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MARQUETTE MONTHLY

April 2026

No. 444

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About the Cover Artist

“Art that makes you SMILE!” is what Betsy Buckner strives for. She is a local artist whom you can follow on Instagram @betsybuckner. Enjoy!

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PWPL seeks readers, artists to celebrate library week

The Peter White Public Library will celebrate National Library Week: Find Your Joy from April 19 through 25.

There will be free coffee day on Monday, April 20 and button-making from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22 in the Teen Zone. Additionally, bookmark coloring and an interactive art installation (lower level) will be available throughout the week.

The library is seeking art from youth of all ages for its Jurassic Art Summer Reading program. Artists may find inspiration in the “Summer Reading: Unearth a Story” theme, but are not confined to that theme for their art pieces. Informational handouts detailing submission guidelines are available at the Youth Services desk.

Art can be submitted May 1 through July 31. Art will be installed on the lower level art gallery wall of the library starting in July.

For details, call 906-226-4323 or visit pwpl.info.

Grief support series to begin April 2 in Marquette

“You Don’t Have to Grieve Alone,” a community grief support series, will take place every other Thursday, April 2 through May 14, at Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice in Marquette.

The program will offer a supportive environment to learn about the grief process, share experiences and explore healthy coping strategies.

The series is free. For details or to register, call 906-225-7760.

League of Women Voters to hold monthly meeting April 8

The League of Women Voters of Marquette County will hold its

Ishpeming girls win state championship

As if the road to a state championship isn’t arduous enough, the Ishpeming High School girls basketball team faced — and conquered — a set of circumstances its rivals could only imagine.

While much of the Upper Peninsula was digging out from the March 15-16 storm that dumped several feet of snow on the region, the Hematites calmly set about their goal of winning a second state title in three years.

On March 11, Ishpeming defeated Ewen-Trout Creek 40-29 to claim the Region 25 trophy in Division 4.

That victory earned the Hematites a berth in the state quarterfinals, scheduled for March 17 in Gladstone.

When the blizzard lived up to its forecasted ferocity, however, the Michigan High School Athletic Association moved the game to March 18 at Gaylord High School, just 29 miles from Ishpeming’s opponent, Indian River Inland Lakes.

The adjusted date meant the Hematites would have to win three games in four days to claim the championship, and they took care of the first task with a 60-22 decision over the Bulldogs.

About 22 hours later, they tipped off at Michigan State University’s Breslin Center for a semifinal matchup against Morenci. Along with tired legs, Ishpeming had another disadvantage: The poor road conditions prevented the team’s student fan bus from traveling to East Lansing.

Despite these obstacles, the Hematites overcame a first-half deficit



The Hematites celebrate a state championship. (Photo by Holly Letson)

to post a 37-34 victory, with seniors Jenessa Eagle (20 points) and Mya Hemmer (15) combining for all but two of the team’s points.

“We would have played on an iceberg in Lake Michigan if we had to, because they just want to play basketball,” Ishpeming coach Ryan Reichel said.

The off day Friday, March 20, gave the Hematites some much-needed recovery time.

“We had a grueling stretch here,” Reichel said. “Leave on a Wednesday, four days in a hotel, snowstorms, lack of practice. ... Us having two games basically starting within a 24-hour period at this high of a level is not easy, and they showed that U.P. grit, that Hematite grit. Then, this morning, you got to see them do it with fresh legs and energy.”

The state championship game against Portland St. Patrick on March 21 turned into a Hematite

coronation. Ishpeming outscored the Shamrocks 15-0 in the second quarter for a 29-13 halftime lead. The final margin, 48-28, was reflective of the Hematites’ dominance on both ends of the floor.

Eagle, who will play basketball next year at Michigan Technological University, scored a game-high 19 points and added 11 rebounds. Hemmer, who will play volleyball next fall at Baylor University, filled the box score with 18 points, 17 rebounds, 9 blocks and 6 steals.

And the Hematites got to do it in front of their fellow students, whose bus arrived about an hour before the 10 a.m. tip.

“It was amazing,” Eagle said. “I love our fans. They’re amazing, and they showed out today, leaving at 12:30 in the morning. That’s ridiculous. I think that proves how diehard the U.P. is.”

—Michael Murray

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Tickets: \$5.00



next general membership meeting on Wednesday, April 8 in Room 309 of Elizabeth & Edgar Harden Hall at NMU. Social time will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

A panel led by NMU's Sustainability Hub for Innovation and Environment will discuss the impact of climate change on the Great Lakes Region.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

All interested community members are welcome to attend. For details, email lwvmqtco@gmail.com or visit lwvmqt.org.

U.P. Notable Book Club to feature Ellen Lord

The Crystal Falls Community District Library in partnership with the U.P. Publishers and Authors Association will host its next event with winners of the U.P. Notable Book List.

The guest will be Ellen Lord, author of the poetry chapbook "Vigil," which is a loose collection of vignettes about the ordinary and extraordinary chal-

lenges of life in the U.P.

The event will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 9 via Zoom; contact Evelyn in advance at egathu@crystalfallslibrary.org or 906-875-3344 to participate.

For details, visit UPNotable.com.

Holocaust remembrance service set at Marquette temple

Temple Beth Sholom and the Marquette Interfaith Forum will host the annual Holocaust Remembrance Service at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Marquette. This event will include word, music and prayer.

The service will take place on the date of Yom HaShoah, the Day of Holocaust Remembrance of the six million Jews tortured and killed by the Nazi regime throughout Europe. The date commemorates the beginning of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and other Jewish resistance.

The evening's keynote address will be delivered by writer, instructor and photographer Annette Gendler. In her books "Jumping Over Shadows" and "How to Write Compelling Stories from Family History," she explores themes of overcoming the legacy of the Holocaust through love and writing about generations of family life

and story. She has also written an award-winning children's book titled "Natalie and the Nazi Soldiers" and has many writings in her Substack.

Additional remarks will be shared by a selection of interfaith community members and musical presentations will be offered by the Marquette Male Chorus, Marquette Senior High School Chorale and Elizabeth Grugin.

Following the service, there will be a reception at Temple Beth Sholom (diagonally across Ridge Street from St. Paul's). All are welcome. For details, text Aaron at 906-869-6543.

Cause for Paws Gala set for April 18 at Ore Dock Brewing

The Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter (UPAWS) will present its 2026 Cause for Paws Gala from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 18 at the Ore Dock Brewing Company in Marquette. This event will include music, auctions, raffle prizes, hors d'oeuvres, an awards ceremony and more in honor of the animals and the history of the shelter organization.

UPAWS has been committed to local animals in need for 51 years. All funds raised will directly benefit the care of animals and help them find forever homes.

Tickets are \$50 per person, and

sponsorship and donor opportunities are available. For details, visit upaws.org.

Earth Fest 2026 events set at various spots in Munising

Alger County Renewable Energy Solutions (ACRES) will host the fourth annual Earth Fest 2026 in Munising and surrounding communities.

Events will include free Armchair Trips to U.S. National Parks at 10 a.m. Tuesdays at The Gallery Coffee Company in Munising.

On Monday, April 20, the public is invited to a hot-dog social and "Every Tree for Itself" activity presented by the Alger Conservation District from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Au Train Community Center.

In partnership with the Munising School Public Library (MSPL), week-long displays, demonstrations and activities will take place April 20 through 25. These activities will include storytime for preschool children, displays on conservation and energy, artwork created by Mather Elementary School's YEA students, and more.

Midweek evening events will include an in-person/virtual presentation by MTU staff speaking about data mining, AI and cryptocurrency

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Equipment Drop Off: 9:00-10:30 am
Ski Club Members' Only Sale: 10:45-11:00 am
General Public Sale: 11:00-12:30 pm
Pickup: 1:00-1:30 pm

SUPERIORLAND SKI CLUB

on Tuesday, April 21; featured short videos of “Nature is Speaking” on Wednesday, April 22; and DNR Bat Expert John DePue talking “All About Bats” on Thursday, April 23.

On Saturday, April 25, the public is invited to bring their brown bag lunches to listen and learn about the Planetary Health Check. Dessert will be provided.

In conjunction with Earth Fest, MSPL and ACRES will offer a three-part series titled “Run with the Sun DIY Small Solar Installation Workshops.”

Information will be presented on the fundamentals of solar energy systems, the regulatory and practical steps required to install and operate a solar energy system, and the latest available technology.

Sessions are free and will take place on Saturdays — April 4, 11 and 18 — at the Munising School Public Library. Attendees are encouraged to bring a brown bag lunch; desserts will

be provided.

For more about Earth Fest 2026, visit the ACRES Facebook page or call the MSPL at 906-387-2125.

MRHC to host ‘Swimming Suffragettes’ fundraiser

The Marquette Regional History Center and League of Women Voters will present “Swimming Suffragettes: The Evolution and Revolution in Women’s Bathing Suits” on Wednesday, April 22 at the museum in Marquette. A social with refreshments will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the presentation at 6:15 p.m.

Carrie Moon-Dupree, director of development for the League of Women Voters of Michigan, will showcase her collection of vintage to modern swimwear, tracing the style changes as a mirror of the changing history of women’s rights in the United States.

This event is a fundraiser for the League of Women Voters of Marquette County and will support its

SWP invited to climate summit



The David Suzuki Foundation invited the Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP) to participate in a recent Climate Resiliency Summit for Great Lakes Communities in Toronto. The meeting stressed the importance of community preparedness and self-reliance during times of increasing extreme weather events and political change. Suzuki, above right, praised the Finnish approach to climate response saying, “That in times of crisis, neighbors and colleagues are often the first line of support.” SWP Executive Director Carl Lindquist, above left, represented the Marquette Climate Adaptation Task Force (CATF). The SWP Great Lakes Climate Corps (GLCC) was noted for community climate adaptation projects and launching a new program ready to deploy crews to respond to climate emergencies year-round within 24 hours. For details, visit superiorwatersheds.org. For details on the task force, visit marquettecountycatf.org.

4.18.2026

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DENIM DAY
AWARENESS WALK 2026

Join us for Marquette's Sexual Assault Awareness Walk as we use our voices to stand in solidarity with survivors and show our community's commitment to safety, support, and prevention. Together, we raise awareness, stand against sexual violence, and hold perpetrators accountable.

Bring a sign, wear denim, or simply walk with us. The walk begins at Harlow Park and concludes at the Commons.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH
USE YOUR VOICE

APRIL 17TH, 2026

HARLOW PARK

4:00 PM



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FACEBOOK**

efforts to provide non-partisan voter education, voter registration and candidate forums.

Tickets are \$45 per person in advance. Call 906-226-3571 or visit marquettehistory.org.

Fourth annual Birds and Brews planned at Ore Dock

The Laughing Whitefish Bird Alliance (LWBA) will host its fourth annual Birds and Brews event at 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 25 at the Ore Dock Brewing Company in Marquette.

The event will include a bird nerd trivia game styled after the "Jeopardy!" game show and door prizes furnished by Audubon Great Lakes, LWBA and local businesses.

The bird trivia game will pit four large teams in a spirited contest over who can score the most points based on their knowledge of bird identification and bird trivia.

There will be a brief presentation on Laughing Whitefish Bird Alliance's programs, conservation efforts and outings. Immediately following, attendees will have a chance to play two rounds of bird-related trivia with emcee Steve Waller, a LWBA member. Children and adults can also enjoy coloring bird-themed coloring pages.

For details on the Laughing Whitefish Bird Alliance, visit laughingwhitefishbirdalliance.com.

Marquette Mania IV set to feature Mick Foley

U.P. Pro Wrestling (UPW) returns to Marquette's Lakeview Arena for the biggest wrestling event in the Upper Peninsula's history — Marquette Mania IV — which will take place on Saturday, April 25.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with a meet & greet earlier for special ticket holders only with autographs and photos available. Special guests include Mick Foley, Powers of Pain, Awesome Kong, Leva Bates, Big Kon, Madman Fulton and more.

Mick Foley is considered one of the best wrestlers in the history of profes-

sional wrestling; he was a four time world champion, 11 time tag team champion, champion of the inaugural WWF Hardcore Series and a former Wrestlemania headliner.

Leva Bates was trained by the infamous "Dudley Boyz" and made appearances with Shimmer Women's Athletes, Shine Wrestling, All Elite and WWE NXT.

Tickets range from \$10 to \$50, based on location. They are on sale now at tickets.nmu.edu.

Zonta Club to honor women at fifth annual event April 28

Zonta Club of Marquette Area will host its fifth annual Honor a Woman event at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28 at NMU's Northern Center. The guest speaker will be Stephanie Graef, of the U.P. Human Trafficking Task Force.

The event will commemorate the contributions made by women through their personal sacrifices, strength, perseverance, wisdom, support, love and grace. Women nominated by others will be recognized.

Tickets are \$50. For details, email zontamarquette@gmail.com or visit zonta15.org.

Registration open for youth storytelling workshop

In conjunction with the UPPAA Spring Conference, the Young Writers Storytelling Workshop will take place on Saturday, May 16 at the Peter White Public Library in Marquette. This full-day creative writing experience will invite young writers to explore storytelling fundamentals, engage in hands-on writing activities and learn from published authors and industry professionals.

The workshop will offer sessions on character development, plot crafting, expressive writing, and more — tailored for youth enthusiastic about developing their voice and imagination.

Participants will also have opportunities to connect with peers, participate in breakout activities and be inspired by a community that celebrates

DID YOU KNOW ...

which U.S. presidents came to the U.P. while in office?

William H. Taft (in 1911 while campaigning); George H.W. Bush (in 1992 to walk the Mackinac Bridge); George W. Bush (in 2004 while campaigning) and Barack Obama (in 2011, supporting NMU).

Submitted by Dr. Russell M. Magnaghi, history professor emeritus of NMU and author of several books, including "Upper Peninsula Beer: A History of Brewing Above the Bridge."



A DNR wildlife representative holds a bear cub during a den check. Yes, they're cute, but if you see cubs in the wild, don't approach or pick them up. Mom is likely foraging for food and will be back.

Bears emerge as spring arrives

There are an estimated 10,350 black bears throughout the U.P. who will soon emerge from their dens—many with new cubs in tow—and the Michigan DNR is asking residents to be mindful.

According to the DNR, bears can smell food from a mile away and remember food locations for years, including that backyard bird feeder or grease-spattered grill. When bears get used to human-associated food sources, they are more apt to roam neighborhoods and not flee when harassed by people, and even break into homes and outbuildings for food.

Additionally, a bear raiding a bird feeder is not cause to contact the DNR to request the animal be relocated. Residents are encour-

aged to remove the bird feeder for at least two weeks and the bear should stop coming around. They are also asked to talk to neighbors about taking the same action.

People in high-density bear areas should consider using bear-resistant trash bins (residents can ask their trash company if they provide these containers). Once bears begin searching for more substantial meals, it's important to make sure anything that could possibly attract a hungry bear is stored out of sight, smell and reach.

To learn more about preventing conflicts with bears, visit bearwise.org or Michigan.gov/Wildlife, or contact the DNR Wildlife Division at 517-284-9453.

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storytelling. For details and to register, visit storytellingworkshop.org.

'Dancing With Our Stars' to return with new format

The U.P. Hospice Foundation, in partnership with U.P. Home Health and Hospice, have announced a new evolution of its popular fundraiser that will be known as "A Showcase of Stars — presented by Dancing with our Stars Marquette County Style."

The event has been moved to Oct. 8 with an anticipated kickoff in May.

A Showcase of Stars will transform the traditional dance competition into

a full-scale variety show experience. Groups of local stars, partnered with a Marquette Dance Pro, will take the stage with performances that blend dance, theatrical flair, costumes, music and storytelling.

The evening will feature live judging and audience engagement, culminating in two honors:

Fan Favorite Award, recognizing the top fundraising group, and Talent Award, which will be based on judges' scores for performance, creativity and execution.

Community members, businesses and organizations are encouraged to get involved. Proceeds from A Show-

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case of Stars will benefit the U.P. Hospice Foundation and directly support local hospice patients and their families.

For details, contact Kori at 906-225-4545 or email korit@uphome-health.org.

St. Vincent de Paul launches capital campaign

The Marquette District of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) has launched a \$1.2 million capital campaign, which will be used to upgrade and expand facilities to address growing needs. Construction is expected to begin in June.

The campaign received a lead gift from the Katers Foundation and more than 80 percent of the goal has already been secured, though community support remains essential.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization of volunteers (Vincentians) providing person-to-person service to those in need, including food, shelter, rent, utility assistance and material goods.

Established in 1963, the Marquette District serves Marquette, Gwinn, Trenary, Munising, Big Bay and Skandia.

The Marquette and Gwinn locations provide clothing, furniture, medical supplies and financial assistance,

and all district locations provide access to food.

For details, call 906-361-1441 or visit svdpmqtdistrict.org.

ORV licenses, trail permits available starting in April

With April 1 marking the start of the 2026-27 ORV season in Michigan, those who purchase a license and trail permit will have access to 4,000 miles of state-designated ORV trails and scramble areas, eligible county/national forest roads, state forest roads (open to ORV use) and more.

These licenses and trail permits are valid for one year, from April 1 through March 31. For details, visit Michigan.gov/ORVInfo.

Traveling caregiver exhibit opens in Ishpeming

The fourth installation of "A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden," a state-wide traveling art and advocacy exhibit honoring direct care workers and caregivers, is on display at the Ishpeming Multi-Purpose Senior Center. The exhibit marks the first installation in the U.P. and will remain on view through January 2027.

Produced by IMPART Alliance, "A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden" transforms personal stories of caregiving



Bradford Veley lives in the Upper Peninsula. See more of his cartoons at bradveley.com.

Iron Mountain's Imagination Factory to open



Iron Mountain's Imagination Factory Community Center will open its first-floor children's museum and Gus Macker Cafe from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 18. The 13,000-square-foot space was built for families and community use and has been thoughtfully designed to spark curiosity and ignite the love of learning. Construction is ongoing on the second-floor youth center and third-floor Family Therapy Center and Celebration Room. The capital campaign continues through May. The children's museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday through Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For details, visit imaginationfactory.us.

into an installation of hand-crafted butterflies.

Each butterfly represents gratitude, reflection and recognition for the essential workforce that supports seniors, people with disabilities and families across Michigan.

The immersive installation is designed to spark conversation about aging, caregiving, workforce needs and community responsibility. It is supported through a grant awarded to IMPART Alliance by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

The exhibit is free and open to the public during regular business hours. Additional community activities supporting this project will be held throughout the coming year. For details, visit DCWgardens.com.

CCSC's Rubin qualifies for National Championship

The Copper Country Snowsports Club has qualified girls under 16 skier Corinne Rubin, of Houghton, to the National Championships. The team also took five podium spots and a full sweep of the girls under 12 division at the recent King of "Z" Mountain event in Ironwood.

