class. Please stop in or call Ben Franklin at 341-5911 to register.

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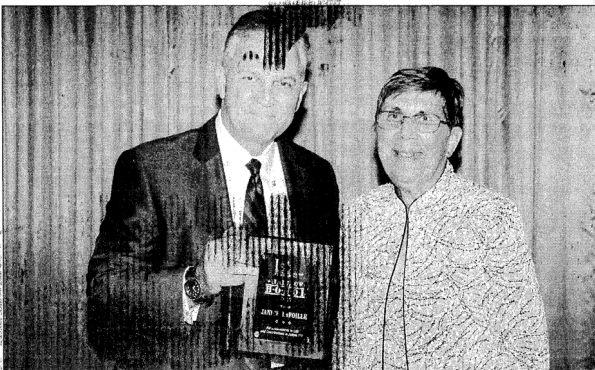
Lifestyles Brief

Bay College announces new spring drama production 'The Bad Seed'

ESCANABA Bay College will be producing their first play of the 2017 season April 6, 7, and 8. "The Bad Seed", an adult drama, depicts a bright little eight-year-old girl who appears to be the epitome of a childhood sweetheart with the intelligence and energy of any small youngster. Bay student, Riley Vogel, will be taking on the lead role of Rhoda Penmark whose sweet child-like demeanor progresses into the dark and mysterious ways of evil. Rhoda's mother, Christine, played by Jacinta Gasperich, believes her daughter to be everything a sweet little girl should be. Then a turn of events sets Christine on a path of discovery that tears her world apart. In the middle of this dilemma, the stalwart Monica Breedlove, played by Liliyan Nelson, tries

to support Rhoda and her family by negating any suspicions they might have about the dear, sweet child. However, the handyman, Leroy, played by Alex Latta, sees Rhoda as a child very much like himself, cool, calculating and evil. He conveys this to her in no uncertain terms, a fact she does not accept. In the middle of this dilemma, Mrs. Daigle, played by Bailey Delke, the mother of Claude Daigle who died, wants answers about his death and tried to pressure the Penmarks about what really happened. However, Mrs. Daigle's drinking problem thwarts the attempts. Adding to the mystery, Miss Fern, head mistress of the prestigious Fern School that Rhoda attends, becomes increasingly interested in what has happened

to student Claude Daigle. Christine's father, Richard Bravo, played by Nicholas DeMenter, is called upon to help his daughter make sense of the events that have transpired. Regional Tasker, played by Dalton Harju, joins Richard Bravo in an attempt to get to the bottom of the tragedy. Finally, Christine's husband, Col. Kenneth Penmark, played by Nicholas DeMenter, who is on assignment and gone for much of the time, comes home to find his family in disarray. This chilling drama will have the audience members on the edge of their seats. Show times are: April 6-8 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 at the box office for the general public and \$5 for Bay College students, staff, and faculty. For more information contact Director Linda Johnson at (906) 396-7486.



Above, JSD Director of Communications Steve Linscomb, left, and Janice LaFoille. Courtesy photo

Former resident inducted into 'Hall of Honor'

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — A former Manistiquie resident was inducted into the Judson Independent School District Civic Hall of Honor in January 2017. Janice LaFoille started volunteering at Park Village Elementary School in 1999 after starting out as a mentor. She eventually became more involved in the school library, where she made some of her biggest contributions bringing more organization and technology that benefitted everyone. LaFoille even served as the school's librarian at one point when the school was still in the process of hiring a librarian. She is a 2010 recipient of the Heroes For Children Award from the Texas State Board of Education and in 2016 the Park Village Library was named after her. Janice and her husband, Richard LaFoille are from the Manistiquie area. Richard is a member of the

Judson ISD Board of Trustees and both are volunteers of Park Village Elementary School in the San Antonio, Texas area.

THE DINNER DIVA

By LEANNE ELY



In a recent article published in Parade Magazine, the cover story revealed the top trends that are changing how we shop, plus all the hot new foods that are the hot new commodities. You see, 33 million people hit the grocery store every single day. That's a lot of people. And the grocery store is taking aim at capturing these folks with new ideas from grocers (you read that right — that's a restaurant within a grocery store) to nutritionists working in the actual store, to delivery meal kits. When I look at all of that, I see Convenience, capital C. But I also see hidden costs galore—how much more are our groceries going to cost? That's why I always default to the basics. You know, basic produce, basic cooking, basic sit down to the table as a family... that kind of thing. And one of my favorite ways to do this — conveniently, without all the associated extra costs for a new trend, is to saddle up to my crockpot. This classic appliance has been making people's lives easier since the 70s. Just dump your ingredients into the pot, plug it in, set it and go...how can you not love something that does all the heavy lifting for you? But there are ways to mess up a perfectly good crockpot meal so I want to help you make your crock cooking a roaring success by following these five easy rules:

1. Always fill your crock at least 3/4 full. That way you will get the full benefit without the burn factor.
2. Cooking something new? Try it while you're at home to make sure it works for your crock—remember, they're all very different: size matters, so does age and make.
3. Keep the lid on. Every time you take the lid off, you're extending the cooking (just like the oven door—it needs to stay shut).
4. Choose the right meat. Believe it or not, the tougher the better. Don't waste a good pork loin or beef file in the crockpot—it will just get tough. A chuck steak on the other hand, will get tender and

juicy; perfect for the crock.

5. Live in a high altitude? Make sure you add an additional 30 minutes per hour of cooking time (in other words, 1 1/2 hours per 1 hour of cooking). Ask me how I found out about this one (hint: I live in Boulder, CO now).

Those five rules will keep your crock humming right along and give your family a great meal. Let's all love on our crocks this week, and here's one of my favorite crock cooker recipes to get you started.

Honey Dijon Crock Chicken

INGREDIENTS

- 6 boneless skinless chicken thighs
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, pressed
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup dry white wine
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons raw honey
- 2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 2 tablespoons olive oil

INSTRUCTIONS

Place all ingredients in a large slow cooker; give it a good stir. Cover and cook on LOW for 8 to 10 hours, or HIGH for 3 to 5 hours, stirring every few hours, or until chicken is fork-tender.

Leanne Ely is a NYT bestselling author and the creator of <http://SavingDinner.com>, the original menu planning website, bringing families back to the dinner table for over 15 years.

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Sunday Matinee 1:00 p.m.	Sunday Matinee 1:15 p.m.

Show lineup beginning Friday, March 17
Downtown Manistiquie | Movie Guide: (906) 341-8622

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SENIOR CENTER NEWS

By CONNIE FRENETTE



Pioneer Tribune photo

mBank recently presented a check to CBC in the amount of \$7,500. Accepting the donation were co-chairs Alan Barr and Jim Weber. Pictured from left are: Sherry Arnold, Alan Barr, Magan MacArthur, Kristine Ecclesine, Jim Weber, and Sally Stram, CBC treasurer.

Proud to support the cause

MANISTIQUE - Exciting things have been happening throughout the community in preparation for the 50th anniversary of CBC. Several businesses and organizations have been holding events in an attempt to reach the annual goal set by the committee.