After the final United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSS) race in Ironwood in February, the team qualified Rubin in the under 16 girls' division for the National Championship in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Rubin finished in the Top 20 of all her races at the regional championship to advance.

Just missing out on a national championship qualification was CCSC's under-14 skier Ian Klein who raced all of the regional USSS races.

At the King of "Z" Mountain event, Kinoka Minakata took first with teammates Eva Bradfish taking second and Teagan Iskra taking third. Brothers Asher and Ezra Bradfish took first in under 8 and third in under 10 respectively.

Nominations sought for 2026 Catholic Service Award

The Catholic Diocese of Marquette is seeking nominations for its Catholic Service Award, which recognizes lifetime dedication and service to the Catholic Church within the diocese.

This award was developed in the spirit of the Legacy of Faith endowment fund, aimed at preserving and fostering the Catholic faith throughout the U.P.

The award recognizes those who have demonstrated a significant commitment to the Catholic faith through acts of service, leadership and evangelization. Nominations will be accepted for priests, deacons and lay people of all ages.

Nominees must have demonstrated significant service to the Catholic Church, including but not limited to, the Diocese of Marquette; show exemplary leadership in the Church, community and beyond; have committed their time, talent and treasure to the Church with generosity and joy; and be a respected member of the

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May 2 in Marquette & Houghton

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May 16 in Marquette

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parish and community, enjoying the confidence of both parishioners and diocesan members.

The nomination deadline is May 1. For details on the award criteria and a nomination form, visit upcatholicfoundation.org/catholic-service-awards or contact Megan O'Connor at moconnor@dioceseofmarquette.org.

U.P. organizations receive arts and culture funding

The Michigan Arts and Culture Council (MACC) has awarded \$1.3 million in Fiscal Year 2026 funding to support creative programs, cultural institutions and community initiatives throughout the U.P.

The region received about 10 percent of all state funding despite being home to only about 3 percent of Michigan's population. This funding will strengthen organizations that preserve local heritage, expand arts access, and energize community life in rural towns, waterfront cities and island communities.

Marquette County led the region with \$354,874 in awards, followed by Delta County with \$229,804, Houghton County with \$207,255, and Gogebic County with \$206,945. Chippewa County organizations received \$133,600, while Dickinson County secured \$52,225 and Mackinac County received \$38,525. Additional awards included \$29,413 in Ontonagon County, \$20,000 in Schoolcraft County, \$19,200 in Iron County, \$16,060 in Menominee County, and \$4,800 in Alger County.

For details about MACC and to

Local olympian to speak in Marquette on April 8

Snowboarder and Iron River native Steve Nick Baumgartner, who recently returned from the 2026 Milan Cortina Winter Olympics, will speak as part of the Kaufman Lyceum Series at 7 p.m. on April 8 at Kaufman Auditorium in Marquette.

Baumgartner will talk about his Olympic experience as well as other stories from his life and career.

"I'm super excited to share with the community that's given me so much," he said. "I know they have my back. I know they're cheering for me, screaming for me."

Baumgartner said he will also bring some of his Olympic outfits for attendees to see, allowing them to "feel closer to all of it."

Baumgartner has competed in snowboard cross in five Olympic Games — Vancouver in 2010, Sochi in 2014, Pyeongchang in 2018, Beijing in 2022 and Milan Cortina in 2026. He earned a gold medal in mixed team snowboard cross with teammate Lindsey Jacobellis in 2022. He recently traveled back to Italy to support the U.S. athletes at the Paralympic Games.

"I want to use my momentum to help elevate the Paralympic athletes," he said. "These are my teammates and some of them I have known for more than a decade."

Although he has traveled throughout the world, he said the best part is



coming home to Iron River, where he maintains a home base. "Everything I do comes from here," he said. "Everything I have comes from here and everything I am comes from here."

Baumgartner said he has always been an athlete and loved to compete, but he was bothered by some of the feedback he received.

"They would always say, 'You're pretty good for someone from the U.P.,'" he recalled. "No one is giving us the opportunity. We have to fight for what we want. But when our time comes, we're more prepared and better equipped."

Baumgartner competed for 17

years before earning his Olympic gold medal at the age of 40.

"That's the feeling I chase every time I go out to compete," he said. "I'm using my story to inspire more stories like mine. I would have liked to have someone like me tell me it was possible."

Baumgartner said the experiences he has had, including meeting Martha Stewart and Snoop Dogg in Italy this year, have demonstrated the importance of continuing to pursue his "massive goals."

"I'm so glad I didn't give up," he said. Baumgartner said his new level of fame will help make it easier to transition to a career of public speaking and social media collaboration. But he's not giving up on snowboarding — not by a long shot.

"Society is always telling us what we can do," he said. "My goal is to retire in Salt Lake [City, Utah] in 2034. Is it possible? I don't know. Will I find out? Heck, yeah."

Baumgartner said he will continue to compete as long as he's having fun. "I'm redefining what people think is possible," he said.

Tickets for the series featuring Baumgartner are \$10 for youth and NMU students, \$12 for seniors and \$15 for the general public; call 906-227-1032 or visit tickets.nmu.edu. For details, call 906-225-4213.

—Erin Elliott Bryan

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see the complete list of organizations funded, visit michigan.gov/arts.

LSAA announces grant award winners

The Lake Superior Art Association (LSAA) has announced the recipients of its 2025 grants.

This year's recipients are Sandy Knoll Elementary and Cherry Creek Elementary schools for a ceramics program involving 700 students; Ishpeming Carnegie Library for art supplies in its summer programs serving kids, teens and adults; Gwinn Area Community Schools to supplement the school's art budget for purchasing materials; Aspen Ridge Middle School for purchasing Speedy Carve Blocks and ink for printmaking; Michigamme Township for supporting art enrichment classes; and Artists in Excellence for purchasing art supplies and materials for 30 young artists to explore interests beyond the classroom.

The Lake Superior Art Association Visual Art Grants provide funding for applicants in Marquette County that require financial assistance to purchase art supplies. LSAA sets aside \$5,000 each year for these grants.

The deadline for grant submissions is Nov. 15 each year. For details, visit lakesuperiorartassociation.org.

Rx Kids launches in 10 Upper Peninsula counties

In its largest geographic expansion yet, Michigan State University's Rx Kids program is open to families in all 15 counties of Michigan's Upper

Morgan to headline Crystal Theatre season

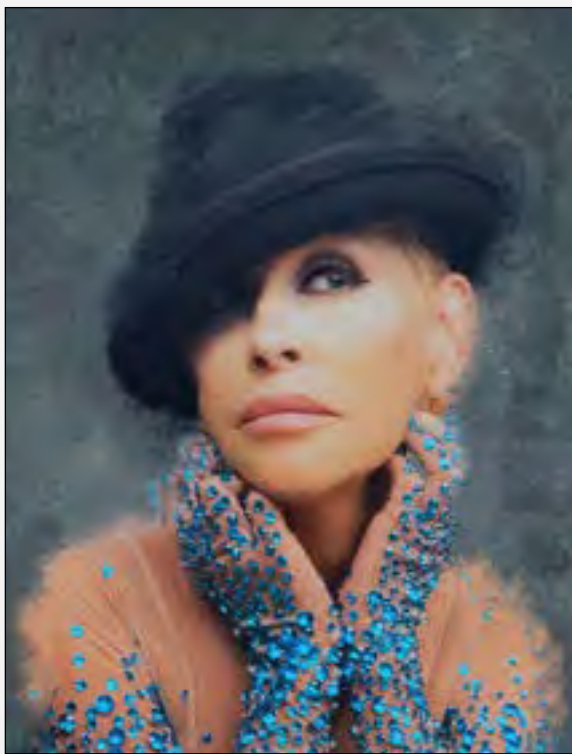
Lorrie Morgan, one of country music's most accomplished and enduring singers, will take the stage on July 10 as Crystal Theatre's 2026 Legend performer.

Morgan, the daughter of Grand Ole Opry star and country music royal George Morgan, made her Opry debut at age 13 and celebrates her 42nd anniversary as an Opry member this year. She has earned multiple CMA, ACM and Grammy nominations and sold millions of records worldwide.

Morgan became the first woman in her generation to produce three consecutive platinum albums. Her string of hits include "Five Minutes," "Something in Red" and "I Didn't Know My Own Strength."

In addition to the Legend Concert, the Crystal Theatre is presenting eight events as part of its 2026 "Gem of a Season," which kicks off on April 4 with The Knockabouts.

In May, two pianists will present diverse repertoires on the theatre's grand piano. Phillip Daniel, a pianist and composer whose musical scores have been featured in dance programs and films, will perform on May 8. Peter Bergin will perform



Ragtime and patriotic tunes on May 23.

Missoula Children's Theatre will come to town June 8-13 with a free acting workshop for students in first through 12th grades. After rehearsing for four days "The Frog Prince" will be performed on June 12 and 13.

Duo Mulebone, which gives traditional roots and blues a new twist with a host of unusual accompani-

ment, will take the stage on July 23.

On Aug. 1, Rosie and the Rivets will perform a tribute to the early years of rock 'n roll and give today's music a retro-cool spin. Jackie and Gary will celebrate classic and original songs from the folk era of the '60s and '70s "Singing the Good Old Songs Again" on Aug. 15.

Sixtiesmania, which has been hailed as the most authentic tribute to the sensational 1960s, will return with a new show on Sept. 18. The quintet spotlights music from the Beatles to the Beach Boys.

The season will end on a comedic note as Andy Beningo, named among the 40 up and coming comedians in the country, and Des Mulrooney share the stage on Oct. 3.

Tickets to the Lorrie Morgan Legend Performance require reserved seating. All tickets to individual shows and the eight-event Gem Season package are available to purchase online.

The Crystal Theatre is located at 304 Superior Ave. in Crystal Falls. For tickets and information, call 906-875-3208 or visit thecrystaltheatre.org.

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Peninsula, tripling from five counties in the Eastern Upper Peninsula to region-wide coverage.

Families who are expecting (must be at least 16 weeks pregnant) or with a baby born March 1, 2026, or later and reside in Baraga, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Marquette, Menominee, and Ontonagon counties can apply at RxKids.org. Once verified, families receive \$1,500 prenatally and \$500 per month for a baby's first six months.

Originally launched in Flint in 2024, Rx Kids delivers direct support during the prenatal and infancy period, which is one of the most financially challenging and critical for child development. This support helps families afford essentials such as baby supplies, food, housing, childcare and transportation to doctor's appointments.

Rx Kids is led by Michigan State University and administered by Give-Directly, the global leader in cash transfers. Superior Health Foundation will also serve as regional fiduciary for this public-private partnership.

For details, visit RxKids.org.

Superior Health Foundation distributes AEDs

The Superior Health Foundation (SHF) recently distributed 32 automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations across the U.P. through its annual AED Program.

This year's recipients included martial arts studios, school districts, transit authorities and fire departments across 11 counties.

In addition to receiving an AED, every 2026 recipient was offered training through Superior Life Services, covering AED use as well as optional CPR and first aid certification. SHF's annual AED Program distributes devices on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified organizations that serve the public, host group events or activities, or serve a large number of older adults.

For a full list of recipients and details, visit superiorhealthfoundation.org/news.

Cannabis vape recycling program now available

The Fire Station (TFS) has partnered with Citizens for a Safe and Clean Lake Superior (CSCLS) to launch Marquette County's first cannabis vape recycling program. The partnership aims to address the growing environmental problem of disposable vaping devices by creating a dedicated and accessible solution for Marquette County residents.

Barnes-Hecker committee receives \$50,000 grant

The Michigan History Center and Historical Society of Michigan recently announced a list of 45 communities and organizations that will share Round 2 funds from the America250MI History Grant Program.

Among the recipients is NMU's Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center on behalf of the Barnes-Hecker Commemoration Committee (BHCC), which received \$50,000. The committee is a collaboration of several non-profit organizations and municipalities working to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the cave-in of the Barnes-Hecker iron mine west of Ishpeming.

The funds will be used to offer an array of public events throughout the summer and fall of 2026, the creation of a temporary exhibition about the tragedy and, ultimately, a permanent memorial on the site of the Barnes-Hecker mine.

"The goal of this project is to bring the events on Nov. 3, 1926, back into the public consciousness and commemorate the lives of those who were lost on that day, and the families and communities they left behind," according to the grant application.



The committee's member organizations include Cliffs Shaft Mine and Museum, Ishpeming Historical Society, Marquette Regional History Center, Michigan Iron Industry Museum, NMU Archives, Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center and Ely Township.

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Over the past 14 months, CSCLS has diverted more than 500 pounds of nicotine vapes from local landfills through a program with five collection sites across the county. With the financial support of TFS, this program now expands to include cannabis vapes, with all collected units being processed by a specialized nonprofit recycling center based in Michigan.

Disposable nicotine and cannabis vapes contain hazardous materials like lithium batteries, which pose a significant risk to landfills and waterways if not disposed of properly. This partnership will give Marquette County cannabis consumers convenient and compliant sites to responsibly dispose of their used vapes.

Cannabis and nicotine vapes can be recycled at Peter White Public Library in Marquette during business hours and at the Superior Watershed Partnership Climate Office in Marquette between noon and 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. Nicotine vapes only can be recycled at Kenny's Corner

Store in Marquette and all Marquette, Negaunee, Ishpeming and Harvey locations of Circle K.

For details, visit citizensforsuperior.org/recycling or thefirestation.com/vape-recycling.

Economic Development Strategy available for review

The Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) has completed a draft of the updated Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw and Ontonagon Counties. Developed with a five-year time horizon, the CEDS serves as the general regional plan for the Western U.P.

The CEDS contains a regional overview and data inventory; analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats; and goals, objectives and action items to work toward a vision for the region.

The 2026-2030 CEDS draft can be reviewed online at wupdr.org/ceds.

Comments will be accepted until April 17 to be considered for incorporation into the document prior to its adoption by the WUPPDR Commission. Comments may be submitted in writing to jwuorenmaa@wuppdr.org or mailed to WUPPDR, 400 Quincy St., 8th Floor, Hancock, MI 49930.

U.P. Health Systems news

• UP Health System—Marquette has announced it is the first in the U.P. to offer a minimally invasive treatment option for patients suffering from a specific type of chronic low back pain known as vertebrogenic pain, which stems from damaged vertebral endplates and inflamed bone marrow, specifically transmitted by the basivertebral nerve. The outpatient Intracept Procedure targets the basivertebral nerve, which transmits pain signals from damaged vertebral endplates to the brain and preserves the natural structure of the spine without the use of implants. For details, call 844-411-8747 or visit UPHealthSystem.com.

• UP Health System—Marquette welcomed Mohamad Raad, M.D., to its cardiology team. Dr. Raad is a cardiac electrophysiologist who specializes in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease and clinical cardiac electrophysiology, providing care for patients with complex heart rhythm disorders. Patients interested in scheduling an appointment should call 906-449-3440. A referral may be necessary before scheduling. For details, visit UPHealthSystem.com/Cardiology.

Local business news...in brief

• NMU Police Det./Lt. Jon Kovar was selected as the 2025 Officer of the Year by the Marquette County Law Enforcement Administrators Association (MCLEAA); Kovar is also an NMU alumnus.

• NMU master's candidate Noah Andexler is one of 20 graduate students nationwide selected to receive the Ecological Society of America's (ESA) 2026 Katherine S. McCarter Graduate Student Policy Award for their demonstrated commitment to science advocacy.

• Joseph Perala, a corrections officer at the Baraga Correctional Facility, has been named the 2026 Michigan Department of Corrections Officer of the Year, which recognizes one corrections officer statewide who demonstrates exceptional professionalism and serves as a positive role model for their peers. He has been an MDOC corrections officer for 19 years.

• Gov. Whitmer announced appointment of Christine Roberts, of Traverse City, to the MTU Board of

SUMMER CAMPS @NMU

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Environmental Science Camp

Grades 10-12
July 12-18

Explore scenic vistas of the U.P. as you study environmental issues in the Lake Superior watershed.

Registration Fee: \$849 before May 31. Registration includes lodging, meals and all field experiences. Scholarships available.

College for Kids

June 22-26 & July 6-10

Grades K-6
Hands-on, minds-on STEM classes. Featuring the basics of computer science and other STEM-related topics.

Grades 7-8
College and career STEM exploration classes featuring visits to local business and industry partners in our community.

Registration Fee: \$90 per class.

nmu.edu/seaborg/student-programs

Sports Camps

Various summer dates (some camps offered throughout the year)
Grades K-12

Try a new sport or sharpen your skills in a resident or day camp focusing on sport-specific training. Camps are led by NMU Wildcat coaches and student-athletes, except for the wrestling camp which is hosted and taught by NMU National Training site wrestling coaches.

CAMPS

- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Hockey
- Soccer
- Football
- Swim & Dive
- Strength & Conditioning
- Wrestling

Registration Fee: Varies by sport and camp type.

nmuwildcats.com/camps

Space is limited. Sign up soon!

NMU.EDU/YOUTH-PROGRAMS

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FEATURED PROGRAMS

APRIL

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

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APRIL 19-25, 2026

- Free Coffee Monday
- Button-making Wednesday, April 22 in the Teen Zone from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Bookmark coloring and interactive art installation (lower level) throughout the whole week



GREAT LAKES POETRY FESTIVAL

APRIL 20 - 25, 2026
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Poetry Readings
Writing Workshops
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Trustees. The governor appointed Marquette native **Glenn Stevens, Jr.**, of Royal Oak, and **Susan Corbin**, of Petoskey, to the NMU Board of Trustees.

- The Noquemanon Trail Network (NTN) Board of Directors has announced the appointment of **Jeni Kilpela** as interim executive director. Kilpela has served as NTN's outreach coordinator since 2023, where she has supported membership engagement, communications and partnerships.

- **Everyday Wines** in Marquette recently celebrated 15 years and its newly expanded Cheese Cave located at 129 W. Baraga Ave. The Cheese Cave will offer a larger selection of domestic and imported cut-to-order cheeses, bean-to-bar craft chocolates, specialty groceries and European knives and cheese tools. For details, call 906-225-5470 or visit everyday-winesmqt.com.

- The Baraga County Chamber of Commerce and Michigan Works! have announced that **The Finn's Bar and Grill** in Skanee has been selected as the 2026 Business of the Year. The Chamber and Michigan Works! noted that The Finn's Bar and Grill exemplifies the spirit of local entrepreneurship — honoring a long community history while investing in new amenities that strengthen local life and attract visitors.

- Fox Motors announced a leadership promotion within its automotive division, naming **Luke Hubbard** as Director of Operations – Upper Peninsula. The role provides dedicated executive oversight across five dealership locations in Marquette.

- **Presque Deli** celebrated its official opening at 1635 Presque Isle Ave. in Marquette. Owned by Mario Gohl, Heath Lefke and Scott Maynard, Presque Deli offers a creative yet approachable dining experience focused on "cult-classic deli favorites." For details, follow the deli on Facebook (@presquedeli) or call 906-362-4694.

- Partridge Creek Farm (PCF) has welcomed **Shana Donner** as its co-executive director of operations and finance. She will work collaboratively alongside Mary Antonia Andronis, PCF's executive director of programs and partnerships. PCF has also welcomed **Sarah Hayward** as its new food access manager who will manage the four community garden sites, bed rentals and food access programming.

- **Bald Eagle Harley-Davidson** celebrated its grand opening at its new location at 4473 US-2 in Escanaba. For details, call 906-228-5330.

- **LoveBugDesigns.us**, a family-owned 3D printing and design

MRHC to host Ben Franklin talk



Historian and NMU music professor **Dr. James A. Strain**, shown above in Marquette's Fourth of July parade, will talk about the life and genius of Benjamin Franklin at 6:30 p.m. on April 8 at the Marquette Regional History Center. Strain, a first cousin 12 times removed to Franklin, will offer well-known and little-known facts about Franklin's contributions to U.S. independence. He will display his collection of early U.S. and colonial flags and include maps, music, discoveries and writings of wisdom. There is a suggested donation of \$5. For details, call 906-226-3571 or visit marquettehistory.org.

shop, recently opened at 415 S. Stephenson Ave., Suite 6, in downtown Iron Mountain. Founded by husband-and-wife team Tom and Love Laabs, LoveBugDesigns.us combines modern manufacturing technology with creativity, education and hands-on fun for kids and families. For details, call 906-282-5673 or their website.

- **U.P. Home Health & Hospice** has been recognized with its third star in the We Honor Veterans program, a national initiative that strengthens hospice and home health care for America's veterans and their families. The program focuses on understanding the unique experiences and needs of veterans and guiding them through their life stories toward a more peaceful and dignified end of life.

- **Milano Chiropractic** recently celebrated its grand opening at 1015 Country Lane, Suite 2, in Ishpeming. Led by Dr. Kelly Milano, the clinic takes an approach tailored to each patient's needs. Appointments can be booked online at milanochiropractic.com.

- **Wattson & Wattson Jewelers** celebrated its 40th anniversary with a community open house. The store is known for custom-made jewelry and in-house repairs done by owner Chris Wattson. For details, visit wandw-jewelers.com.

jewelers.com.

- **Marquette Area Public Schools** was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant to fight food insecurity in the community by the Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan Agent Charitable Fund (ACF). Grant funds will support the JJ Packs Program and provide fresh fruit in the weekend packs.

- **The Superior Health Foundation** concluded its Q1 Grant cycle on March 4, announcing \$299,292 in funding distributed across seven grants to agencies serving the Upper Peninsula. The awards include \$225,000 in U.P. Health Impact Grants addressing behavioral health, maternal and infant health, and access to care; \$24,292 in Equipment Grants; and a \$50,000 contribution to a collaborative with the United Dairy Industry of Michigan and Blue Cross Blue Shield to expand refrigeration capacity at U.P. food pantries.

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HOW TO SUBMIT TO CITY NOTES

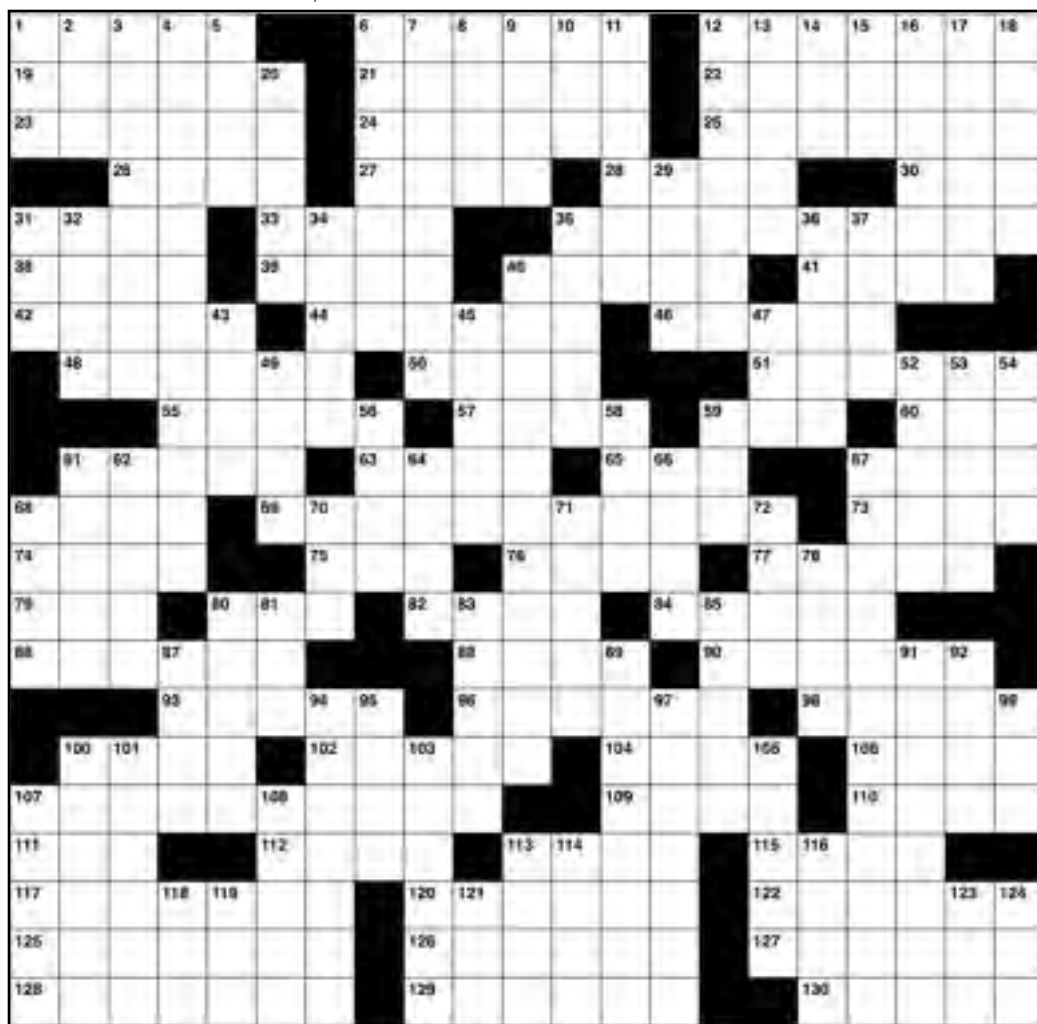
The deadline for May event and press release submissions for City Notes is **April 10**. Send your releases to editor@marquettmonthly.com.

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THE PUZZLE'S FOOD-RELATED THEME HAS TWO MORE LAYERS, EXPLAINED BY A FORTUITOUS CROSSING AT 69-ACROSS AND 40-DOWN.

ACROSS

- 1 Dwelling
- 6 One of two elected magistrates to the ancient *cursus honorum*
- 12 Plagiarized
- 19 Notion that's difficult to dispel
- 21 Roll on, as time
- 22 One large head, shredded, with the outer leaves discarded
- 23 Record label for the Beastie Boys and Public Enemy
- 24 Stockholder's portion
- 25 Handled vessel in a museum
- 26 1977 Robin Cook medical thriller
- 27 Bon _____ ("Skinny Love" band)
- 28 Brand of canned beans
- 30 Greedy sort
- 31 Soon, to Shakespeare
- 33 Lying about
- 35 2 tbsp., for acidity
- 38 Ian who portrayed Bilbo Baggins
- 39 _____ Jones, bobsledder and hurdler who has competed in both the Winter and Summer Olympics
- 40 Mushroom prized by chefs
- 41 Psychologist Solomon
- 42 Lair
- 44 Do something perfectly
- 46 Easily duped
- 48 _____ Lupin, gentleman thief of literature
- 50 Peepers keepers?
- 51 One clove, crushed
- 55 Chaucer collection
- 57 5/8 or 2/14
- 59 One might be noble
- 60 "Foucault's Pendulum" author
- 61 Drummer with the coffee table book "Another Day in the Life"
- 63 All-star pitcher Hearshiser
- 65 Sch. whose team name is a poisonous nut
- 67 The Bard of _____
- 68 Thanksgiving is always on the fourth one in Nov.
- 69 Infamous warning for 126-Across ... and for solvers, when filling in 7 squares in this puzzle?
- 73 Creature to take a gander at on Haleakala?
- 74 Lacking adornment
- 75 Digressive remark
- 76 Tabby talk
- 77 Rushes
- 79 _____ Lanka
- 80 "Daughter" in Hebrew
- 82 Harvest
- 84 Hole on a belt
- 86 Ground, black, to taste
- 88 Chop, mince, grate, etc.
- 90 Holiday harmonies
- 93 Cute, woolly farm animals
- 96 Period of glaciation
- 98 Title role for both Patti LuPone and Madonna
- 100 Uncle Remus title
- 102 Tree from which turpentine may be derived
- 104 Hullabaloo
- 106 Word before stick or after Scotland
- 107 One cup, seasoned and lightly toasted until crispy



- 109 "The kissing disease"
 - 110 Some savanna groups
 - 111 "_____ for Ricochet" (Sue Grafton mystery)
 - 112 Got ready to drive?
 - 113 Commoner
 - 115 Human rights lawyer Clooney
 - 117 Ones changing the narrative?
 - 120 Chillaxing
 - 122 Word on a protest sign
 - 125 One, coddled or raw; add an extra for a richer flavor
 - 126 This puzzle's subject, in two very different ways
 - 127 Samurai sword
 - 128 Kind of overload
 - 129 Stile coins that have gone out of style
 - 130 Contemptuously laughed at
- DOWN**
- 1 Provided assistance
 - 2 Spelling _____
 - 3 Spicy, say
 - 4 3/4 teaspoon, Grey Poupon preferred
 - 5 End-of-semester hurdle
 - 6 Soupçon feature
 - 7 1/2 cup, slowly drizzled and whisked to form an emulsion
 - 8 Area with pews
 - 9 Certain silk spinner
 - 10 Onetime org. for Jimmy Carter and J.F.K.
 - 11 Bean counter's book
 - 12 Its box is yellow and green, with many colors in between
 - 13 _____ Empire

- 14 Rapsallion
- 15 Curmudgeon's exclamation
- 16 "Sully" or "Spartacus"
- 17 Add value to
- 18 Rejuvenate digitally
- 20 The first one was sent in 1971
- 29 A calf born with two heads, some say
- 31 Satisfied sigh
- 32 "Haven't a clue"
- 34 Gift recipient
- 35 "_____ luck!"
- 36 Cups o' joe
- 37 The "U" of UX
- 40 George Eliot masterpiece ... or a punny hint to seven squares in this puzzle
- 43 Eye drop?
- 45 "What am I, chopped _____?"
- 47 Swiatek who has won the U.S. Open, French Open and Wimbledon
- 49 Workers' rights org.
- 52 Army Corps of Engineers project
- 53 Pictures on a screen
- 54 Alternative to a cup
- 56 Scatters, as seeds
- 58 Start of a pirate-y pillaging song
- 59 Tour leader
- 61 Go halvesies, say
- 62 Flower with a cup-shaped bloom
- 64 Las Vegas football player
- 66 In stitches
- 67 2 tbsp., for a briny flavor
- 68 Baking meas.
- 70 Make a fast not last?

- 71 Conical dwelling
- 72 Mlle. in Madrid
- 78 One of a hundred for Pooh and friends
- 80 Part of a Santa Claus costume
- 81 Adjustable feature of an office chair, maybe
- 83 "Pharsalia" and the "Aeneid"
- 85 Poseidon's domain
- 87 Entreaty
- 89 1/2 cup, freshly grated
- 91 1997 Jim Carrey comedy
- 92 Big step
- 94 Alternative to X
- 95 Kemo _____
- 97 Peanuts
- 99 Expensive Super Bowl features
- 100 One way to cross the Rubicon
- 101 Step down
- 103 Black out, in a way
- 105 "The Fountainhead" protagonist
- 107 Longtime Saints QB Drew
- 108 "Refreshing" web shortcut
- 113 Open before December 25?
- 114 Operate on with light
- 116 Olden honeyed drink
- 118 Expressions of appreciation, in texts
- 119 Tic-tac-toe win
- 121 "The _____ of Pooh"
- 123 Slyly disparaging
- 124 Bit

Answer Key

To check your answers, see Page 65.

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Houghton pursues 'Bird City' designation

By Erin Elliott Bryan

Celebrated annually on the second Sunday in May, World Migratory Bird Day is an opportunity to acknowledge one of the most important and spectacular events in the Americas: bird migration.

This year, one Keweenaw community will mark the day as part of a larger initiative to support conservation efforts and sustain healthy bird populations.

At its Feb. 26 meeting, the Houghton City Council unanimously approved a resolution to seek a designation as a Bird City, which would represent “a commitment to the long-term health of our local ecosystem and a strategic move for our regional tourism economy,” according to information provided to the council.

If approved, the City of Houghton would “join a network of forward-thinking communities dedicated to habitat protection, public awareness and collaborative growth,” according to the Daily Mining Gazette. Houghton would be the first Bird City in the U.P. and the northernmost Bird City in Michigan.

“Everybody on the council saw the value of becoming a Bird City,” said Danielle Perkowitz, the City of Houghton’s community and business development manager. “It’s putting this focus on keeping this area as sustainable as possible and continuing to make this a great place to live.”

Perkowitz is a member of the committee working to pursue the Bird City designation. In addition to the City of Houghton, the committee also includes representatives from the Copper Country Bird Club, Keweenaw

Invasive Species Management Area (KISMA), Keweenaw Land Trust, Keweenaw Wild Ones, Keweenaw Wild Bird REC, MTU, the Nature Conservancy, Keweenaw Outdoor Recreation Coalition (KORC) and Visit Keweenaw.

To mark World Migratory Bird Day on May 9, events will take place throughout the Houghton area, including guided walks, educational stations and other public programming known collectively as “Spring — On the Wing.”

“It adds some fun and whimsy,” Perkowitz said. “It will show how our area is important for bird migration.”

Brad Barnett, executive director of Visit Keweenaw, initially brought forth the idea for the Bird City designation at the end of last year and assembled the committee.

“Visit Keweenaw leads on things like this. It aligned with our organizational values,” Barnett said. “We knew that our community has the resources to support birding, and it’s a really good fit for the city and the bigger Keweenaw.”

Barnett said birding is a draw for both locals and tourists, and can be appreciated by anyone enjoying the outdoors — whether it’s seeing cranes on a nature boardwalk or a pair of bald eagles off of M-26.

“That experience is very special, and they remember it,” he said.

For Tom Oliver, he remembers his first experience with birding, when his grandfather was willing to let him play with his binoculars as a child.

“I’ve been interested in birds my entire life,” Oliver said. “I can’t remember a time when I wasn’t enthralled and fascinated by them.”



Above, a common loon floats on Lake Perrault in Houghton County. Below, a fall migrating palm warbler, usually seen on the ground, forages in the 2021 Horne Fire burn zone on Isle Royale. (Photos by Tom Oliver)



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Oliver is the director of MTU's Center for Science and Environmental Outreach. Previously, he was a wildlife biologist with the Michigan DNR and an environmental science and biology teacher. He is also a wildlife photographer, TE Oliver Photography, a board member of the Copper Country Bird Club and part of the committee working towards Houghton's Bird City designation.

He said when the committee looked at the qualifications for the designation, the City of Houghton already met many of them.

"We're located smack in the center of the Mississippi Flyway," Oliver said. "The Keweenaw Peninsula is a natural route to have birds cross Lake Superior. It was a logical designation

for us to pursue."

Oliver said the Keweenaw is a prime location for birds all year long. In the winter, species from northern Canada, such as winter finches and owls, migrate south to find food and a slightly warmer climate. In the summer, it's easy to find waterfowl, shore birds, warblers and raptors who travel north for breeding.

"If you're interested in birds, this is a great place to be," Oliver said.

The Keweenaw's natural landscape, as well as steps that have been taken to preserve its dark skies, further contribute to its significance as a destination or a stopover for migrating birds.

Brockway Mountain, for example, has a strong migration of hawks,



At left, a northern hawk-owl glides across an open field in Houghton County. (Photo by Tom Oliver) The area is a haven for bird watchers and now may get an official designation. (Map courtesy of Visit Keweenaw)

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which don't like to cross big bodies of water. According to a video from Visit Keweenaw, Brockway is an "internationally significant flyway for hawk migration, with about 10,000 soaring birds passing northbound over the narrow tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula each spring, between March and May."

And the mountain's 500-foot ridge produces an upward lift of air that allows them to glide.

"Their wing shape is meant for gliding on air columns," Oliver said. "They hardly ever flap."

Because of that, a wildlife viewing area on the west bluff of Brockway Mountain, near the raptor count station, allows visitors to see those birds at eye level or even from above.

"Among raptor migration sites, this opportunity to view them from above is unique to Brockway Mountain," according to the video. "For aspiring birders who have been frustrated with raptor identification, the chance to view many species side by side offers a chance to comfortably learn to identify soaring birds."

The video further notes that an expert hawk counter is available there during April and May to help with identification.

The ideal conditions to see birds are on days with fair skies and a light wind from the south.

Additionally, the work done at the

Keweenaw Dark Sky Park and the area's rural landscape helps birds who migrate at night and navigate by the stars and the light of the moon.

"Artificial light throws that off," Oliver said.

Since 1970, there are 3 billion less individual birds, according to the 3 Billion Birds Initiative, a campaign launched by a coalition of conservation groups, including Audubon, the American Bird Conservancy, Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, Georgetown University's Georgetown Environment Initiative, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park Conservation Biology Institute.

"That's due to habitat loss, increased challenges during migration and climate change," Oliver said, noting he was born in 1969. "The loss of that many bird species is an indication of the challenge of the environment we all need to exist within."

For Oliver, birding is a deeply personal experience and something that isn't always easy to describe.

"It's very meditative in a sense. It's a way for me to regain my center," he said. "Escaping to those places is really important."

"When I'm walking, it adds a whole new level of color to that space. You're envisioning the bird you hear. The landscape is so diverse, there's a lot of color in this space. It's being



A pair of sandhill cranes are alert to their surroundings near their nest in a Houghton County willow/alder marsh. (Photo by Tom Oliver)



If they succeed, Houghton would be the first Bird City in the U.P. This designation could mean an uptick in tourism, drawing birding-minded explorers to the Keweenaw. (Photo courtesy of Visit Keweenaw)

part of something that's really pretty amazing."

Back in Houghton, Oliver said there are about 300 different species of birds that have been documented there. Much of that information is shared through a birding app called eBird, created by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, on which birders from all across the world submit checklists of birds they have seen. This allows researchers to track where bird species are at specific times of the year and share that information to "power new data-driven approaches to science, conservation and education," according to the website.