Avid supporter of the cause, mBank recently presented a check in the amount of \$7,500 to committee members. The generous donation is only one of many by mBank employees that will be forthcoming in the weeks lead-

ing up to the annual CBC Radio-Telethon.

Additional fundraising efforts include "Casual for a Cause" (for a donation, employees may wear jeans on Friday), pot lucks (employees donate to eat lunch), gift basket drawings (employees donate items to put together gift baskets and then are given a chance to win a basket they desire), and selling of "smiles", which are posted on the teller line to show support.

For the past five years, mBank and its employees have donated \$58,106.72 to CBC. Throughout

the years, they have also been a huge supporter of the online auction items.

"mBank is pleased and honored to be a contributor to such a worthy cause as CBC," said Sherry Arnold, Vice President Bank Administration/Training and Development Manager. "By contributing, many community members benefit from the services that are offered through the three agencies that represent CBC."

The Annual CBC Radio-Telethon will be held April 9 at Manistique Middle/High School.

Have your little ones outgrown their high chairs, play pens, clothes, toys, etc.? Instead of throwing them out why not try to resell them? The center would like to help you do so.

We are still looking for interest in purchasing tables at the center for a "Mom to Mom" sale. We would like to have the sale Saturday, April 1, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Booth space is \$15 for a six-foot table with two chairs. As of writing my column we only have two tables rented out.

If you are interested, please contact Kim Chartier (906) 573-2462 or Joanne Milavec at 341-2705, as soon as possible. If we do not have enough tables rented out by Friday, March 24, we will unfortunately have to cancel.

I may sound like a repeat, but it was brought to my attention if you receive food stamps, you definitely want to file for the Home Heating Credit. If you don't, I have been told your food stamps drop considerably. We certainly don't want that to happen. We want to get the word out, as this is new.

The center offers this assistance for those who no longer have to file state or federal (if you file, make sure they are doing your form). Information needed to do your forms includes:

- Social Security number(s).
- 2015 return, if available.
- All 2016 income - including social security, SSI, pensions, dividends and banks interest.
- Taxes paid on your home or rent paid. (If rent, list name and address of landlord.)
- Medical insurance premiums, other than Medicare. (Cannot include life insurance.)
- Heating costs from Nov. 1, 2015 to Oct. 31, 2016.
- Copy of 1099 or social security check, and if you received financial assistance, a statement from Schoolcraft County Dept. of Human Services (Form SA 1099) is needed.

• Telephone number of where you can reach you if we have any questions.

Please call the Center at 341-5923 for further information.

It is very important that you have all info needed, so we don't have to redo the form. We ask you place the information in an envelope, to make sure nothing gets lost.

If enough interest is given, the center staff will be traveling to the following locations:

- Germfask Town Hall and Senior Housing - Wednesday, March 22, 2017
- Heritage House - Thursday, March 23, 2017
- Harbor View Towers - Thursday, March 23, 2017

The deadline to file your Homestead Property Tax Credits is April 18, and your Home Heating Credit deadline is Sept. 30, 2017.

If you are under the age of 60, please call Sharla Kimmel, Community Action Agency at 341-2452 to make an appointment.

Do you have a hard time cutting your toe nails? North Woods Home Nursing comes to the center on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. They soak your feet, trim your nails and do an overall health inspection of your "tootsies". Cost is \$12.50 per person. They ask you bring your own towel. Appointments are necessary and you can do so by calling the senior center.

Our monthly potluck at the center is scheduled for today. Entertainment will begin at 4 p.m. with dinner being served at approximately 5 p.m. Call a few friends and invite them for an evening of socializing.

Joan Brown has recently been appointed to the Manistique Senior Center Board. We wish to thank her for volunteering her time. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. and is open to the public. Feel free to drop by and meet her, along with our other board members.

Are you looking for an electric hospital bed? We have someone willing to give you away. Call the center for further information.

We sincerely wish to thank Dave Chandanis for taking the time to check and do repairs on our medical equipment.

Monetary donations have been received in memory of:

- Bill Hubble from George and Sandy Klarich, Ken and Jean Wolfe
- Jessie Landis from Bernice and Beth Nelson

Maintenance & Support donations were received from Jack DePuy and from Laura Lee Tegtmann.

BRIDGE Mar. 6: 1st-Janice Recker, 2nd-Nancy Brown, 3rd-Eva Wendling, CF-Grace. Hostess, Nancy Brown

BRIDGE Mar. 10: 1st-Doris Demars and Hanna Mammen, 2nd-Betty Stewart, CF-Nancy Brown. Hostess, Jackie Bruce.

500 Mar. 10: 1st-Kim Jones, 2nd-Ruth Jones, 3rd-Arlene Demers, Should a Stayed Home-Larry Peterson.

Birthdays this week: March 16-Dawn White, March 17-Pat Smith and Sharon Robere, March 19-Arvella Goshorn and Charlotte Baker, March 20-Barb McDonald and Amy Johnson, March 21-Millie Rhode, Phyllis Frankovich, and Dalley Woodruff. Happy birthday wishes to all.

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Campaign urges vets to review eligibility

LANSING - Like many Vietnam veterans, coming home wasn't easy for Air Force veteran Bill Arvo.

He returned home to public disdain and suffering from skin issues he later discovered were due Agent Orange exposure.

"I had cysts all over my arms and they just gave me some cream," he said "It was kind of disheartening to go to the VA back then. It really left a bad taste in my mouth."

He avoided VA health care for about 40 years until he developed heart problems and his wife, Michelle, urged him to reconsider.

"My wife said I should think about going back to the VA, that there might be some benefits that I was eligible for now," he said. "I went back and received a 30 percent disability rating. Thanks for her determination I now have a primary care doctor at the VA who really cares about veterans and their wellbeing."

The Arvos are now urging other veterans to review their benefit eligibility in the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency new ad campaign.

The Southeast Michigan couple is featured in television radio, cable and digital ads that hit the airwaves this month.

The commercial is a continuation of MVA's campaign to alert veterans that the agency is available 24/7/365 to help connect veterans of all eras to the benefits they have earned through their service. MVA is a state agency that partners with the VA, state and local government and numerous veteran service organizations to provide assistance to veterans.

"New research and medical advances have contributed to numerous changes in benefits eligibility for Vietnam-era veterans in the last 15 years," said MVA Director James Robert Rectorford.

Veterans can be connected to state and federal benefits as well

as local resources by calling (800) 642-4838 or visiting MichiganVeterans.com.

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Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian
First United Methodist Church
Zion Lutheran Church
Manistique Bible Church
Jehovah's Witnesses
Manistique Harbor Pentecostal Church of God
St. Alban's Episcopal Church
St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
Seventh Day Adventist Church
Victory Lutheran Church
Fayette Congregational Church
Hawkeye Country Church
Cedar Grove Memorial Church

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Chamber building

continued from A1

on the agenda. Another audience member quietly pointed out to other board members that they could vote to remove their president due to his behavior. Braun then made a motion to remove Reese from the meeting, adding to the other board members that they are "all responsible for what's going on here."