"Hundreds of millions of checklists are submitted each year," Oliver said. "It contributes to great scientific knowledge."

Oliver encourages families to participate in upcoming events surrounding World Migratory Bird Day on May 9 and to pursue a deeper understanding of the importance of birds

for the local ecosystem.

"Things that benefit birds benefit humans, too," he said.

Barnett agreed, saying that the Bird City designation and celebrating World Migratory Bird Day will be an opportunity to highlight the importance of conservation and showcase the research that's being done locally at MTU.

"The local ecology is so important for visitors and why locals live here — we want to embrace what makes the Keweenaw special," he said. "It's an incredible place to learn about birding and what's available in our own backyard."

For information and resources about birding in the Keweenaw, including links to owl webcams, visit coppercountrybirds.org.

MM

Erin Elliott Bryan grew up in Ishpeming. She is a freelance writer and an MM calendar editor.

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Baraga native takes golfing talent to U.S. Open, coaching career

In the swing of things

By Jim LaJoie

He's a 2023 inductee into the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame. In 2002, he captured the U.P. men's golf title with a record score of 269, besting a field of more than 400 golfers. He's a former all-Big Ten and all-Midwest golfer at Michigan State University. He made two appearances in the U.S. Open (2006 at Winged Foot and 2007 at Oakmont).

And, during his high school career at Baraga, a small, rural U.P. town with a population of less than 2,000, he earned all-conference honors all four years in high school — and captured every tournament his senior year while averaging a sizzling 35 a round.

Meet John Koskinen, an unassuming Midwestern guy who has carved out a brilliant collegiate coaching career, maneuvering his pathway to success that only a select few golfers from the region have accomplished.

Koskinen is currently in his third season as the head women's golf coach of Florida International University, a Division I public research university in Miami with a student enrollment of more than 54,000 on several campuses.

Prior to that, he served as head women's coach at Division II Barry



U.P. golfer John Koskinen played in the 2006 U.S. Open at Winged Foot. (Photo courtesy of John Koskinen)

University in Miami for the 2022-23 season.

Yet, it was at the University of Miami where he gained his first real experience in the coaching ranks. He

spent 12 years as the Hurricanes' associate head coach for women's golf, helping guide the team in 2016 to its first national championship appearance since 1992.

Koskinen said coaching wasn't originally part of his long-term career plan when he enrolled at Michigan State. He had his sights set on playing collegiate golf and, as a kinesiology major, had early aspirations of becoming a chiropractor. Yet, as fate would have it, a move to Tampa, Florida, following graduation instigated change in his future, which involved trying to make it on the professional circuit.

"I did all the prerequisites [to become a chiropractor], but I didn't have a good senior year (playing golf)," said Koskinen, who completed a golf coaching internship at MSU in which he grew to love the environment and atmosphere of building a team. "Then, I moved to Florida and started caddying at Old Memorial Golf Course in Tampa. The caddies got to play on Sundays, so I would go out, tee it up and play. By not going to the range

every day, it started to transform my game. As my confidence continued to rebuild, I started thinking I could give professional golf a realistic shot."

A year later, in November 2005, he turned professional, while still occasionally caddying.

"The U.S. Open qualifier happened to be at the place I caddied at, so I got my chance and had a decent start with a 1-under (par) in the first round," Koskinen said. "And, in the second round, I had four birdies in a row and knew I was in the thick of things. Then, on the 34th hole, I hit the ball in the hazard, but managed to save par. On my final hole, I made a 40-foot putt for par to finish and went to the U.S. Open."

After grinding it out on the mini tours for the next couple years with no wins to show for it, it was then that he came to the stark conclusion that forging a career on the professional links was simply unrealistic.

"I was fighting to make cuts, not making them and it was very stressful," he remembers. "I then talked to one of my former teammates at MSU



In 2016, John Koskinen brought the University of Miami team to its first National Championship since 1992. (Photo courtesy of John Koskinen)

who had transferred to Barry. He told me they were looking to hire an assistant coach. Coaching had never crossed my mind, but I thought about it and entertained the idea. Two weeks later, I was doing an interview and two weeks later, I was coaching. Getting into the coaching world was pretty difficult back then, but I got lucky.”

And he hasn't looked back, coaching college kids and loving every minute of it. When asked what makes a successful golf coach, Koskinen chuckled before responding.

“To me, it's understanding the player and each individual personality,” he said. “No matter what my players say, I can tell them I have been there and have gone through slumps in my career. In my second year at MSU, I had the yips with my driver and during a spring break trip, I was losing a golf ball almost every hole.

“You just have to take it in and enjoy it. I tell them to ... keep plugging away, stay positive and be open to learning,” the 46-year-old said. “The worst thing a student can say is, ‘I know.’ You have to be a sponge and take it in. This game is so mental ... it drives us all crazy. We're all one swing away from being the best player that day or quitting.”

Koskinen said the game would be easier if someone rolled the ball to you. “That way it would be a

reaction instead of the ball just sitting there staring at you.”

He said a lot of things go on behind the scenes with coaching. “If my players leave school better golfers, better students and better humans, then I know I did my job as a coach.”

Mark Hankins is the head coach of the men's golf team at the University of Southern California (USC). The head coach at MSU from 1999-2000, Hankins said he knew when he coached Koskinen that he had innate ability and potential to parlay a playing career into coaching.

“John was an athletic kid who could play any sport well,” Hankins said. “He was competitive and really enjoyed team sports and the camaraderie with his teammates. He was fun to be around and always made our trips a good time. He loved MSU and bled green and white.” Hankins said Koskinen had a great college career and was a cornerstone to the rise of Michigan State golf to eventual Big Ten Champions and NCAA qualifiers.

“John loves college athletics, and you could see it with the joy that he brought to practice every day,” Hankins said. “He was very self-taught and focused on scoring and mentally competing to win championships. He brings that same love of the game — and of his team — to his coaching. He's a fun guy to be around, and I'm sure he makes competing on his team a perfect mix of fun and competition. He understands the level of work that it takes to win championships, and has been modeling these championship behaviors since he started coaching.”

To say Koskinen got an early start at playing golf would be an understatement.

“My mom won the club championship (L'Anse Golf Club) when she was 7 and a half months pregnant carrying me,” he said. “I was hooked at a young age. I have pictures of me when I was 3, with mittens and boots, out there playing. I knew it wasn't normal, but I had such a love for this game at an early age. I couldn't wait to hit off a blade of grass. I would watch the Masters, and I would line up my shoes, mark my golf balls ... I did that every year. It's always been a big part of my life.”

Koskinen believes that watching his mom and dad play only intensified his desire to follow in their footsteps.

“I looked up to my brother, too, and begged him to take me to the course,” he said. “When I did get to go, it felt special and I said, ‘One day I'm going to beat him.’”

While growing up in Baraga, Koskinen played football, Little League baseball and hockey at nearby L'Anse High School. Yet, it was the game of golf that consumed him, and that penchant for practicing at all hours of the day,



John Koskinen spent 12 years as the Miami Hurricanes' associate head coach for women's golf. (Photo courtesy of John Koskinen)

many times a week, played a defining role in fostering a career in the sport he loves most.

“I started golfing as a freshman and watched my game kind of grow through the years,” he said. “My home course (L'Anse Golf Club) has so much character. The ninth hole is one of the best holes I've ever seen. It's only 300 yards, but I have made so many double bogeys on that hole.”

Fast forward to today, and he finds himself at FIU, building a program that he believes will one day compete nationally for championships.

“I always had my eye on this school, and if that job (women's coach) opened up, I would try to get it,” he said. “In a way, it's a sleeping giant. It is a terrific school academically and has too many attributes to not be successful. I know I can turn this into something special. I believe this golf program can be phenomenal. I love recruiting.”

Looking back at his coaching career, he said he's most proud of what he helped build at the University of Miami.

“I'm very proud of what we did at Miami when I took over in 2010,” he said. “We were 156th in the country, and we needed to rebuild the entire system. By 2016, we were as high as ninth in the country, and we beat every single record the school kept track of. Three of those players are on the LPGA tour. It was great, and now we're trying to do that at FIU. I love the challenge ... it's very exciting.”



John Koskinen celebrates at L'Anse Golf Club with his mom Cele. They both won the club championship the same day; he was a junior in high school. (Photo courtesy of John Koskinen)

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John Koskinen took to golf at a young age, playing when he was just three. He would watch golf on TV and emulate the athletes, waiting for the season to turn so he could play. (Photo courtesy of John Koskinen)

A realist, Koskinen said the game of golf is arguably the toughest sport on the planet.

“Most people don’t realize how difficult it is,” he said. “I’m still in awe watching these guys (on tour) ... they make it look so effortless, delivering over and over and often in extremely difficult conditions. The average Joe could never shoot under par on those courses.

“For me, I love the imagination of it. Getting up and down. I love the creativity of it, like an artist painting a picture.”

Despite his success, Koskinen has not forgotten his humble, early beginnings, from learning to hit a driver arguably taller than him to whipping around his home course in L’Anse from sunrise to sundown, dreaming of becoming a professional golfer.

“I’m always filled with gratitude for my life experiences,” he said. “It’s remarkable to get as good as I could with only four months to play and no indoor facilities. I made

the most of my time in the summer. My mom would drop me off at the course and it was nothing for me to play 54 holes in a day.



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 THAT LOVE
 FOR THE
 GAME AND
 HAVE THIS
 CAREER...
 I’M BLESS-
 ED AND
 GRATEFUL
 FOR THOSE
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 ME THOSE
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“To have that love for the game and have this career ... I’m blessed and grateful to those who gave me those chances. I hope I can repay that in some way and open a door for someone else to walk through. As frustrating as it can be at times, it’s a cool job to coach.” Koskinen loves coming back home and appreciates the U.P. a lot more now because he sees it from a different perspective. “I have such a profound love for the beauty of the U.P. It’s a hidden world inside a world.”

To follow Koskinen and his team at FIU, visit fiusports.com/sports/womens-golf.

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Jim LaJoie was a newspaper sports writer and sports editor from 1986 to 1996. He is an

award-winning sports columnist for The U.P. Catholic. LaJoie lives with his family in Marquette.

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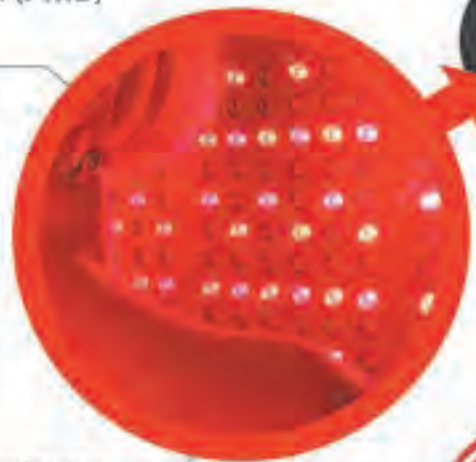
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“Decision making is easy when your values are clear.” —Roy Disney

By Brad Gischia

Values are important to Patrick Booth and Seth Bernard, but whether or not they had read this statement from a senior executive of the Disney Company, both musicians are living their lives and making their music, with their values on Front Street.

“I would rather play the long game and live in a place where every day I walk outside and I’m thankful for the air, for the trees, for the water,” Booth said.

Booth is a musician — a saxophonist by trade — and has spent the better part of his life trying to wrap his head around the sounds that can be made with the horn, and the ways in which he can produce those sounds.

Booth grew up in Ithaca, Michigan, where he got into music as most kids do — middle school band.

“I chose the saxophone because I thought it was cool. It came pretty easily to me, and that was kind of rewarding,” Booth said. “I really wanted to be a band director.”

As Booth looked to further his education after high school, he began to search out music programs.

Elsewhere in the state, Seth Bernard had been having his own musical journey.

Bernard grew up on a farm near Lake City, where his family bred into him a love of music.

“When I was a kid, we would do barn dances at the farm,” Bernard said. “Frank Youngman would bring his Lost World String Band here. My family all played music.”

It didn’t take long for Bernard to find the festival circuit. He spent a lot of time at festivals like Wheatland and Hiawatha while playing in bands.

“Going to music festivals, especially, exposed me to a lot of people who created original music and found a way to honor that tradition while expressing one’s unique self,” Bernard said.

Bernard took some time finding his creative roots, spending time at Interlochen School for the Arts in the the-

ater program before returning to the guitar.

“Music was the most immediate way for me to flesh out an idea once I’d had it,” Bernard said. “It was a way for me to reckon with how I was — and still am — feeling, about what I’m going through and what’s happening in the world.”

Bernard grew up in the midst of the grunge era of music, inspiring him to take up a new instrument.

“I was a teenager in the ’90s, so there was that grunge era, and I had a rock ’n’ roll band and took guitar lessons,” Bernard said. But the singer/songwriter in him wanted more than to cover music from other people.

Booth had continued on with the saxophone, following his passion for music and the instrument across the country, finding that he wasn’t nearly as good as he thought he was.

“I didn’t realize that I had to audition to get into music school,” Booth said. “I didn’t get in because I really wasn’t at the level that his studio demanded.” But that meeting was important because it introduced Booth to a music professor named John Nichols, who, though he didn’t let Booth into the studio, did answer an email from the young musician.

“I told him I understood his decision, but was wondering what I could do to get better. I wasn’t done yet,” Booth said. “I met a teacher at Pennsylvania University named John Nichols, who was a professor there. We had a good relationship, and he hooked me up with one of his students for lessons. It was that sort of fundamental building block of the musical language that I didn’t know yet.”

Seeing where the other students were was revelatory. Seeing the skill with which they played their instruments made Booth realize he could also be at their level within a few years.

“Instead of being scary, it was super inspiring,” Booth said. “I was like, ‘Wow... in three years, I could sound like that.’ But it wasn’t just that they were all really talented, they worked really hard.”

He ended up at Central Michigan University, where he pursued his dream of being a band teacher, but as



Above, Patrick Booth has spent his life exploring the sounds of the horn. (Photo by Tyler Franz) Seth Bernard, below, uses music to wrestle with life’s challenges, one note at a time. (Photo courtesy of Seth Bernard)



his semester of student teaching approached, he found that the prospect of spending more time in the classroom without his saxophone was not a reality that he was ready to deal with.

“I wasn’t ready to be done learning my instrument,” Booth said. “I was at a crossroads. The degree would give me some stability, and I would be completely happy being a music educator.”

At the same time, Booth knew that the rigors of being in the public education system would cut down on his time perfecting his own musical knowledge.

“I knew that if I had an hour a day to either practice or make a lesson plan, I would be winging it on the lesson plan every time,” Booth said. “That’s a really selfish mentality and a detriment to the student. I could totally wing it for a while, but it would catch up to me.”

For his own sake, and that of his future students, Booth went to graduate school at the University of Michigan with Andrew Bishop, the saxophone professor there.

“I was in the Masters of Improvisation program,” Booth said. “That was a life-altering decision for me.”

Those years allowed Booth to make lifelong friends and took him around the world. He spent two years in Ann Arbor, and when he graduated, looked at cities like New York or Chicago for a home base. He spent a two-week residency in Austria where he learned



Seth Bernard started out playing music with anyone who would have him ... until people started asking for him. His list of collaborators is impressive; he stays humble and focused on music. (Photo by Jamie Geysbeek)

about jazz with musicians from all around the world. Then he went to Banff, Alberta, to the Center for Creativity and did an intensive workshop. “That workshop really solidified what makes creating important to me, what fuels my creativity. It comes from being in a space that’s naturally beautiful. It drives my output.”

That made Booth realize that although he could live in a city and thrive in the music scene, it might not be the best place for him to sink roots.

His partner, another music educator, applied for a job in Marquette and the two of them made the trek up.

“All it took was good food, good beer and natural beauty,” Booth said. “It’s been my home since the day we moved. Marquette sunk its claws in and has been inspiring me since.”

Booth wasted no time getting into the local music scene, booking a gig through a friend as their U-Haul was pulling into town.

Meanwhile, Bernard was busy making his

own musical inroads.

“Music is not the easiest path, but in Michigan we have a music culture that is very supportive and collaborative. Once you start playing, you’re meeting more people who inspire and influence you,” Bernard said. “It’s a really exciting path in that it’s never-ending — you’re never really finished evolving as a musician.”

Bernard played with anyone who would have him until people specifically started asking for him. He’s played with cellist Jordan Hamilton, with four-piece jazz bands or larger rock ‘n’ roll bands. He has played with Rachel Davis, Kate Pillsbury and Frank Youngman and is playing on the newest album by Dan Rickabus.

He’s also found a spot teaching songwriting workshops at summer camps and schools. “It’s a collaborative process where I facilitate songwriting,” Bernard said. “I have a method I’ve used over the last 15 years, which is always a lot of fun.”

These two musicians were building their musical lives nearly 300 miles apart from each other; the collaborative nature of the Michigan music scene brought them together, with a little nudge from Portland, Oregon.

The Stolen Sweets are a jazz group that was playing at Hiawatha in 2016. They were not traveling with the full group and were in need of a saxophonist. One of the founding members of

The Stolen Sweets is Jen Bernard. Jen had also tasked her brother to sit in with the band as well.

“The first time we jammed was with my sister’s band under the big tree in my grandma’s backyard where I had hung out my whole life,” Bernard said. “We just jammed for hours, and by the end of the night, I was like, ‘Damn, this guy can really play.’”

The jamming aside, there was a connection there.

“I think Patrick and I connected because he’s a real musical expeditionary,” Bernard said. “He’s a master at the saxophone, but he’s always looking for ways to collaborate and get what needs to be said out at the moment. He’s always looking for ways that his musicianship can serve the purpose of bringing people together.”

Since that time, the two of them have played together when time allows, Booth traveling down to the Earthworks Farm in the fall and adding backing tracks to a recent album by Bernard. It was during that process that Bernard thought about a new project.

“I wondered what our sound would be if we made an album together,” Bernard said. “It was an organic process, hearing each other play and collaborating on other projects and having him play on my songs, but the intention of this was to do something instrumental and collaborative from the ground up.”



Bernard and Booth have produced an adult coloring book, with each drawing based on one of the tracks on their album, depicted by different artists. (Photo by Brad Gischia)

The two began to collaborate remotely, sending recordings of pieces of music to each other.

“Pat sent me some simple tracks,” Bernard said. “Simple melodies with a keyboard and saxophone ... and I’d send him a song on guitar, sometimes just a chord progression and we started playing with these ideas.”

“Seth is an amazing songwriter and amazing lyricist, but we decided to make this an instrumental album,” Booth said. “I was writing a duo for guitar and saxophone duet, and I write differently for Seth than I would for anyone else because I had to write in a way that I knew would make sense to him.”

The two booked time at La Luna Records in Kalamazoo once they’d gotten several tracks plotted out.

“We did a few hours of just improvising together and just creating spontaneously,” Booth said. After the recording was finished, they went their separate ways. Over the next several months, they worked on the music separately, whittling parts away and adding others, like a bass, drums and keyboards. “There were some very simple ideas

that we started with that I put out there just to see what Patrick would do with it,” Bernard said. “Maybe I’d have a melody, and I want to see where he’s going to take it. Sometimes I would tell him where I’d written it and turn him loose.” By the end of the process, the two were left with an instrumental album of tunes, half of Booth’s and half of Bernard’s. It’s called “Golden Roads.”

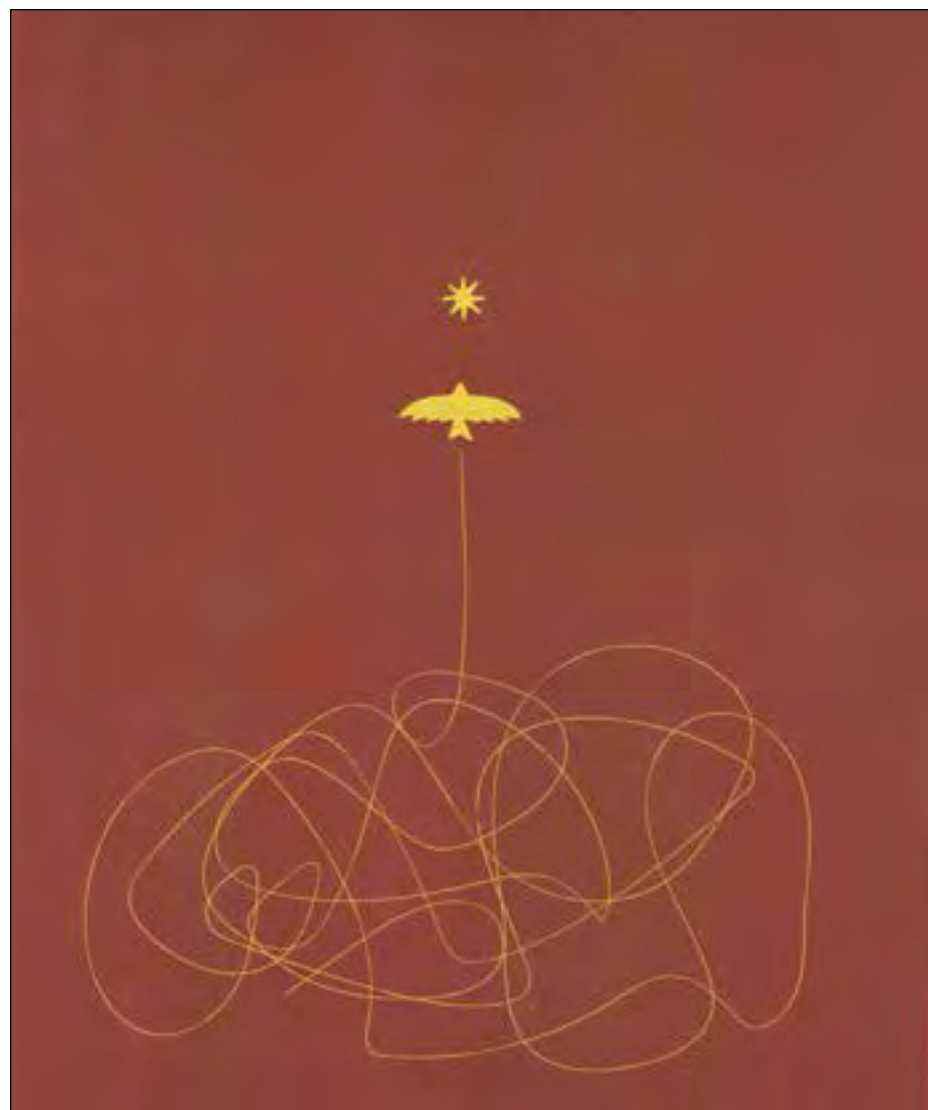
They released the album individually on their Bandcamp sites in 2024.

Now they are reintroducing it by way of other art. Rather than release a CD or vinyl, they decided that they would keep it completely digital.

“We had every intention to press it on vinyl, because I love vinyl records,” Booth said. “I love listening to them, I love looking at them, they sound amazing, and having a vinyl with my name on it would be amazing.”

But then they considered what the entire process would entail.

“Over the years I’ve become more environmentally conscious of my choices and the decisions I make,” Booth said. “I don’t think we need another pressed piece of melted plastic



The coloring book that goes with the “Golden Roads” album is available from the musicians directly, and they can be contacted via their Bandcamp page for the album. (Cover artwork by Will Thomas)



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- Thursday, June 25, 7:00 pm - Peg Hirvonen Bandshell
Dedication Concert (tentative)
- Friday, July 3, 6:30 pm - Lower Harbor Park
("Freedom 250" Concert)
- Thursday, July 16, 6:30 pm - Bandshell (Children's Concert)
- Thursday, July 30, 7:30 pm - Peg Hirvonen Bandshell
- Thursday, August 6, 7:30 pm - Peg Hirvonen Bandshell
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in the world.”

They considered what they wanted the album to be, both in how it could be enjoyed and what the themes were behind it.

“We both feel strongly about the movement of personal justice in America,” Booth said. “We started thinking about water rights and equal rights and nature rights and all of these things that really influence and enhance our views of the world. We want this album to help beautify the world.” So they reached into their extensive friends list and began asking for help.

“What we came up with is a two-installment rollout of the album,” Booth said. “The first round will be with this coloring book. Each page is designed by a different artist around one of the tracks of the album. When you buy the album, you get the download code as well.”

The second rollout will occur later this summer, when they will get the download code with the coloring book and a packet of wildflower seeds.

“We’re trying to make the world a more beautiful place through our music and strengthening the Earth,” Booth said.

With the album and coloring book there are no age strings attached.

“I like a good coloring book as a 45-year-old dude,” Bernard said. “But this is something that’s engaging people in the creative process.”

If you’re interested in the coloring book, contact Booth directly, though he will eventually have a link on his Bandcamp page. All of his music can be found there as well — patrick-booth.bandcamp.com.

For music by Bernard, Bandcamp is also the best place — sethbernard.bandcamp.com — or his personal website, samuelsethbernard.com. For the “Golden Roads” album specifically, it is also searchable on the Bandcamp site.

Until the next gig, both musicians have their hands full. Booth has begun teaching at NMU and Bernard is in the grips of syrup season on Earthworks Farm. But music and performance will always be a part of their lives.

“I’m busy and I have a good life,” Booth said. “I try not to think too far into the future. The future is always up in the air. So right now, I’m in the headspace of, I’m not going to quit playing music in 2026. I take it year by year. I’m going to keep on doing it for as long as I can.”

Having the album be successful is only a secondary result for Bernard.

“Getting validation from the industry is less important than being a family man who is embedded in the community and has a regular connection to nature,” Bernard said. “It’s impactful how we spend our time and money.”

“We’re both educators. That’s really important. We both had mentors that really helped to shape us as people, and so to be able to pay that forward is part of the intentionality of our lives.”

MM

Brad Gischia is a writer and artist native to Upper Michigan. He has published two children's books and has done illustrations for both comic books and novels.



Seth Bernard’s musical journey stretched from Interlochen to sharing a stage with John Prine or Greg Brown. Meanwhile, he remains grounded — now in syrup season on his farm. (Photo courtesy of Seth Bernard)

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| • Cleaners & Polishes | • Motor Oil | • Thermostats |
| • Creosote | • Nail Polish & Remover | • Transmission Fluid |
| • Epoxy Catalysts or Hardeners | • Non-regulated Home Medical Waste (Lancets, Insulin Syringes, IV Needles) | |
| • Fire Extinguishers | • Oil Base Paint, Stains, Varnishes | • Weed Killer |
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Playing it forward

Couple teaches, coaches at school that raised them

By David Maki

The conversation was nearly 20 years ago, but Jesse Kentala remembers like it happened yesterday. The longtime Dollar Bay-Tamarack City boys basketball coach was in one of his first years at the helm of DB-TC program, and he was entering the gym at the same time as his opposing coach for the evening, another new high school coach in the early years of his sideline tenure.

“I remember him being so excited to take over that program, which had a long history of winning, of success,” Kentala said. “He was so excited to put his stamp on that program — just so excited, saying ‘I cannot wait to start teaching these kids defense.’”

The opposing coach that evening had built quite a resume in the decades since that early winter encounter in the Copper Country, setting a bar of success that’s been matched by only a handful of western Upper Peninsula coaches — one of which is his wife.

Brad and Jacky (Staff) Besonen have been on the basketball sidelines for their alma mater — Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated Schools — for roughly two decades, each fulfill-



The team concept of “we” is always evident within the Ewen-Trout Creek basketball programs. It is a primary reason the small school’s girls basketball team reached the state finals two seasons ago, and the boys team achieved the same success three years earlier. (Photo courtesy of the Besonen family)

ing their longtime dreams and career goals in a district steeped in tradition and expectation.

“I wanted to get into coaching right away,” Brad said. “But when I start-

ed teaching, there wasn’t a basketball coaching position available. But in 2007, our JV position opened up; coaching basketball at E-TC is what I always wanted to do.”

For Jacky, the path to the varsity sideline also included some time on the JV bench.

“I knew as soon as I left college that I wanted to be involved in basketball,” she said. “I didn’t want to be done playing.”

Both she and Brad eventually stepped into roles filled by area legends — Tom Caudill and Nancy Osier — who each left a program that had its participants, and its fans, accustomed to winning frequently.

“Nancy Osier was a very good role model,” Jacky said. “She always taught good sportsmanship, to be respectful to other teams wherever we were. And for both of us, with our parents, it was the same way. We knew to do what you’re supposed to do, be responsible, work hard. We both grew up with parents who had those expectations.”

Oposing coaches today see those morals exemplified by every E-TC basketball team that takes the floor.

“They are both great people,” said Mariah Dunham, a longtime area basketball coach now serving as the physical education teacher at Baraga



Jacky and Brad Besonen coaching in a familiar setting — on the home team bench in the Ewen-Trout Creek school gymnasium. (Photo by Kassy Kallio/Copper Country Sports Photos)

Area Schools. “Sometimes you don’t want to be on the other side coaching against them, but I always respect how much love and respect they give to the game. I love how much involvement they have in their own kids’ lives with sports, but also with others in the community.”

Kentala shares that sentiment. “Small schools like Dollar Bay and Ewen, they don’t exist without people like Jacky and Brad,” he said. “They can’t exist without people who are dedicated to the community, who understand the community and who create and facilitate culture in their school.”

Longtime U.P. high school coach and basketball aficionado Paul Polfus of Carney has known of the Besonens since both were players themselves. His admiration of their work on and off the court remains as strong as that first encounter.

“I am always drawn to coaches who are passionate about their profession, and they are at the top of that list,” Polfus said. “There’s nothing that works better than being a model of extra work that motivates players. They both have a great knowledge of the game and the ability to translate that to their players; their work ethic and energy is a game-changer.”

That work ethic extends beyond the sidelines. Brad has, for a quarter-century, been the K-12 music teacher at Ewen, at which Jacky has been in elementary classrooms for more than

20 years, currently teaching third and fourth grade. “On the education side, I just really love my job,” Jacky said. “It became very clear during COVID how much I love my job.”

“We both really loved sports when we were in high school. Our teachers were very good, worked with us and pushed us to do our best. I think we had an excellent education (that) prepped us for college.”

Brad agreed. “The teachers we had are a big reason we looked into education as something we’d like to do in the future ... in high school I knew that I wanted to do some coaching. When I was in high school, I think I did every sport we had, and being in all of those and enjoying the experiences, that’s what made me want to be in education.”

Both Jacky and Brad enrolled at Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin, after graduation. Brad graduated from Ewen in 1995, Jacky in 1997.

Jacky earned a degree in elementary education, and Brad’s degree is in music education. Both also played basketball at Northland, with Brad scoring more than 1,000 points during his collegiate career, and Jacky setting the women’s career steals record for the school.

Despite the accolades, despite any potential opportunities for “bigger and better” things, both Brad and Jacky remain small-town at heart. Their impact on young people in their



The Besonens loved sports in high school and both went on to play basketball at Northland. (Photo courtesy of the Besonen family)

district — their home — is apparent far beyond the gymnasium.

“They’re very dedicated to the school, to the community and to the students,” said Ewen-Trout Creek Consolidated Schools superintendent Tony Basanese. “They give a lot of their time; you don’t have those successful programs if you don’t give a lot of time. If you go to an event, they’re there. At football games, Brad has the band there. They’re very visible. Their reputation is out there, and it stands on its own.”

Dunham sees it similarly. “Their impact most definitely extends beyond basketball,” she said. “I’ve seen an awesome connection with students who aren’t athletes.”

“At a small school you have to wear many hats,” Kentala said. “Have you ever heard their choir? They are amazing. That success isn’t arbitrary; it comes from years of doing things the right way.”

Basanese has been the superintendent at Ewen for three years, but having worked at a nearby district for several years prior, he was well aware what his most widely known staff members were bringing to the proverbial table well before his arrival.

“They’ve very accomplished,” he said. “Everybody loves a winner, and



The Besonen family — including Bree, Christian, Elise, Jacky, Brad and Emma — takes it all in together at the Breslin Center in March 2025. (Photo courtesy of the Besonen family)

when you’re dedicated, kids go out (for activities). With a small school like this (current high school enrollment is 64 students in grades 9-12) when you show the kids that you want

to be there, they want to be there too.”

That’s a key to success, according to Polfus. “You have to wear a lot of hats, from running elementary programs, basketball camps, and in many

cases have some parenting skills that transfer to your team,” he said. “They have passed along the idea that ‘We are all in this together.’ Even if your school is small, it is the ‘big time’ for

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Jacky Besonen strategizes with her team during a recent regular-season game at Dollar Bay-Tamarack City High School. (Photo by Kassy Kallio/Copper Country Sports Photos)

the players you coach. There is great tradition at Ewen and both Jacky and Brad have passed along the meaning of that tradition. No matter what size your school is, it's 'why' you coach,

not 'who' you coach."

Brad and Jacky certainly exemplify that – in all aspects of their lives. They've raised their four children – an adult daughter who's now a music

teacher in a nearby district, a son enrolled in college, and two daughters at E-TC — in the same area, and in the same way they were raised. "Our family is even more of our focus," Jacky

said, after pointing out she and Brad would each be coaching three games that week. "With our kids really tied into our school, and how close we are with our families, it's a no-brainer to be surrounded by family."

That's how Kentala sees it too. "They've raised a wonderful family," he said. "They have awesome kids. That speaks to the profession — they're good teachers and are passionate about helping kids. If you don't have that passion, you're not going to make it."

That won't be a concern for the people of E-TC. "They constantly provide opportunities to those around them and have a strong love for their school and community," Polfus said. "This flows over to those they are associated with. With Brad and Jacky, what you see is what you get, and they don't just speak about success — they emulate it."

MM

David Maki, a lifelong U.P. resident whose journalism career is now in its 26th year, serves as managing editor of The Finnish American Reporter. When he's not crafting or editing articles, he's likely at a gym, track or cross-country course supporting his daughters, alongside his wife Amy.

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Schedule Update



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April 4 @ 7:00 PM CST

The Knockabouts are a Celtic music trio playing traditional, contemporary and original tunes from around the world.



Pianist Phillip Daniel
May 8 @ 7pm CST



Peter Bergin - American Jamboree
May 23 @ 7pm CST



Missoula Children's Theatre
Performances: June 12 & 13



Mulebone
July 23 @ 7pm CST



Rosie & the Rivets
August 1 @ 7pm CST



Jackie & Gary
August 15 @ 7pm CST



Sixtiesmania
September 18 @ 7pm CST



Comedian Andy Beningo
October 3 @ 7pm CST

Internationally acclaimed artist talks sculpture, teaching philosophy

Letting the work take its time

By Melissa Wentarmini

Alex Fekete does not rush to explain himself. He speaks carefully, often circling an idea before settling into it, as if testing its weight before setting it down. That rhythm — measured, attentive, resistant to easy conclusions — runs through nearly everything he does, from the way he works with glass to the way he thinks about teaching, creativity and the world his students are inheriting.

Glass, he explains, does not reward impatience. It is molten and luminous one moment, rigid and unyielding the next — a material that demands respect for timing and process. You can shape it, but you cannot bully it. If you impose your will too aggressively, it pushes back. If you slow down and pay attention, it begins to cooperate.

Over time, Fekete came to recognize that this dynamic mirrored something larger: how people learn, how ideas form and how meaning survives when spectacle falls away.

Fekete serves as an assistant professor at Northern Michigan University, where he leads design and studio courses. Dividing his time between Marquette and his Pennsylvania studio, Fekete maintains a high-profile practice as both a design consultant and a master of sculptural blown glass. His work is a fixture at premier international venues, including SOFA Chicago and New York and the National Liberty Museum in Philadelphia. Represented internationally by K-Gallery in Bratislava, Slovakia, his sculptures have been featured in the Corning Museum of Glass's New Glass Review and are held in distinguished public and private collections across the United States and Europe.

But the clarity that defines both his work and his teaching did not emerge in isolation. It was shaped early, under circumstances where freedom was not assumed. Fekete was born in Bratislava, in what was then Czechoslovakia, at a time when borders were fixed and travel tightly controlled. "When I was growing up, there was the Iron Cur-



Before glass became central to his art, Alex Fekete had a career in industrial design, working in Silicon Valley. (Photo courtesy of Alex Fekete)

tain," he said. "That's where all the dreams kind of stopped." The West existed largely as an idea, filtered through propaganda and partial truths, while daily life unfolded within clearly defined limits. You could live, work, raise a family — but curiosity beyond those borders was discouraged, and indifference itself could be suspect.

What stayed with him was not just the restriction, but the enforced simplicity of thinking. "You were either for something or against it," he said. "There wasn't much room to say, 'I don't know,' or 'I don't care.'" That absence of latitude, intellectual and emotional, left a lasting impression.

When political conditions shifted in the early 1990s, opportunity arrived. In 1992, Fekete came to the United States on a Fulbright Scholarship, part of the first group of scholars from the region after decades of isolation. The program was meant as

an exchange: learn something, then return home. He did not arrive with a plan to stay. "I thought I'd be here for a few months, see America, and then go back," he said. "That was the understanding, even with my family."

Instead, one choice led to another. A faculty member at the University of Illinois encouraged him to apply for a degree. He enrolled, partly out of curiosity, partly out of restlessness. "I didn't even know how these things

worked," he said. "I was bored. I asked if I could take classes, if I could help teach. One thing just led to another." Two years later, he earned his MFA. More than three de-

“

WHEN I WAS GROWING UP, THERE WAS THE IRON CURTAIN. THAT'S WHERE ALL THE DREAMS KIND OF STOPPED.