Garvin seconded the motion. According to Robert's Rules of Order, "expulsion from membership requires a two-thirds vote."

Reese ignored the motion, instead reading from Section 6.02 of the board's bylaws, which state "Board of directors must meet monthly and on demand of the president, meeting also open to general membership."

Jennifer Watson, another audience member, explained to Reese that "as a show of good faith", anyone could be allowed to attend the meetings.

"You're causing discord with the community," she said. "You should not do this, they are not acting out; they are not causing you any issues."

When Reese was reminded that a motion and second had been made for his removal, Walker pointed out that such an action was "not on the agenda". Reese agreed, adding that he was "not considering changes to the agenda".

One audience member explained that the agenda had not yet been approved by board members – an action usually taken just prior to action items in any meeting following Robert's Rules of Order. According to the Rules, "An agenda covers an entire session ... and is adopted by a majority vote ... after an agenda or program has been adopted by the assembly, no change can be made in it except by a two-thirds vote."

Reese reminded board members that during a board meeting, they are "not entertaining conversation with the membership or general public at this point." He then went on to ask someone in the building to volunteer to serve as secretary for the meeting, as Cox, the

board's secretary, resigned during the last meeting due to "toxicity".

No one volunteered to serve as secretary, so Reese took on the role. He asked the board to consider the agenda for approval – Garvin asked that discussion of the chamber board's bylaws be added as action item number one.

"We're not entertaining bylaws tonight," said Reese, adding that the only item on the agenda is the sale of the chamber of commerce building to the city.

Garvin then asked whether the agenda was legal, since a "public comment" period was omitted.

"I appreciate your opinion, thanks," Reese said, attempting to quiet Garvin.

Knafla and Braun interjected, noting that Reese was holding an illegal meeting. Reese then said public comment on agenda items only would be added to the agenda and take place following the closed session.

"It will be three minutes and five people," he said.

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital CEO Robert Crumb pointed out that type of limit on public comment is "not okay" and "shameful".

"If you keep interrupting, I'm going to ask you to leave," Reese said just prior to standing and announcing that he needed to make a phone call. Reese disappeared from the main meeting room and returned approximately two minutes later, just as Manistique Public Safety Director Ken Golat entered the building.

Golat notified those in the room that any non-members must leave according to board's bylaws, and that, if not, they would be considered for trespassing.

According to one board member contacted following the meeting, Knafla, Braun, and Garvin, at one point, refused to take part of the meeting and walked out. The vote to sell the chamber building was then approved by Brazda, Walker, Jankowski, and Reese.

One point of contention ex-

pressed by some members of the board and public is that, according to the board's own bylaws, Brazda and Jankowski were not legitimate members of the board.

These bylaws state that "after serving two full terms of office on the board, members shall be ineligible for re-election or appointment to the board until one full year has elapsed." It has been noted at previous chamber board meetings that Brazda and Jankowski have continued their terms contrary to the bylaws.

Following the chamber board meeting, Alan Barr and Robert Crumb, both involved in the newly formed Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce (see related story), held a press conference Thursday to tout the group's mission and goals. Barr also explained the logistics of the new group, formerly the Schoolcraft County Economic Development Corporation, and expressed disappointment in the city's purchase of the chamber building – a location the new group had been hoping to secure since late last year.

According to Barr, the Schoolcraft County EDC, Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce, and the Manistique Merchant's Association had formed an exploratory group to consider dissolving each individual organization and merging into one new organization. However, this plan eventually changed.

"If the EDC dissolved, we couldn't go after millage money in the future as part of the funding," Barr said. "That's why it's changing its name to Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce – to really reflect kind of the tourism, but then the merchant's side of things."

Barr said EDC's board will now include a chamber and MMA committee.

"It will look different than it did before," he explained.

Barr went on to say that any business, individual or group previously paying dues to the EDC, chamber, and MMA could now

save 10 to 20 percent by joining the new organization. If all goes according to plan, he said that the dues will be divided fairly between the three groups to continue operations as they did before.

While the chamber board has dissolved, Barr admitted that the MMA group has yet to hold a formal vote to join the new group. However, he added that at least two MMA members has come on board. Three former chamber board members have joined the group.

When asked if the new organization will contest the sale of the chamber building to the city, Barr said he was unsure.

"I haven't had conversations with the board," he said. "As part of the whole dissolution process that we were trying to help with, and the creation new bylaws for the combined organizations, we've applied for pro bono legal funding through the state."

If the organization secures this pro bono legal funding, Barr said looking into the sale "may be" a possibility.

"I don't know how much you want to continue to fight if all it's going to do is fracture the community," he said. "The goal isn't to drive people apart – it's to pull us together. We've got to figure out how to do that in the way that makes the most sense."

Barr added that the new organization had been working with mBank, which held the mortgage for the chamber building, and that the institution had pledged to assist the group in such a way that they would obtain the chamber building without also inheriting the debt associated with it.

"We had that agreement in place with the largest financial institution a week ago, for all of that," Barr explained. "The city, for whatever reason, decided they would spend money they didn't actually have to spend to get an outcome that had already been achieved. It just baffles me."

The city issued a press release

about its purchase of the chamber building and its plan to utilize it as a visitor's center (see related story) Friday. In this release Aldrich stated that the purchase of the building "came at an opportune time due to the chamber's notice of imminent foreclosure and the IRS and state tax notices to levy on the premises." mBank issued a statement Tuesday regarding the city's claim (see side story).

During regular city council meeting Monday, the issue of the purchase of chamber building was not discussed by council members nor the city manager. Attendees of the meeting, however spoke to the issue during the public comment portion.

"I want to first thank the city manager, city council for doing the right thing," said Manistique Recreation Board President Mike Powers. "I'm very excited about the vision and possibilities of the new Manistique visitor and welcome center. We have a great vision."

This vision, Powers stated, would include a rest area, picnic tables, and a community meeting room.

"The options are endless," he said. "Everyone in this room has one thing in common – we all love Manistique. Most of us our friends, neighbors ... my wish is that we could all take a step back. Try to take some emotion out and talk civil to each other."

Manistique resident and EDC board member Jennifer Watson noted that she had tried to reach out to the city manager a few council members prior to the city's purchase of the chamber building.

"We have tried to reach out," she said. "In fact, I encouraged ... Sheila (Aldrich) to speak to people at the chamber meeting. Rather, we have police present at a chamber meeting. It's shameful."

Joseph Norman, local business owner, pointed out that the city is "blatantly violating laws".

"There's no excuse," he said. "If it was any one of us, we'd be in

jail, period."

Kristi King, Manistique Recreation Department director, commented in support of the city's decision to purchase the chamber building.

"The rec department is really excited for the opportunities that this building and the visitor and welcome center is going to provide for us," she said. "I want to thank the council and Sheila (Aldrich) for their support ... and I want to thank Mike Powers for stepping up and being willing to volunteer and lead this new project."

Manistique resident Doug Erickson expressed concern about the city's ability to maintain the volunteers needed to operate the visitor's center. He also questioned the city's purchase of the building, as he said it likely increase the city's financial liability.

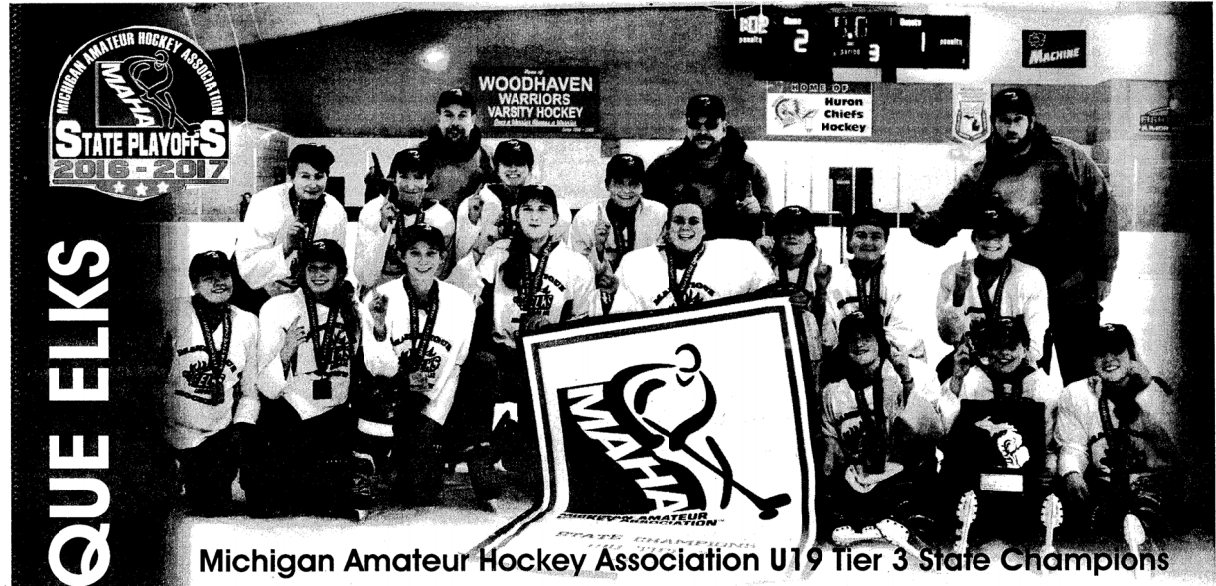
Last to speak during public comment was Kevin Knafla, local business owner and member of the EDC board and member of the chamber board.

"I'm glad the city had a vision, but it's unfortunate that they only worked with part of the chamber of commerce (board) and did not include the economic development board, did not include the county (board) ... and they did not include the business community, who funded, through memberships, over the years, that building and their chamber of commerce," he said. "I just find it unfortunate that the city did not reach out and work as a community, together, to come up with the best solution."

During the reports and communication portion of the meeting, Manistique Public Safety Director Ken Golat noted that there had been some confusion about whether his department previously arranged to appear at the chamber of commerce meeting.

"Manistique Public Safety was asked to be present at that chamber of commerce meeting by Gerry

Chamber building continued on A8



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mBank statement

Tourism and Commerce Organization that has been discussed for some time now, mBank is also evaluating several spots around town to acquire and update to provide, at no cost, a new business home for the organization so they can have all the resources needed to fulfill their mission of promoting our beautiful natural resources in an effort of bringing more jobs and economic growth to our area.

As one of the county's largest and most financially healthy companies, mBank believes strongly, given the dysfunctional financial leadership of the past Chamber and its well-known internal problems, a fresh start with a combined committed well-funded leadership from the EDC and solvent balance sheet will provide the community with the best new path to fully promote and move the town and county forward. We stand ready to help the business community once again as we have done with the paper mill and many others to supply needed capital and other resources to further the successes of the hard working small business owners of this town and their employees that drive the county economic engine every day for the betterment of all.

continued from A1

Chamber building

Reese ... I denied his request," Golat said. "The meeting started at 5 p.m. At 5:08 p.m., I received four calls to get there now. We do not question, we go."

Despite not commenting on the chamber building issue during the meeting, Aldrich did issue a statement to the Pioneer Tribune Wednesday.

"The city acted to make an offer to the chamber board to purchase the chamber building when we be-

came aware of an email and letter that had been sent to the chamber president indicating foreclosure," she said. "The city recreation department is excited to start operating the new Manistique Area Chamber and Visitor Center and many volunteers have already stepped up and offered their time and assistance."

The city will be working with the Manistique Tourist Council and will be accepting literature

from all businesses in Schoolcraft County and counties around us," she continued. "The service will be free. We will be working on compiling a directory of all businesses and want to thank the tourist council for their attractive website, visitmanistique.com, which will be our tourist website for the area."

Aldrich pointed out that the city will continue to market the area.

"Once again, the city will be partnering with John Madigan of

continued from A7

Tourism group

of the chamber, EDC, and MMA. From there, a "dissolution committee", as well as a design team, were formed, with representation from all three organizations on both committees.

The design team worked to create a vision and plan to meet the April 30 deadline imposed by the chamber's membership. The plan included having the welcome

center up and operating again, as the chamber was forced to close the building in October due to budget constraints and personnel issues.

Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce has adopted new by-laws, a board of directors, and is building committees. The vision is to provide businesses and residents with all the traditional

functions of a chamber and economic development organization under one organization. The long-term vision is to engage in activities that will improve the overall quality of life for all citizens of Schoolcraft County.

"The Schoolcraft Tourism and Commerce is privileged to have the support of the largest financial institution in the county, a

continued from A1

collaborative group of businesses and citizens, and a diverse board of directors that is reflective of the entire business community," the release stated. "Armed with these resources, the organization will offer services in the areas of tourism, business attraction and retention, workforce development and special events coordination."

NEWS FROM MAS

By MARYANN BODDY



Every year the Michigan Education Association and the Michigan Education Association Education Support Professionals recognize an "Outstanding Person In Education" with an OPIE award. Association members who are highly qualified in the field, an active member within the school and local community and in good standing in the Education Association are nominated by their peers for this award.

was a former employee at Manistique Area Schools and a member of the custodial staff for many years. The award has not been received by anyone in the U.P. for so it is appropriate that it makes its return to where Leon made his career and John works tirelessly with his own responsibilities.

This year we are extremely proud to announce that our Manistique Area Schools OPIE award winners are Mrs. Christi Ryan and Mrs. Karen Gonya. Both Christi and Karen will be honored at the 16th Annual OPIE Awards Banquet at the Terrace Bay Inn in Gladstone on April 13.

The banquet is open to the public but you must register to attend.

In another Manistique connection, alumnus Tim Magnusson will be speaking to the sixth through 12th grade students on March 23, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. This is the second annual alumni presentation in what we hope will grow to be an annual event.

Manistique Area Schools 2016 OPIE Award winners honored last year were Colleen Hoholik and Sue Videtich.