Alex Fekete's glass and sculpture work is on display at premier international venues, and he splits his time between NMU and his studio in Pennsylvania. (Photo courtesy of Alex Fekete)

acades on, he is still here.

Before glass became central to his practice, Fekete built a career in industrial design. Working in the high-stakes environment of Silicon Valley, he specialized in disruptive designs that challenged industry norms. A

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prime example was the JavaStation — a joint effort between Montgomery Pfeifer and Sun Microsystems — which reimagined the physical form of network computing and earned a Gold IDEA Award. He brought this same non-traditional approach to Balanced Audio Technology, where his designs garnered “Golden Ear” and “Product of the Year” honors for blending rugged, industrial power with sophisticated aesthetics.

His work has been featured as a benchmark of innovation in The New York Times, Businessweek, Time and The Absolute Sound. That environment shaped how he thinks about responsibility and effort. In industry, he explained, ambiguity has limits.

“If I didn’t understand something in a meeting, I didn’t call the client back and ask them to spell it out,” he said. “You figured it out, or there was no commission.” The expectation was

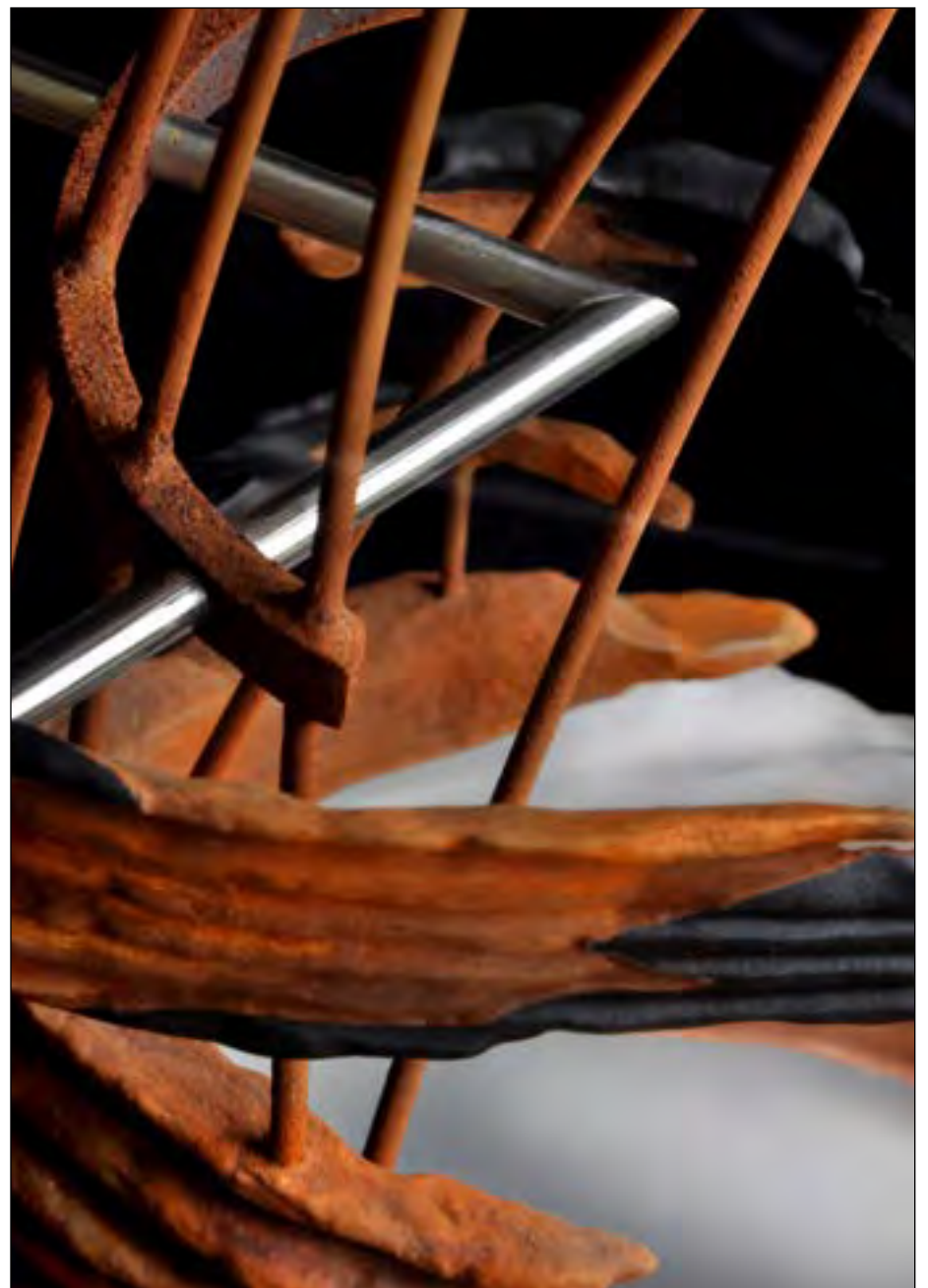
not perfection, but engagement — pay attention, take responsibility, solve the problem.

Those lessons followed him into the studio and the classroom.

Fekete’s relationship with glass began during graduate school and gradually deepened. Unlike many glass artists, he did not arrive through a traditional craft pipeline. He approached the material as a sculptor and designer first, interested less in showmanship than in form and restraint.

Glass proved difficult enough to hold his attention. “It’s maddening,” he said, laughing. “It’s obstinate. It’s unyielding. But that’s the point.”

The process begins with sketching, but only as an entry point. As he explains in his artist statement, sketching initiates the hands-on process, while the essence of form is created on the pipe through free blowing and shaping. In the hot shop, exploration



Alex Fekete’s relationship with glass began during graduate school and gradually deepened. Unlike many glass artists, he did not arrive through a traditional craft pipeline — he approached the material as a sculptor and designer first. (Photo courtesy of Alex Fekete)



Alex Fekete, at right, serves as an assistant professor at NMU, where he leads design and studio courses. His art and outlook on life shape the way he helps his students find their muse. (Photos courtesy of Alex Fekete)



is direct and mistakes are common. Mishaps often return to the furnace — frustrating at times but frequently pointing toward a new direction or a return to drawing.

The work that follows is slower and quieter. In the cold shop, cutting exposes curves, while grinding and sanding refine them. Sandblasting softens surfaces and clarifies lines, allowing the form to reveal itself without distraction. Polishing is used sparingly, only when it allows a piece to better interact with light or space. Cold working a single piece can take anywhere from 40 to 150 hours. Progress can be almost imperceptible. “If someone watched me for an afternoon, they’d think nothing was happening,” he said. “But that’s the work.”

Some pieces incorporate steel elements, laminated glass, iron oxide or river stones shaped by time and water. Pebbles, worn smooth by nature, often become focal points. Their inclusion, he notes, is not symbolic, but observational.

What happens in the studio mirrors what happens outdoors: abrasion, repetition, erosion, patience. Over time, form emerges not through force, but through attention. Color, a hallmark of contemporary glass, is largely absent from his work. This is not rejection, he said, but discipline. “I don’t find it useful for what I’m trying to say,” he said. “Form does enough on its own.”

The result is work that does not announce itself quickly. Collectors often tell him his pieces grow on them

over time. That delayed connection is intentional. He is wary of work that relies on spectacle or immediate gratification. “There’s this idea now that anyone can do anything instantly,” he said. “I don’t believe that.”

That skepticism extends naturally into his teaching.

In the classroom, Fekete sees many of the same pressures he resists in the studio. Students arrive conditioned to seek approval, hesitant to take risks and deeply concerned with fitting in. “They’re afraid to be different,” he said. “Not because they don’t have ideas, but because they’re afraid of being ridiculed.”

He believes this fear is reinforced by a broader cultural environment that discourages deliberate thought and honest disagreement. He notices classrooms filled with silence, students sitting together but isolated, phones as their sole point of connection. “They’re all in their own spheres,” he said. “Even when they’re sitting right next to each other.”

His response is not to coddle, but



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to insist, quietly, on ownership. He avoids telling students what to make or whether they are “on the right track.” Instead, he explains what he sees in their work: where it holds together, where it collapses, where attention is lacking. “I’m not here to tell them they’re right,” he said. “That’s something they have to figure out.”

Effort, in his view, is not punishment but reward. He draws comparisons to athletics, where repetition and endurance are understood as prerequisites for growth. “Five sketches is nothing,” he said. “But somehow with art, people think that’s excessive.” He resists the idea that creativity should be easy or immediate, arguing instead that struggle teaches self-respect.

At the same time, he has become more attentive to the emotional terrain students are navigating. Compared to earlier generations, he sees more anxiety, more reluctance to engage and more fear of failure. Some of the most talented students, he observes, are also the most socially vulnerable. His role, as he sees it, is not to shield them from difficulty, but to ensure they are not erased by it. “My job is not to protect them,” he said. “It’s to make sure they don’t disappear.”

This balance — between rigor and care, between freedom and responsibility — defines both his teaching and

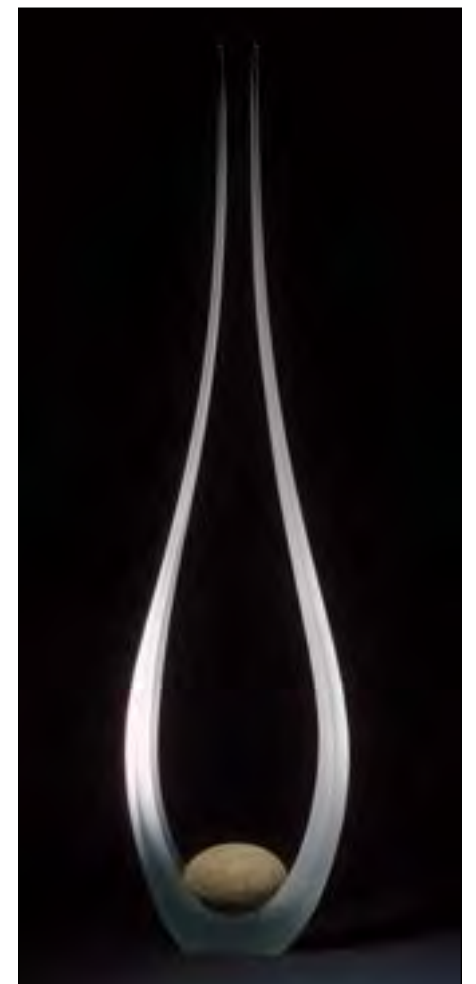
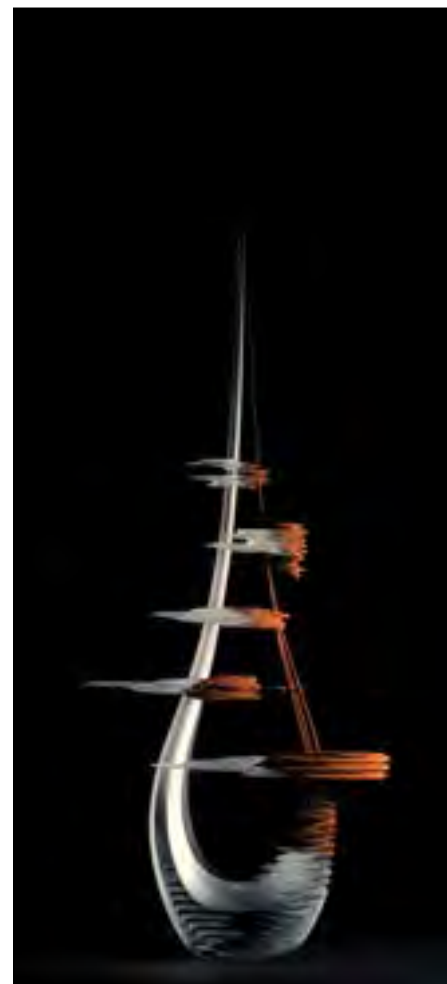
his art. For Fekete, glass remains compelling precisely because it refuses shortcuts. You cannot know whether a piece works until hours, sometimes days, after it is made. Some pieces fail after dozens of hours of labor. Others surprise him. “What interests me is not what’s immediately there,” he said, “but what remains.”

That perspective extends beyond the studio. Teaching, mentoring and making are all slow practices. None offer guarantees. All require patience, attention and a willingness to sit with uncertainty. Glass will still be there tomorrow. “It doesn’t care about trends,” he said. “It doesn’t care how fast you want it to go.”

In a culture increasingly defined by speed and absolutism, Fekete’s work makes a quieter argument: that patience is not passive, that discipline can be a form of care, and that some things — whether objects, ideas or people — only reveal their shape when given time.

MM

Melissa Wentarmini is a writer based in Iron Mountain with a focus on storytelling that highlights communities, history and human connections. An avid runner and cyclist, she is actively engaged in her community and enjoys time with family as a wife and mother.



NMU assistant professor Alex Fekete’s fascination with glass began during grad school; he finds it maddening and unyielding, but enjoys the evolution that happens in the process. (Photo courtesy of Alex Fekete)

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Get ready to spin for cash and Free Play during the April Showers Slot Tournament! Registration for the slot tournament is free and unlimited re-buys are \$10 each. After 3PM, the top scores from the slot tournament will play in a final round to determine the winners of the slot tournament.

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Registration for the slot tournament will end at 2:55PM.



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Additional competitions on select Fridays through July 10 | Finals Round: July 24

Saturday, April 18 | 9PM - 1AM | The Pressbox
Additional competitions on select Saturdays through July 17 | Finals Round: July 18

Evening Star DJ is hosting the Talent Quest 2026 Karaoke Contest! It's \$10 to join the competition and if selected, you'll move on to the finals, then regionals at the international level — where two singers score an all-expenses-paid trip. Didn't win this week? Warm up your pipes and compete again on another date!



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From the Mandalorian to a DeLorean, pop culture will take over the Bay College campus in Escanaba on May 1 and 2. (Photo courtesy of Dave Laur)

Bay-Con 2026: A growing con-munity

By Brad Gischia

It's no secret that nerd culture is big business. Comic books are cool. So are video games, cosplay, board games, card games and Dungeons & Dragons. There is no end to the numerous and varied fandoms that someone can sink their time and money into.

At one time, the only way you could find people with similar interests would be by mere happenstance at a themed store, or perhaps you saw the rare superhero shirt that would mark a stranger as a kindred spirit.

That chance has been available for the past four years in Escanaba.

Bay-Con is a pop culture event

that is celebrating its fifth year in May 2026. Dave Laur, the founder of the event, is a lifelong geek. He's also the executive director of Student Life at Bay College in Escanaba and the owner of Mancave Dave in Gladstone, a store that specializes in all things geek.

Laur said in the last five years, the show has grown in many ways. "The first year, we had around 600 people through the door," Laur said. "Now we expect a couple thousand each year. We want the doors to be blown off ... in a good way."

But, because the number of attendees has grown, the pressure to provide a quality event has increased as well.

In past years, they have had voice

actors from video games, cartoons and comic artists.

This year is no different in that respect. The 2026 Bay-Con celebrity roster will include more of the same awesomeness that has become the norm. Jason Moore, a comic book artist who has worked for Marvel, DC and independent publishers will be slinging art and books.

Carla Perez most notably starred in the "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers" television show.

André Sogliuzzo voiced characters in "Avatar: The Last Airbender" and "The Polar Express."

Alejandra Reynoso voiced characters in the "Castlevania" cartoon and worked on Nickelodeon's "Winx

Club."

This lineup is spectacular for a small show like Bay-Con, and that doesn't even include the huge vendor space, where people will be selling everything from crocheted dragons to your favorite, long-lost transformer. Laur said they are expecting between 50 and 60 vendors.

Perhaps the biggest growth for this year is that Bay-Con is adding a second day to the schedule.

"The two-day show is something the planning committee has been tossing around since the second year," Laur said. "There were some things we had to figure out, and now that we've expanded the show floor space, the whole event is more conducive to



Bay-Con fans come in all shapes and costumes. While cosplay is not required, it adds to the fun. (Photo courtesy of Dave Laur)

having that many people.”

Laur said the decision to do a longer show was made after consulting with other convention organizers.

“The overall flow of the show is better now,” Laur said.

Like most things, Bay-Con couldn’t happen without volunteers.

Laura Palmgren has been volunteering at Bay-Con since the first year.

“I ended up working in the front booth that first year after I came in as a spectator,” Palmgren said. “I knew Dave from being at the college, and he needed help at the information booth, so I hopped back there.” She ended up spending the day. When planning for the next year came up, she decided she would join in. At the time, she was a student working on campus.

Palmgren’s involvement included starting the cosplay contest, something close to her heart, because she was one of the few people who showed up for the first show in costume.

“I knew that there were people around who made their own costumes,

and I wanted to be able to provide a platform for people to be able to show their talents off,” Palmgren said. “It was also selfish because I wanted to see the costumes.”

Palmgren has been fine-tuning both her costumes and her building skills since the first show.

“The first year I went as Sailor Jupiter from the ‘Sailor Moon’ franchise,” Palmgren said. When the second year came around, she found that her Mandalorian character had come to life.

“It’s an original design by me,” Palmgren said. She fashioned the first costume out of foam and items she thrifted. The newest rendition is made of items she 3D printed and painted herself.

Palmgren said the joy for her is twofold, both in the making and the showing.

“There’s a reward in taking the time and seeing your project come together when you take it from the vision and then see it actually built on the mannequin,” Palmgren said. “But there’s joy too in seeing the reactions

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Jon Teichman of The Emporium featuring Vintage Vinyl is one of many vendors who jumps in the fun at Bay-Con. (Photo courtesy of Dave Laur)

from people when I walk by, because my Mandalorian costume is pink. I want people to know you can still be tough and wear pink."

Palmgren said the first year of the cosplay contest, there were about 30 contestants — from little kids being walked through by their parents to grown adults.

Last year, there were close to 100 contestants, so many that they've had to break the contest up into brackets and have awards.

"I also try to get cosplayers I meet at other conventions to come in and act as judges," Palmgren said.

No matter your skill level or length of time in the cosplay game, Palmgren wants everyone to know that newcomers are always allowed.

"I never want to discourage creativity. I want people to be able to express themselves in a positive light," Palmgren said. "This is supposed to be fun. If you're not enjoying it, then you're not doing it right."

Nathaniel Morrison has also been volunteering since the first year and said the people who donate their time are invaluable.

"The volunteers really make this show happen," Morrison said. "Without them, the show would have been gone, Year 1."

Morrison spent that first year running for things that Laur might need.

"I was a student at the time and involved in a few of the groups that put the show on," Morrison

said. "It was exciting because I'd always wanted to go to a comic convention but didn't have a vehicle and lived in this small town." That first show was exhausting, but Morrison saw the potential for more.

"It brings the community together," Morrison said.

The togetherness will commence on May 1 this year and is put on by the Student Activities Committee, but would not be possible without the sponsors that make the show happen.