John Barry has also been recognized for his dedication to his profession with the Leon A. Brunner Award. The Leon A. Brunner Award was established in 1988 by the MEA ESP Caucus Executive Board to recognize Michigan's Education Support Professionals who have exhibited a high degree of commitment and dedication to their union while advocating for ESP member issues and promotion of ESP careers.

Last year, Mr. James Studinger engaged the students with his stories of growing up in Manistique and finding his way through high school, college, and a professional career.

Mr. Barry will receive recognition at a banquet in East Lansing on March 17.

Mr. Magnusson is a Partner and Senior Portfolio Manager at Garda Capital Partners in the Greater Minneapolis-St. Paul Area. He is an incredible person who has done some amazing things throughout life. His story is going to be incredibly interesting for the kids.

This award is very special for several reasons. Leon A. Brunner

Tim and his wife, Sherri, are completely committed to supporting and encouraging the students of Manistique Area Schools with their personal stories and we look forward to further collaboration with them in the future. If you are interested in hearing Mr. Magnusson's TEDTalk style presentation to the students please join us.

MANISTIQUE PUBLIC SAFETY

Editor's Note: The following information is from Manistique Public Safety dispatch lookbooks recorded at the time the calls were received.

Tuesday, March 7, 2017
6:51 a.m. Department assist, Tannery Road
10:20 a.m. Fire drill, MHS
11:02 a.m. Blight, Manistique Avenue
11:30 a.m. Safety hazard, Schoolcraft Avenue and West Elk Street
12:18 p.m. Down Power Line, Second Street
1:23 p.m. Tree on power line, US Highway 2
2 p.m. Department assist, River Road

Wednesday, March 8, 2017
7:15 a.m. Lost child, River Street
10:15 a.m. Possession of marijuana, Cattaraugus/Arbutus
10:45 a.m. Department assist, within city of Manistique
2:20 p.m. Disturbing a lawful meeting, US 2
7:55 p.m. Be on the lookout for reckless driver, US 2
Thursday, March 9, 2017
9:10 a.m. One car property damage accident, within city of Manistique
9:50 a.m. Lockout, within city of Manistique
10:15 a.m. One car property damage accident, Cedar Street
12:30 p.m. Traffic control, Oak/Mable Streets
Friday, March 10, 2017

6:21 a.m. Department of Public Works (DPW), slippery roads
8:53 a.m. Lockout, Houghton Avenue
9:20 a.m. Civil dispute, within city of Manistique
11:03 a.m. Lockout, Alger Avenue
10:30 p.m. Disturbing the peace, Arbutus Avenue
Saturday, March 11, 2017
3:30 a.m. Suspicious situation, First Street
3:50 a.m. DPW callout, snow covered roads
8:55 a.m. Alarm, within city of Manistique
11:45 a.m. Citizen assist, Second Street
3:55 p.m. Safety hazard, Arbutus/Range Streets

7:05 p.m. Civil issue, Second Street
Sunday, March 12, 2017
12:05 a.m. Lockout, US 2
9:45 a.m. Suspicious situation, Maple Street
12:36 p.m. Speeding vehicle, US 2
1:30 p.m. Civil dispute, Cedar Street
3:20 p.m. Animal complaint, Houghton Avenue
5:25 p.m. Suspicious situation, Cedar Street
Monday, March 13, 2017
8:30 a.m. Careless driving, Maple and Oak Streets
12:25 p.m. Assault, within city of Manistique
3:15 p.m. Parade detail, Manistique Girls Hockey Team, State Champs

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Thursday, March 16, 2017

Pioneer Tribune



MAHA U19 Tier 3 State Champions

EAST

Round 1	Round 2
Thursday 1 Villanova (31-3) 6:00 p.m.	March 16-19
16 MSM or N. Orleans CBS	
8 Wisconsin (25-9) 8:40 p.m.	Saturday
9 Virginia Tech (22-10) CBS	
5 Virginia (22-10) 11:40 a.m.	
14 UNC Wilmington (29-5) truTV	Saturday
13 Florida (24-8) 2:00 p.m.	
13 East Tenn. State (27-7) TBS	
Friday	
6 SMU (20-4) 2:00 p.m.	
11 Providence or USC truTV	Sunday
3 Baylor (25-7) 11:40 a.m.	
14 N.M. State (28-5) truTV	
Friday	
5 Carolina (22-10) 8:50 p.m.	
12 Marquette (19-12) TBS	Sunday
2 Duke (27-8) 6:20 p.m.	
15 Troy (22-14) TBS	

WEST

Thursday	
5 Gonzaga (32-1) 1 p.m.	
16 S. Dakota State (18-16) TBS	Saturday
8 N. Western (23-11) 3:30 p.m.	
9 Vanderbilt (19-15) TBS	
Thursday	
5 Notre Dame (25-9) 11:55 a.m.	
2 Princeton (23-6) CBS	Saturday
4 West Virginia (26-8) 1:45 p.m.	
13 Bucknell (26-8) CBS	
Thursday	
6 Maryland (24-8) 5:50 p.m.	
4 Xavier (21-13) TNT	Saturday
Florida State (26-8) 8:20 p.m.	
4 Fla. Gulf Coast (26-7) TNT	
Thursday	
7 Saint Mary's (28-4) 6:20 p.m.	
10 VCU (26-8) TBS	Saturday
7 Arizona (30-4) 8:50 p.m.	
15 North Dakota (22-9) TBS	

Round 2

Round 1	Round 2
March 18-19	Friday
1 Kansas (28-4) 5:50 p.m.	March 16-17
16 NC Central or UC Davis TNT	
8 Miami Fla. (21-11) 8:20 p.m.	Sunday
9 Michigan State (19-14) TNT	
Thursday	
5 Iowa State (23-10) 8:57 p.m.	
12 Nevada (28-6) truTV	Saturday
4 Purdue (25-7) 6:27 p.m.	
13 Vermont (29-5) truTV	
Friday	
6 Creighton (25-9) 3:30 p.m.	
11 Rhode Island (24-9) TBS	Sunday
3 Oregon (29-5) 1 p.m.	
14 Iowa (22-12) TBS	
Friday	
7 Michigan (24-11) 11:55 a.m.	
10 Oklahoma St. (20-12) CBS	Sunday
2 Louisville (24-8) 1:45 p.m.	
15 Jacksonville St. (20-14) CBS	

Round 2

Round 1	Round 2
March 18-19	Friday
1 Kansas (28-4) 5:50 p.m.	March 16-17
16 NC Central or UC Davis TNT	
8 Miami Fla. (21-11) 8:20 p.m.	Sunday
9 Michigan State (19-14) TNT	
Thursday	
5 Iowa State (23-10) 8:57 p.m.	
12 Nevada (28-6) truTV	Saturday
4 Purdue (25-7) 6:27 p.m.	
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Friday	
6 Creighton (25-9) 3:30 p.m.	
11 Rhode Island (24-9) TBS	Sunday
3 Oregon (29-5) 1 p.m.	
14 Iowa (22-12) TBS	
Friday	
7 Michigan (24-11) 11:55 a.m.	
10 Oklahoma St. (20-12) CBS	Sunday
2 Louisville (24-8) 1:45 p.m.	
15 Jacksonville St. (20-14) CBS	

MIDWEST

Friday	
1 Kansas (28-4) 5:50 p.m.	March 16-17
16 NC Central or UC Davis TNT	
8 Miami Fla. (21-11) 8:20 p.m.	Sunday
9 Michigan State (19-14) TNT	
Thursday	
5 Iowa State (23-10) 8:57 p.m.	
12 Nevada (28-6) truTV	Saturday
4 Purdue (25-7) 6:27 p.m.	
13 Vermont (29-5) truTV	
Friday	
6 Creighton (25-9) 3:30 p.m.	
11 Rhode Island (24-9) TBS	Sunday
3 Oregon (29-5) 1 p.m.	
14 Iowa (22-12) TBS	
Friday	
7 Michigan (24-11) 11:55 a.m.	
10 Oklahoma St. (20-12) CBS	Sunday
2 Louisville (24-8) 1:45 p.m.	
15 Jacksonville St. (20-14) CBS	

SOUTH

Friday	
1 N. Carolina (27-7) 3 p.m.	March 16-17
16 Texas Southern (23-11) TNT	
8 Arkansas (25-9) 12:30 p.m.	Sunday
9 Seton Hall (21-11) TNT	
Thursday	
5 Minnesota (24-9) 3 p.m.	
12 Middle Tenn. (30-4) TNT	Saturday
4 Butler (23-8) 12:30 p.m.	
13 Winthrop (26-6) TBS	
Friday	
6 Cincinnati (29-5) 6:27 p.m.	
11 K-State or W. Forest truTV	Sunday
3 UCLA (29-4) 8:57 p.m.	
14 Kent State (22-13) truTV	
Friday	
7 Dayton (24-7) 6:10 p.m.	
10 Wichita State (30-4) CBS	Sunday
2 Kentucky (29-5) 8:40 p.m.	
15 Northern Ky. (24-10) CBS	

BROWNSTOWN, Mich. — The girls' team of the Manistique Hockey Association has had many successes over the years, but none compare to that achieved by this season's squad.

Their successful season started early when they won the Battle on the Bay Tournament in Alpena last December. After cruising through the CUP League during the regular season, the girls' season concluded with a 2-1 win over Huron County in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association U-19 State Championship.

This will be the first banner the girls program will bring back to Manistique to hang above their home ice at Little Bear West Arena.

Pool play began for the Manistique Elks team Friday night when they met Huron County at center ice for the start of their championship run. Manistique found the net six times over three periods, taking the opener 6-2.

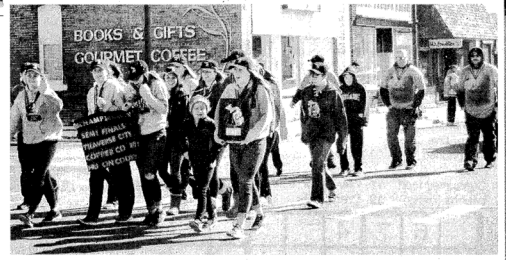
Back on the ice Saturday, the Elks faced off against their northern competitor, Copper County. Aggressively attacking the net, Manistique touched the net for 11 goals. Sharp on front, goalie Hannah Riesland recorded a shut-out.

Behind another solid effort by Riesland, Manistique defeated Traverse City 2-1, earning the right to advance in tournament play Sunday.

Down to four teams Sunday morning, Manistique advanced to the championship by defeating Midland 4-1. They would face off with Huron County in the championship game after their 10-1 win over Marquette.



Courtesy photos
The Manistique Elks girls' 19-U hockey team skated off with a MAHA State Championship over the weekend in Brownstown. Team members include, front row, from left: Cadense Jenerou, Megan Annelin, Taylor Holmberg, Mikala Robinson, Hannah Riesland, Katie Rahilly, Morgan Miller, and Regina Mooney. Back row: Lia Mackinnon, Alyssa Welters, Kamryn Hoezee, Emma Bryant, Savanna Zielski, Brooke Whiskin, and Josephine Hendricks. Pictured in back is coaching staff, from left: JR Miller, Steve Welters, and Ben Rahilly. Due to their late arrival home Sunday night, a congratulatory parade was held in the team's honor on Monday afternoon (pictured right).



IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL

Courtesy photo

Three players on the Grand Ledge High School junior varsity basketball team have a connection to the Manistique area. Sam Townshend (10), is the son of Pat and Mary Townshend. He is the great-great-grandson of John Joseph Wiley Townshend, who worked as the Seul Choix Point Lighthouse keeper said to haunt the lighthouse. Sam is also the great-grandson of Ivan Townshend, who also served as the Seul Choix Point Lighthouse keeper. Team captain, Dillon Beaton (21), is the son of former Manistique residents Dan and Lori Beaton. Matt Jackson (12), is the son of former Manistique resident David Jackson and his wife Susie Jackson.



2016-17
Mid-Peninsula Conference
Boys Basketball
All Conference Team Selections

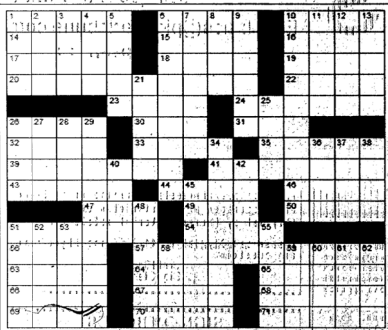
Darien Nichols

PLAYER OF THE YEAR	SCHOOL	GR
Dre Tuominen	Negaunee	28

1ST TEAM	2ND TEAM	ALL-DEFENSIVE TEAM	HONORABLE MENTION
Carson Wonders	Reed Wiedenhofer	Darius Prosser	Tucker Taylor
Trent Bell	Justin Bal	IM	Gwinn
Connor Ortman	Nathan Beckman	Bryce Broden	Neg 9
Hart Holmgren	Dominic Yabe	Evan Crawford	Jaden Viconzi
Marcus Johnson	Josh Plante	Ethan Burk	Austin Forbes
		Jordan Stein	Gwinn

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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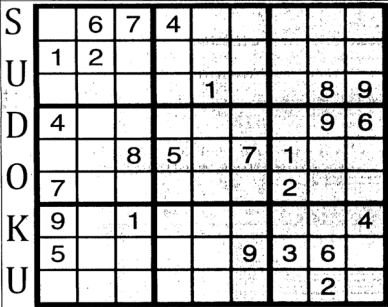
ACROSS

1. Drills
6. Leer at
10. Constellation
14. Submarine
15. Not amateurs
16. Kettles
17. France's longest river
18. Legumes
19. Colors
20. Deadly
22. Curved molding
23. Plateau
24. Named (archaic)
26. Water pit
30. Roll of bills
31. Mayday
32. Urgent request
33. Incite
35. List components
39. Disentangle
41. Memory loss
43. Fish broth
44. Decorative case
46. Telephoned
47. Fuss
49. Consumed food
50. Laughs (slang)