"The Radio Results Network is one of our big sponsors," Laur said. Most of the volunteers come from on-campus groups. Gaming Galaxy is the gaming club and helps out with the game room. The Business Professionals of America will help in the laser tag area. There will be Dungeons & Dragons games going on.

Friday night this year is affectionately called "Friday Night Geek Fight."

"We're going to have laser tag, vintage video game tournaments, Magic: The Gathering tournaments, pinball tournaments, as well as tabletop RPG and play testing some new games," Laur said. "There will also be open board game play sponsored by Iron Golem Games."

Saturday there will be the cosplay contest, trivia and, of course, the guests and vendors will be there all weekend.

Food trucks will be on campus to provide sustenance to combat con-fa-

figure. The event is ticketed, but one of the things that is important to Bay-Con organizers is that it is an affordable way to spend your time.

"It's \$5 a day," Laur said. "Or if you buy a ticket online for both days it's only \$7, kids under 10 are free."

Hours are 3 to 8 p.m. on Friday, May 1 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 2 — plenty of time for you to get every ounce of geeky joy you can out of the show. That's really what it's all about.

"It's been awesome to see the community embrace it," Laur said. "Even people outside of our community see the value and importance. I always go back to this point: that we're trying to bring people together at a time when so many things are trying to tear us apart. It's just about a shared love of pop culture."

Palmgren feels the same way. "It's a light in the community," Palmgren said. "It's something that people look forward to every year, a chance for

them to see things they haven't before without having to drive six hours or more to a bigger show."

Morrison said he will continue to volunteer at the show as long as he can.

"The days are long and hard, but I like seeing people happy," Morrison said. "It helps people to find their tribe."

So, while pop culture may be big business, the folks at Bay-Con continue because of the community experience it fosters.

"There are a lot of new friendships because of this show," Palmgren said. "But most of it is the pure joy I get from seeing all of the people at the show. My favorite time is right before we open the doors, seeing the excitement in the line of people."

"It keeps me coming back."

MM

Brad Gischia is a writer and artist native to Upper Michigan. He has published two children's books and has done illustrations for both comic books and novels.

“THERE ARE A LOT OF NEW FRIENDSHIPS BECAUSE OF THIS SHOW... MOST OF IT IS THE PURE JOY I GET FROM SEEING ALL OF THE PEOPLE AT THE SHOW.”



Bay-Con offers a little something for everyone, from gaming to pop culture to straight nerd culture, music and comic books, the show offers nostalgia for multiple generations. (Photo courtesy of Dave Laur)

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April 2026 Vol 1 No. 2



Hudson's All About The Food
BRADLEY RYAN
MARQUETTE

Let's get right into the food. The Philly has been by far one of the most popular sandwiches and it's not by accident. The prime rib is slow roasted in house for hours before being thinly sliced and served up with onions, peppers, Monterey jack cheese on a golden toasted hoagie with a side of Au jus for dipping, by cooks like Ross Kemp, kitchen manager shown above. Fabulous Fish Fry recipe.

Attention to detail is a huge part of what brings the flavors together in every dish. Our unique seasonings are made in house to create something special that no other place can recreate. If you've ever ordered any of the pasta dishes at Hudson's, it's clear that the sauces are made with care and precision. The house made Alfredo has been a guest favorite because of our close attention to detail when preparing each batch. And we can't forget about Hudson's exceptional fish fry and seafood options. The same recipe has been handed down for 27 years and is still known as Manny's kitchen manager shown above. Fabulous Fish Fry recipe.

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Local gardener plants seeds of growing wisdom

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” —Audrey Hepburn

By Erin Elliott Bryan

Although there may still be snow on the ground, it is possible to believe that spring will come to the U.P. April is the perfect time to think about all things gardening — the planting, the tending, the growing and, ultimately, the harvesting.

The U.P.’s climate and soil can be harsh, but it is possible to cultivate a successful garden and grow a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. Just ask Norm Hefke.

“One has to really watch the weather and not fight it,” Hefke said. “It’s a waste of time to plant if the weather isn’t right. Waiting is the best course; otherwise, you’re wasting time and seeds. Most crops will still do fine.”

Hefke has long been a source of information and inspiration to local gardeners and was often tapped to share his experiences in lectures and presentations. In May 2023, he compiled his knowledge and advice into a guide titled “Successful Gardening Practices for Upper Michigan: A Handbook for Fruit and Vegetable Gardeners.”

“It occurred to me that I wouldn’t have to speak at presentations if I could put it in a booklet,” he said. “I started making lots of notes, and before I knew it, I had a booklet of information.”

The book addresses all sorts of tips for growing fruits and vegetables as well as how to deal with common pests and diseases. He even includes a few of his favorite recipes using the vegetables and herbs he grows.

Since its publication, Hefke has sold 500 copies of the booklet. It is available locally at Mares-Z-Doats, Snowbound Books, the Marquette Regional History Center and Snyder Drugs stores.

Hefke, who turned 90 on March 14, has been gardening for most of his life, guided by his mother Emma — to whom the booklet is dedicated — and his work on the family’s dairy farm in Orleans County, New York.

“My mother, she was kind of in charge of the 10 of us kids,” Hefke said. “She was the lady in charge of everything. I grew up gardening with



Norm Hefke took up woodturning in retirement, sometimes producing up to 500 pieces a year. (Photo courtesy of Norm Hefke)

her.” Hefke said he even fenced off a smaller garden within his mother’s larger garden so that he could tend a space of his own.

“I love to see things grow,” he said.

As a young teenager, Hefke recalled looking through seed catalogs and identifying plants he wanted to try to grow. He soon discovered that crops like peanuts and sweet potatoes are not successful in New York state.

“They’ll grow, but not ripen,” he said.

The 197-acre family farm also included chickens, pigs, ducks and cows. The cows had to be milked by hand, during which time Hefke learned to harmonize while singing with his siblings.

He wrote about that experience in

a book he published in 2021 about his childhood titled “Some Recollections of Life on the Farm.”

“All the Hefke kids were known in school and the local area as good singers,” Hefke wrote. “Since milking is a rather quiet activity not requiring a lot of concentration, we often sang while we milked. All it took was for one of us to start a song, especially one that could easily lend itself to harmony.”

Perhaps inspired by those milking songs, Hefke initially was a voice major when he first went to college and eventually earned a bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York Teachers College at Fredonia. But he soon found his calling working with college students while serving as a resident director at Syracuse Uni-



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versity, from which he earned a master's degree.

He met his wife Sue at Albion College, where he was in charge of the freshmen residence halls. Hefke went on to pursue a doctoral degree in student personnel administration at Michigan State University and was recruited to NMU in 1968.

Hefke started a "very small garden" at their first home before moving to a larger home two years later, "which had no room for a garden," according to his booklet.

"Fortunately, the lot next door, situated fortuitously to the east, was for sale at a very reasonable price," Hefke wrote. "I soon had ample room for a garden."

Hefke's career at NMU spanned 31 years, serving in various roles in the Dean of Students Office and in the Department of Education. During this time, Hefke found respite in his garden.

"My responsibilities at Northern were sometimes stressful, and arriving home and checking on how my crops were growing helped me to leave the stress of the office behind," Hefke wrote. "Sue used to accuse me of having another child, as I often went to the garden to see how everything was growing before going into the house to see my family."

He added that gardening is a way to "turn your attention to things that don't talk back."

Hefke retired as a professor of education in 1999, when he and Sue built their retirement home in Harvey on the Chocolay River. Hefke was warned that the soil there was too sandy to maintain a good garden, but he



Sue and Norm Hefke's gardens were on the Marquette Beautification and Restoration Committee's annual garden tour four times; flowers are a secondary passion to growing produce. (Photo courtesy of Norm Hefke)

gladly accepted the challenge.

Using truckloads of rotted sawdust and quality topsoil, Hefke transformed the property into "an excellent base" for gardening and the lawns. The soil was so rich that Hefke even managed to grow 12-foot-tall sunflowers in 2002.

Hefke recommends a garden plot be free of tree roots, which can rob the soil of moisture and nutrients. Additionally, gardeners can test their soil every few years to determine what balance of nitrogen, phosphorus and

potash should be applied and in what amounts. Test kits can be purchased online from the MSU Extension Service or at local garden supply centers.

"The garden I created has proven to be more successful than I ever imagined," Hefke wrote. "It produces way more food that we can possibly eat fresh or store in the freezer. Friends enjoy our extra cucumbers, raspberries, lettuce, occasionally a few peaches or apples, and of course, the usual zucchini. Sue has given up on trying to convince me that I don't

have a family of 10 to feed. I can't help myself!"

At its biggest, Hefke's garden measured about 40 feet wide and 70 feet long. In recent years, he has scaled back and eliminated some crops, saying he is "less interested in a full day in the garden." He now estimates his garden to measure about 30 feet wide and 50 feet long.

Hefke has spent nearly 27 years since his retirement honing his skills and knowledge about gardening in this cooler climate near Lake Superior. He knows what works and what doesn't.

One of Hefke's most important recommendations is to know your cold-hardiness zone. Zones are areas designated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) based on average annual minimum temperatures, indicating where a plant is likely to survive the winter.

"Generally speaking, areas close to Lakes Michigan and Superior are Zone 5. Areas of higher elevation and a distance away from the lakes are Zone 4," Hefke wrote.

Hefke admitted that it took a few years to learn which variety of peaches would thrive in his garden. "One has to know the limits of what can be grown successfully and you can't waste your time on what can't be grown," he said, adding that growers should avoid simply purchasing what's available.

He recommends his two favorite seed catalogs, "Territorial Seeds" and



Norm Hefke recently downsized his garden to a simple 30-foot by 50-foot plot, as he is less interested in spending the whole day working in the garden now that he's 90. (Photo courtesy of Norm Hefke)

“Johnny’s Selected Seeds,” which he says provide valuable information on how to grow the vegetables they offer. But he also looks for plants at local nurseries that have a relatively short growing season.

“Whatever the seed or plant I’m looking for, because of our cool climate, I assume the maturity requirements will be longer than what the seed packet or plant tag suggests,” Hefke wrote.

Of course, successful gardens receive sufficient amounts of sunshine and water to be most productive. Hefke’s garden, which is situated in the southwest corner of their lot, receives nearly eight hours of daily sunlight. His extensive irrigation system uses a combination of stationary and mobile sprinklers as well as soaker hoses that are set on a timer. He waters every two or three days.

“Crops need plenty of moisture,” Hefke said.

Thanks to his hard work, Hefke’s property has been a four-time stop on the Marquette Beautification and Restoration Committee’s annual garden tour.

“It is a lot of work to get your garden to a place where you want people to visit it,” he said, adding that he enlists the help of local high school and college students for watering and weeding.

Shortly after his retirement, Hefke also started woodturning, which kept him busy during the winter months. He is a co-founder of the Superiorland Woodturners and has served as its president for five years and its sec-

retary for seven years.

He is particularly fond of working with burl wood, which is a deformed growth found on tree trunks that feature a unique wood grain formed by

the tree’s stress, injury or virus.

“It’s figured wood, which is pretty to look at,” Hefke said.

He said he could create 400 to 500 pieces each year, which he often

showcased at art shows.

“My wife and I used to do seven art shows every summer, but we quit about 10 years ago,” Hefke said. “I enjoyed meeting people at the shows.”

Hefke currently has art on display and for sale at Zero Degrees Gallery, where he is a member, the Marquette Regional History Center and a store in Petoskey.

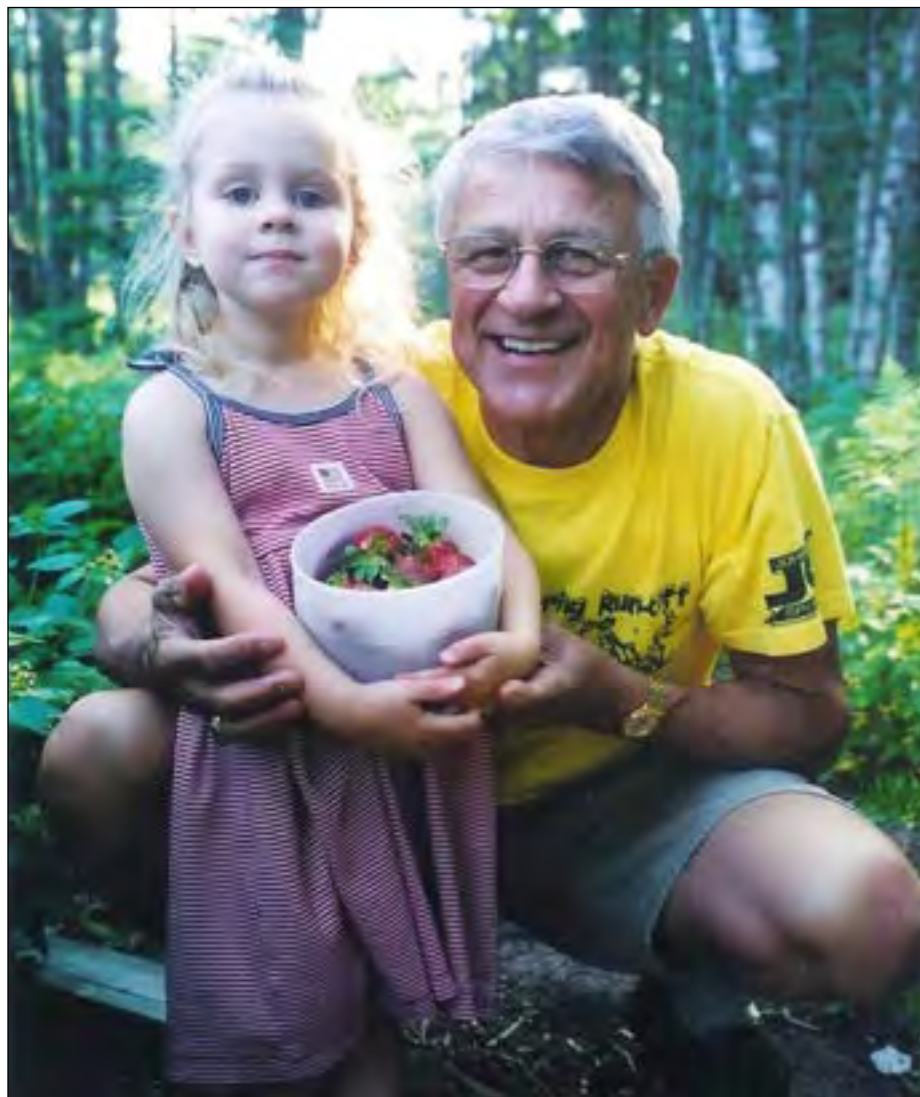
Hefke has also been a marathon runner (he qualified for the Boston Marathon on his first attempt in 1997) and a competitive skier. He ran his last foot race at the age of 67 and gave up skiing just five years ago.

The Hefkes have three children — Marc, Lynn and Eric — as well as four grandchildren: Jackson, Kendall, Reese and Megan. In addition to encouraging the publication of his booklet, Hefke’s wife Sue transcribed his notes onto the computer, daughter Lynn and granddaughter Megan helped with the title and organizing the content, and son Marc took charge of the digital layout, graphic design and printing.

Just like his childhood on the farm and throughout his professional career, Hefke believes that a successful garden comes from education and hard work. He hopes his booklet is helpful to those who are advanced in their gardening skills as well as those who are just beginning to garden.

“Following my recommendations is critical,” he said.

MM



Norm Hefke shares his love of gardening with his family, including granddaughter Megan, who helps pick berries. (Photo courtesy of Norm Hefke)

Erin Elliott Bryan grew up in Ishpeming. She is a freelance writer and an MM calendar editor.

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the arts

Poets Circle offers camaraderie for poets, new and seasoned

By Nicole Gearhart

Each month, Peter White Public Library (PWPL) hosts the Marquette Poets Circle, a group of poetry enthusiasts who gather to collaborate on works-in-progress and explore their writing with each other.

The Poets Circle, which is open to the public, meets on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Shiras Room of PWPL. From 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., they offer a writers workshop, where poets can share and get feedback on current work. The rest of the evening is an open mic session, allowing anyone interested to read their poetry or sing a song for the group.

Marty Achatz, adult programming coordinator at PWPL and head of the Marquette Poets Circle, said the group is inclusive and welcomes all ages and skill levels. "We've had people as young as middle school show up for it, and of course we have adults and seniors that show up for it as well," he said. "It could be the first poem you've written, or it could be your

second or third book of poems. It really doesn't matter."

The Poets Circle, now in its 15th year, has published two anthologies, "Maiden Voyage" and "Superior Voyage," and is preparing to put together a third. Achatz said anyone participating in the group is invited to submit work for the anthologies.

"Obviously, getting involved with a poet circle is something that's a little intimidating or daunting or even frightening," Achatz said. "And I think that what people need to realize is that when they walk into that room, it's a judgment-free zone. You come in, and all that the people are there to do is to help you make your poems better and also celebrate what you're doing. It's not to offer criticism or anything. It's to foster you and what you're passionate about."

Janeen Rastall is one of the founding members of the group, together with Matt Maki and Claudia Drosen. Rastall said the group originated when the three would meet at the Joy Center in Ishpeming and workshop with each other. In 2011, they decid-




Retired NMU professor and accomplished and published poet Beverly Matherne represents just one level of talent involved in the Marquette Poets Circle. (Photo courtesy of Marquette Poets Circle)

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-Luke 24:5-6*

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MICHIGAN VETERAN HOMES

ed to move things to Marquette and invite others to join, and so the Poets Circle was born.

Janeen served as the head of the group until turning it over to Achatz a couple of years ago, when it became necessary for her to take a step back, but she is still involved today. Her husband, Rick Rastall, has been responsible for putting together the group's anthologies.

Janeen said she feels that most people have a connection to poetry, and that's part of the appeal of a group like the Poets Circle. "I think poetry is the ultimate short story. And it's like the first language we learn, because it's in nursery rhymes, and it's in Dr. Seuss books, and we all grew up learning the magic of words and the way they sound," she said. "And there's a lot of people in our community that write or appreciate poetry."

While they don't focus on the details of publication in the group, Janeen said there are several published authors among the members. "We don't do much in terms of talking

about how to publish or things like that, but we support people who are working on their manuscripts and give them feedback," she said. "We've had quite a number of people who've gone on and either published in journals or actually published collections of their own."

Christine Saari, author of poetry collections "Blossoms in the Dark of Winter" and "A Stitched Life," said she has been a member of the group since about 2016. "I needed inspiration and help since I was just beginning as a poet. So, I started going to meetings," Saari said. "Being with other poets inspired me and helped me write poems on a regular basis. I found the workshop part, where fellow poets make suggestions on how to improve your work, particularly helpful."

Saari said her favorite part of being in the group is being exposed to the work of a variety of poets and to listen to them read their work.