DOWN

51. Disparaged
54. fda
56. WWI plane
57. Surfactant
63. Salute
64. Storage cylinder
65. Incline
66. Unit of land
67. Catch
68. Language of ancient Rome
69. Don
70. Breezy
71. Précise
Electric light
Double-reed woodwind
3. Agitate
4. Nobleman
5. Water vapor
6. Our thumbs are this
7. Explosive device
8. Give temporarily
9. Literary
compositions
10. Covering on a sofa
11. French for "Red"
12. Precipitous

13. Something of value
21. Type of vacuum flask
25. Metal money
26. Potato
27. Forearm bone
28. Untidiness
29. Beggar
34. Useless repetition
36. Brother of Jacob
37. Furry mammal
38. Droops
40. Assistant
42. Components
45. Arranged in table form
48. Black Sea port
51. "Hogwash!"
52. Quickly
53. Nigerian monetary unit
55. Passageway
58. Short skirt
59. Plant fiber
60. Greek letter
61. Sweeping story
62. Lease



Level: Intermediate

Word Search

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

Abduct Crawl Honeys Scarlets Smarterly Witching
Basar Dances Impose Scents Tamer Yield
Basins Fiddlers Meats Sheds Theta Yokel
Brats Fives Mistake Silts Toads Youngest
Chiefs Florid Often Sludg Tonic
Clapper Friar Parsec Skimping Utensils
Class Goosed Ridding Slain Virtual
Covert Grumpy Saddling Slaps Vises

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to vision. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 9 = e)

A. 9 12 9 1
Clue: Allow, slight

B. 1 6 11 22 24
Clue: Ability to see

C. 25 6 15 5 9 2 24
Clue: Illness

D. 15 25 1 22 9 1
Clue: Hairs

The Manistique Hockey Association hosted their second annual Mite Melt in Manistique last weekend. Eight mite teams (ages 6-8) participated in the hockey tournament that took place both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday, Escanaba 1, Sault Ste. Marie, Petoskey, and Marinette/Menominee faced off in one division. In the other division, the Manistique Mites took on Alpena, Keweenaw Bay, and Escanaba 2. The four teams that made it into the championship bracket Sunday were Sault Ste. Marie, Alpena, Manistique, and Marinette/Menominee. At the culmination of the tournament, Sault Ste. Marie took home the first place trophy, Alpena finished with second, and Marinette/Menominee beat out Manistique to take third. Several businesses, including Manistique Tourist Council, Zephyr Fuel, Big Boy, Jack's Fresh Market, State Savings Bank, Hohl Enterprises, and Carmeuse Lime and Stone participated in the sponsorship of the event. Graymont and Bink's Coca-Cola participated also, donating items to the player goodie bags. There are pictures of all the hockey action at <http://mst.pioneertribune.com>. smugmug.com/Sports-photos.



A "MIGHTY" TOURNAMENT

FISH REPORT BY RET. SGT. JOHN WALKER

Well, after the nasty-windy cold spell we had, one can only hope it was the last blast of winter and now it will be warming up and keep going in the right direction. As usual this time of year everyone you talk to is tired of winter and ready for spring. The type spring that arrives outdoors and not only on the calendar.

There are a couple of yearly events coming up that I would like to mention this week.

First there is the 52nd Annual Schoolcraft Conservation District meeting and dinner on April 10 at 5:30 p.m. being held at First Baptist Church here in town. All are welcome to attend this annual meeting for a fun time plus a great meal. The special speaker will be from our paper mill to enlighten us on what has happened and bring us up to date as to what is going on. Please contact the Conservation District office in the court house at 341-8215 for tickets and more information.

The other thing that is fast approaching is the annual tree sale for the Conservation District. You can either go to the Conservation District web site for more information and an order form or you will find printed catalogs at businesses around town. These orders for trees and shrubs have to be in so they will be here for you to pick up on April 28 and 29 at the fair building.

I talked about signs that spring is coming our way and besides seeing a robin or two around the house, the annual tree sale is another sure sign it is coming.

Having spent all of my working life either in the military or working for the state of Michigan, I was always affected by the whims of those

in the "Big House". In reading the story below it just reminded me of when I wrote in one of my books that what most of those down in the "Big House" could use was a chain-saw education.

A cowboy named Bud was overseeing his herd in a remote mountainous pasture in Texas when suddenly a brand-new BMW advanced toward him out of a cloud of dust.

The driver, a young man in a Broni suit, Gucci shoes, Ray Ban sunglasses and YSL tie, leaned out the window and asked the cowboy, "If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a call?"

Bud looks at the man, obviously a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing herd and calmly answers, "Sure, Why not?"

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell notebook computer, connects it to his Cingular RAZR V3 cell phone, and surfs to a NASA page on the Internet, where he calls up a GPS satellite to get an exact fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo.

The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Photoshop and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany.

Within seconds, he receives an email on his Palm Pilot that the image has been processed and the data stored. He then accesses an ODBC connected Excel spreadsheet with email on his BlackBerry and, after a few minutes, receives a response.

Finally, he prints out a full-color, 150-page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet printer, turns

to the cowboy and says, "You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves."

"That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves," says Bud.

He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on with amusement as the young man stuffs it into the trunk of his car.

Then Bud says to the young man, "Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?"

The young man thinks about it for a second and then says, "Okay, why not?"

"You're a Congressman for the Government," says Bud.

"Wow! That's correct," says the yuppie, "but how did you guess that?"

"No guessing required," answered the cowboy. "You showed up here even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already knew, to a question I never asked. You used millions of dollars' worth of equipment trying to show me how much smarter than you are; and you don't know a thing about how working people make a living - or about cows, for that matter. This is a herd of sheep."

Now - give me back my dog.

Like all good jokes, there is certainly an element of truth in a story like this but at times you have to wonder how far the truth is from the joke. In other words how much in touch are those in office with the pulp cutter or the rancher living it?

Pigs vs. Punks Thursday

MANISTIQUE - The annual Pigs vs. Punks basketball game, a friendly face-off between Manistique area law enforcement and Manistique High School seniors, will be held March 16. The event takes place at 7 p.m. in the Manistique Middle/High School gymnasium.

At half time, the name of the "lucky" individual who will kiss the pig will be announced.

The evening will also include the "Jail and Bail" fundraiser, 50/50 raffles, and a concession. A special St. Patty's day basket raffle will also be included.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the class of 2017.

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Not every sports photo we take can be included in the weekly edition of the Pioneer Tribune. All the sports pictures from the event, we offered can be "viewed" and purchased here.

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NRC hears testimony on Hinkson's dispute with Forest Service

LANSING - On Wednesday, the Senate Natural Resources Committee took testimony from concerned residents regarding the policies and actions of the U.S. Forest Service relating to the Hiawatha National Forest.

"I often hear about natural resource and land use issues from constituents who share concerns about policies the U.S. Forest Service has implemented or proposed," said the committee chairman, Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba.

Casperson invited Manistique residents Roy and Julie Hinkson to offer testimony before the committee on an issue related to their private property.

Roy Hinkson owns land that is surrounded by the Hiawatha National Forest, upon which his family's deer camp has been located for more than 60 years. As far as Hinkson and his family knew, the camp structures were on his 40 acres of land. Un-

known to him, the USFS resumed the property and determined that the Hinkson camp structures were partially on federal forest land.

On opening day of Michigan's 2014 firearm deer season, Hinkson testified he was approached, unannounced, by USFS and Michigan Department of Natural Resources officials about the location of his camp. Casperson's constituent was informed his camp was on forest land and that it must be removed and the land restored, at his expense.

Hinkson received two citations and faces criminal charges for the alleged encroachment which he has spent significant time and money fighting. Federal court proceedings are scheduled again on March 20 and 21. Additionally, his personal information, including social security number, was released publicly in a Freedom of Information Act request, causing him more expense, headache and stress.

Hinkson's interaction has led to a costly multi-year dispute that Casperson said is unnecessary.

"This is an overzealous and unwarranted treatment of a very honorable private property owner whose land borders the Hiawatha National Forest," Casperson said in a letter to U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke. "Roy Hinkson's situation is extremely troubling, and it has adversely impacted him, his family and a community that cares about him."

"I am requesting U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to review this matter quickly and expeditiously and to work with Mr. Hinkson on a reasonable resolution as this is a situation that did not need to be taken to the point of criminal prosecution."

More information is available in the letter Casperson submitted to Zinke, at <http://www.senatortomcasperson.com>.



The Michigan Senate Natural Resources Committee heard testimony on Wednesday from Roy and Julie Hinkson of Manistique regarding their land dispute with the U.S. Forest Service.

FROM THE FORESTER

BY BILL COOK

DISTRICT COURT

There are millions of plants that could potentially be planted in woodlands, gardens, and around residences. Nativity is one factor in selecting species; and exotic is not necessarily a bad choice.

Humans have been a major vector of plant transport for centuries, moroso in recent times. One has to wonder a bit about who cultivated whom, when thinking about species such as apples, wheat, or corn.

Most exotic species are largely benign to the environment and are often helpful to humans. Many species are so naturalized that many people assume that they're native. Think dandelions. There are a few species, however, that have given the idea of "exotic" a bad name. These species should not be planted and existing occurrences should be prevented from spreading and eradicated, where possible.

The most important factor regarding "exotic invasive" species is the likelihood for causing ecological or economic harm, or harm human health. Although, what constitutes "harm" has variable definitions.

In addition to the argument of where a species originated, there's also the issue of how a plant species has been bred over time, often for various purposes. So many of our

garden flowers are far-removed from their original genetics through decades, or centuries, of breeding. Tulips, for example, an icon of the Netherlands, originated from Turkey. This idea also holds true for ornamental shrubs and trees.

Furthermore, an individual species can have different genetics across its range. Sugar maple, for instance, is not quite the same from southern Michigan to the west end of the Upper Peninsula. It's even more different in northern Minnesota, where the climate is drier and colder. Sometimes, a species in one place might be almost unrecognizable in another place.

Plant species have different degrees of genetic "plasticity". For example, red pine is pretty much the same everywhere; while green ash and red maple have a wide genetic alphabet, thus, the creation of so many horticultural varieties.

Plant species with a set of genetics from, say, Iowa could be considered an exotic in northern Michigan. It might be able to grow, but not as well as the native version of the same species. Prairie plants, in particular, often have these subspecies variations.

The term "exotic species" simply means a plant (or animal) whose species or genetics are different and

come from somewhere else. That "somewhere else" might be another continent, another region, or maybe something as local as another lake or pond.

The term "invasive" refers to the ability of a species to reproduce and expand its range in a place where it previously did not exist. Some organizations now define invasive as always an exotic. However, sometimes, native species can become "invasive" under altered ecological conditions, "invading" niches that were previously occupied by other species, or becoming "unnaturally" common. This leads to dysfunction in ecological systems.

For homeowners and forest owners, these questions should be considered when deciding what to plant, and where the selected species geographically originated. If you're going to plant sugar maple, then try to find a local nursery that uses local seeds.

If you're considering exotic species (or subspecies), then learn first about its potential to become aggressively invasive. Poor choices include species such as Japanese barberry, privet, frog-bit, or garlic mustard. Some species are illegal to introduce to Michigan, even if they're already here. Exotic species

often do not fit well into the native food web. As an example, Doug Tallamy, University of Delaware, constructed a list of native and exotic plants and the number of insect larvae each species supports.

If the local garden center or tree nursery personnel don't know the answers to these questions, consider finding another vendor or do some searching on the Internet. As the interest in plants grows, and the amount of choices expands, a responsible gardener or landowner will suit the species to the site, especially in wildland landscapes. Plants that are transported from other states (or countries) can also carry exotic pests. That's how the hemlock woolly adelgid was introduced to the western Lower Peninsula.

However, non-invasive exotics can be good choices. Many plants have interesting characteristics that can enhance property values and make for more visually diverse ownerships. Sometimes, quite attractive genetic hybrids are sterile, resulting in less risk of spread.

North America still has many mostly native vegetation types, although exotic plants, animals, and diseases have changed, and will continue to change, these resources. Typically, the changes

are detrimental to both ecological diversity and function, and sometimes for long-term human welfare. Impacts from Asian longhorned beetles and hemlock woolly adelgids are prime forest examples.

Nevertheless, other parts of the world, such as Europe and regions of Asia have become considerably homogenized. In some ways, we can see our future in those places. It's not only about the appreciation of natural diversity, there is also a set of environmental services which are affected. But that's another story. The bottom line is to learn about what you plant and try to make informed choices.

Bill Cook is a MSU Extension forester, providing educational programming for the entire Upper Peninsula. His office is located at the MSU Forest Biomass Innovation Center near Escanaba. The Center is the headquarters for three MSU Forestry properties in the U.P. with a combined area of about 8,000 acres. A collection of these newspaper articles, back to July 1997, can be viewed on the following website: <http://michigansaf.org/ForestInfo/Newspaper/0000-Directory.htm> or under the "Forest Info" button of <http://michigansaf.org>.

Carol Ann Benner, 59, Spruce St., Sault Ste. Marie, charged with driving 45 miles per hour in a 35 mph zone (2/17). Assessed \$125.

Kyle William Welters, 18, Connors Rd., Munising, charged with driving 60 miles per hour in a 55 mph zone (2/17). Assessed \$100.

Keith Robert Gillespie, 54, H-33, Gould City, charged with failure to yield signed intersection (2/17). Assessed \$115.

Tracie Marie Winsor, 34, Munising Ave., Munising, charged with speeding 1-5 miles over (3/17). Assessed \$100.

Lindsay Ann Knuth, 18, Park Ave., Manistique, charged with speeding 1-5 over (3/17). Assessed \$100.

Russell Arthur LaFave, 59, N. Corner Lake Rd., Wetmore, charged with driving 45 miles per hour in a 40 mph zone (3/17). Assessed \$100.

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