Poets Circle member Milton Bates has been participating since the



The group takes in a reading from Marty Achatz, head of the Marquette Poets Circle and head of adult programming at Peter White Public Library. (Photo courtesy of Maube Bergman)



Roslyn McGrath offers a reading to the group, which meets in Peter White Public Library. (Photo courtesy of Marquette Poets Circle)

group's early days and recalls what drew him in. "I had recently retired from college teaching in the spring of 2012 and was guiding a nonfiction book through the press, when I noticed an announcement for a reception and reading at the Women's Federated Clubhouse in Marquette," Bates said.

There, he met the Rastalls, who together with Maki and Drosen were welcoming newcomers to their poetry group. "After I spoke with them and listened to their work, I decided to give this Poets Circle a try. Fourteen years later, I am still a member," Bates said.

Bates said that although writing of any kind is a solitary endeavor, writers can benefit from the social dimension of workshops and readings. "Membership in a group has also enabled projects we couldn't attempt as individuals," he said. "The Poets Circle has occasionally mounted gallery exhibits of poems paired with photos or artwork. In one especially ambitious show, viewers could scan a QR code on each exhibit to hear the poet read that poem.

"I particularly enjoy reading my work and hearing others read theirs at our monthly open mics. That's what it

all comes down to, finally: the pleasure we find in writing, reading and listening to artfully crafted language."

Gala Malherbe joined the group in 2016 after being invited by another member, Amber Edmonson, whom she knew from the Marquette Farmers Market.

"I was a mother of three young kids and was so intrigued, but also very nervous to share my work out loud in a group, something I had not done since college," Malherbe said. "The group was very supportive and encouraging. I made time to be there every month and have been attending ever since."

Malherbe said being part of the group has provided a variety of opportunities for the members. "We have done so many memorable things over the years thanks to the enthusiasm of the members and the ambition of the leadership," she said. "Rick Rastall has helped us all become published through his work on anthologies, which he puts out calls for submissions for every five years. We have taken a charter bus to St. Ignace to do a reading from one of those anthologies — 'Maiden Voyage' — at the public library there. We have paired

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up with artists in Iron Mountain to write poems from their paintings, and they painted paintings from our poems. We have written poems for a project where we wrote poems to echo art created by incarcerated men and women. We have learned to make our own poems into broadsides, and many of us have published chapbooks or longer collections of our work. We are a generative and supportive group.”

Groups like this also lend themselves to familiarity with fellow members, Malherbe said. “One of the things I love most about spending time in writing circles is that you often get to know one another on a very personal level and often more quickly than you would otherwise,” she said. “Most people write from a place of vulnerability, and there are themes and repeated cycles, stories, truths that surface in each individual’s writings, so when you listen to someone in this way, you get to know part of them in a very authentic way.

“When we workshop one another’s poems, we help each other grow as we look closely at a poem in process. We make the time and space to really reflect on details, which is a real gift to the writer, an invaluable feedback loop that is not always possible without a solid and willing group.”

Malherbe said the best part is the friendships made through the group. “I would not be the writer I am today without these friendships,” she said. “When I enter a creative space, I always look around for the poets. They are my people. We share something special. We belong to one another.”

For more information about the Marquette Poets Circle, contact Achatz at 906-226-4322 or machatz@pwpl.info, or visit pwpl.info.

MM

Nicole Gearhart is a graduate of NMU, where she studied journalism and art & design. She has written for a handful of U.P.-based publications and currently resides in Ishpeming.



Guest poet Jonathan Johnson shares with the group, which offers workshops as well as readings. (Photo courtesy of Marquette Poets Circle)

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This Black Swallowtail in its final larval stage before pupation is showing its orange osmeterium, a defensive organ. (Photo by Scot Stewart)

The lengths they will go to fly

“There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it’s going to be a butterfly.”

—*Buckminster Fuller*

Story and photos by Scot Stewart

What would it be like to grow big, climb in a snug bag, dissolve yourself and then in a couple days, reappear with a totally new look that absolutely no one could recognize?

Life is full of miracles. In the course of a year, thousands of those miraculous events occur all around us. Lepidopterans do it all the time. The very changes in their lives are absolute miracles.

Butterflies and moths belong to the insect order Lepidoptera, the second largest group of insects in the world. As is so often the case, the actual

numbers of species changes almost by the day, with new discoveries and genetic research adding and grouping species. There are about 17,500 species of butterflies — 750 in the United States — and a staggering 160,000 moth species worldwide, with 11,000 to 12,000 in the U.S. and Canada.

Nearly all have a basic four-step life cycle, with each stage remarkably different in appearance — eggs, larvae, chrysalises and cocoons (pupae), and adults (butterflies and moths).

For most, eggs are usually the size of a pinhead, but some micromoths have eggs that are nearly microscopic. Micromoths are loosely described as having a wingspan less than half an inch. Moth and butterfly eggs usually look like a dot of dirt or sap on a leaf and are often stuck to the underside of a leaf, out of sight.

Nearly all caterpillars are defense-

less against predators, so avoiding detection is a huge key to survival. Only a few stand out to the watchful eyes of gardeners and flower lovers. Pupae, the chrysalises and cocoons, may be the most difficult stage to find. They can hang beneath leaves, be tucked into obscure corners or even lodged underground relatively far away, at least for them, from their host food.

Insects only have six legs. It’s one of the characteristics separating them from their wonderful cousins the spiders and ten-limbed crabby crustaceans. So how do caterpillars support those long, and sometimes heavy, boneless bodies as they walk and hold on to branches and leaves? Most have five pairs of pseudopods, or false feet, with hooks on the ends to help them hold on. These are lost during pupation when they turn into adults.

It is the adult form — at least for

butterflies, but also for some moths — their colorful patterns make them visible. Ironically, many adult moths are frequently complete strangers in the community due to their plain cryptic colors and nocturnal lifestyle. There is a lot more mystery to most of them, as so little is known.

“Love seems to beautify and inspire all nature. It raises the earthly caterpillar into the ethereal butterfly, it paints the feathers in spring, it lights the glowworm’s lamp, it awakens the song of birds and inspires the poet’s lay. Even inanimate Nature seems to feel the spell, and flowers glow with the richest colours.”

—*John Lubbock*

Most caterpillars are little more than a large, soft, elastic bag

with a mouth at one end and some legs to hold on to their host foods. Caterpillars can have up to 4,000 muscles, with 250 or more in their heads alone. At the end of their time as larvae, they literally liquify themselves and let their DNA reorganize everything into the completely new form of a butterfly or moth.

The process of transformation contains a number of miracles. Like many life-forms, the simple growth of the caterpillar from an egg can mean a transformation of an organism up to 3,000 times heavier than the initial egg. What makes them unique is this growth can occur in a matter of weeks. Their time as pupae can be short, changing into adults in as little as 10 days, but the Arctic fritillary can take up to two years to become an adult, overwintering as a larvae. Better yet, some miller moths, also known as goat moths because of the smell they create as they burrow through tree wood, have larvae that can live more than three years, and some say up to five, before pupating.

Perhaps the most remarkable are yucca moths of the American West.

They have been known to persist as larvae up to 30 years until drought conditions improve enough to support adults. Their host yucca plants have a unique relationship to the moths providing food for larvae as they hatch from inside seed pods and eat some of the eggs, but not all. In return, the adult female moths are the sole pollinators of the yucca flowers.

Because they are so vulnerable, caterpillars have devised all kinds of strategies to preserve their species. Many young students learn about the familiar relationship between monarch butterfly caterpillars and their primary food.


Milkweed plants are the place to look for monarchs and cabbages. Unfortunately, the plants offer one of the best food sources for cabbage white caterpillars in the summertime. Tent caterpillars are also pretty easy to find and view if looking in for their large white silky nests. But for those looking for other species, it can be a real challenge. Camouflage is the key for many caterpillars to avoid being seen, but there are lots of other ways caterpillars, large and small, have evolved



Polyphemus caterpillars turn into giant silk moths, tan in color with eye spots and an average wingspan of six inches. (Photo by Scot Stewart)



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to disappear or define themselves as undesirable to the diet of others.

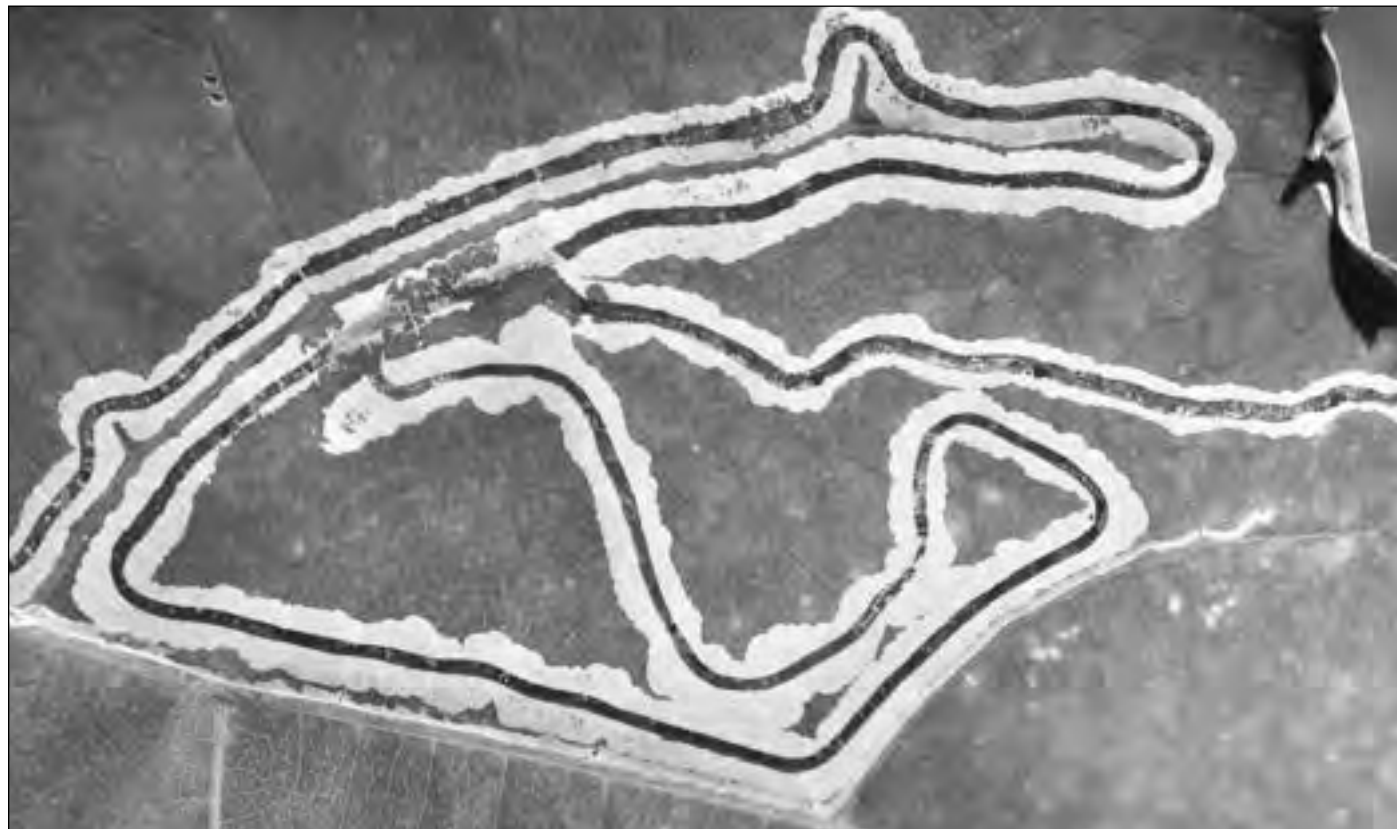
For monarchs, the attraction is about survival. Milkweeds contain a toxin able to create vomiting, respiratory issues and other problems for most animals, but not monarch caterpillars. They store those toxins as they grow and carry them over after metamorphosis into butterflies.

Like bees, wasps, spiders and other animals bearing poisons in various forms, monarchs have evolved bright color patterns of orange with black and white trim to warn animals of their toxicity. The protective coloration is primarily an advantage to preserve the species, as some caterpillars and butterflies are eaten by young animals unfamiliar with them and usually become quite sick, but don't try to make a meal of them again.

Carnivorous wasps can be seen buzzing around milkweed plants looking to pluck monarch caterpillars from the leaves. Smaller wasps have other ways to make a meal of caterpillars or monarchs and many other species. Tiny wasp species hunt down caterpillars and lay their eggs within the muscles of these larvae.

After eggs hatch, the wasp larvae begin eating the muscle tissue of the butterfly or moth larvae, and time their pupation before the host larvae die. For some larvae, like those of tomato hornworm moths, wasp cocoons can carpet their backs with the caterpillars dying shortly after the wasps emerge as adults. It is a tough way to go.

Many caterpillars spend their time eating leaves or resting in them, so being green is a great way to blend into the vegetation. Add a white or yellow stripe and the camouflage is just about perfect. Some smaller caterpillars can grab ahold of a stem with their ten false feet and rigidly extend themselves — mimicking the petiole or stem of a leaf on a branch where they are actually eating the leaves.



A Quaking Aspen leaf shows the mining work of an Eastern Aspen Miner Moth. (Photo by Scot Stewart)

Combine great cryptic coloration with motionless pauses during feeding and, at rest, they literally become invisible to the untrained eye and most predators. Occasionally, ants can be seen running up them, realize they are at a dead end, and promptly retreat, totally unaware of what is beneath them.

Viceroy butterfly larvae take camouflage a step farther. As adults, they look like smaller monarch butterflies with extra black wing veins and prominent white forewing spots. Their patterns mimic those of the monarchs with the toxin they carry from eating milkweed leaves. But their caterpillars are quite different. Instead of distinctive white, yellow and black stripes like monarchs, they use a different strategy because their diet primarily consists of willow leaves. Their colors are white, tan and brown or black and can resemble bird droppings.

Some caterpillars rely on other deceptions. Swallowtail butterflies are some of the best in the Upper Peninsula at fooling predators. Eastern and Canadian tiger swallowtails are large, yellow butterflies often seen in early summer. Their caterpillars have two large spots on a raised part of their bodies behind their heads. These spots are yellow rings with blue centers and look like great big eyes. When threatened, they can stretch the skin around them and create great illusions of big eyes. In front of them is a set of bright orange structures called “osmeterium.” They pop up just above the top of their heads when the caterpillars feel threatened, with the intention of startling larger threats and scaring smaller ones with the bright, horn-like projections. Black swallowtail larvae can be found primarily on plants like wild carrot, parsley and fennel.

In one flower garden in Marquette,

as many as a dozen caterpillars have been found in a pair of large fennel plants. The larvae were followed as they proceeded through all five instars — stages of growth between molts — of their lives as caterpillars. The first instar is black and white, and has humped-backs with orange spots and tiny spines running across their backs. In three to four weeks, they attain their full size, and if they survive, they will be bright green with black and white stripes. The warmer it is during this time, the faster they make it to full size. During some U.P. summers, it can take more than four weeks.

Unfortunately, the fennel is often blooming as they grow with the flowers, attracting many nectar-eaters, especially wasps, one of the caterpillars' greatest predators. During the year when there were a dozen feeding caterpillars in that garden, two were known to make it to the pupa stage

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Tuesday, June 15 TBD, Iron Mountain	Saturday, June 20 Saints Peter and Paul, Houghton	Friday, June 26 Marquette
		Saturday, June 27 Houghton

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and become green chrysalises. It takes them about two to three weeks to metamorphose. Two floated off from the garden area, medium sized black butterflies with lines of yellow spots and a row of blue spots near their elongated swallowtails. That transformation from chubby, slow-moving caterpillars to delicate, graceful fliers is nothing short of a miracle.

Most caterpillars have glands to produce silk. For butterflies, the silk-making process is simple. They use it to make a small platform when they are fully grown to attach their bodies to a fixed surface with thin strands like the swallowtails do, or to their abdomens like monarchs when they hang upside down and prepare to enter the pupa stage and metamorphose into butterflies. Moths can take it much further as they wrap themselves up in cocoons to overwinter. The durable covering can be attached to a branch on a bush with little risk of being opened.

Social eastern tent caterpillar moths can also use silk to create communal summer bivouacs for protection while they are in this stage. The common eastern tent caterpillars build a large tent where 50 to 100 can live together.

Pheromone-laced silk threads form pathways that members can use to move back and forth between food and their tent and not lose their way. Their last instar comes as they reach full size, and they begin to move apart and eventually pupate.

Eastern tent caterpillars are known for their careful engineering to regulate tent temperatures, aiming tents to capture early morning sun. Larvae must be at least 59 degrees to metabolize foods. Because there are several layers of silk wrapping the tents, there are varying portions providing differing temperatures during the day and evening to provide options for more favorable conditions as daytime temperatures rise.

Tent caterpillars have another strategy to reduce the chances of them being eaten — hairs. Stiff bristles cover much of their backs, making it difficult for birds to eat them. Tussock and spongy (formerly called gypsy) moths are among a number of U.P. moths similarly covered. Unfortunately for them, there are a number of birds, particularly yellow-billed and black-billed cuckoos, able to work around the problem, by grabbing the caterpillars and beating them against a branch to break many of the hairs off before eating them.

They can burp up small pellets of the remaining hairs as digestion begins. Large arrays of tent caterpillar webs are good places to look for



A monarch caterpillar feeds on a milkweed plant, leaving its trademark arc-shaped hole in the leaves. (Photo by Scot Stewart)

cuckoos in the summertime. When tent caterpillars have big years, cuckoos often do too, capitalizing on the increased food supply. Some tropical moths have larvae covered in spines able to release small amounts of toxic chemicals, making their consumption an even bigger challenge.

Those spongy moth caterpillars are an introduced species, and they too have been present in Michigan in some past years in monumental numbers. Around 25 years ago, their numbers were so great they defoliated entire patches of maple-birch-aspen forest; their numbers so great, their droppings created the sound of rainfall as they fell through the leaves below them.

The best-dressed award for “hairiest” caterpillars probably belongs to the wooly worm, also known as wooly bear, the larval stage of *Isabella tiger moths*. With cinnamon-colored middles, black heads and tails, they have long fascinated children and helped in folklore to predict the severity of winters.

The heavy layer of hairs discourages hungry predators from trying to eat them, provides a dense cover for the larvae to overwinter in and can even provide a life jacket should they fall into a puddle or creek — helping them to float to the water’s edge. The bristly layer is not enough to entirely protect them from freezing temperatures, though, so they also produce an internal antifreeze to survive the cold.

There are other caterpillars able to go to true extremes to remain hidden. Bagworm moths are micromoths able to build structures of plant material to cover them and provide extra protection from predators. They are the hermit crabs of “mothdom.” Covered in bits of plants, they move around in

host plants, usually juniper, white-cedar, pine and black and white spruce, to feed. They are able to expand their homes as they grow.

Females are wingless and remain in their shelter until a male finds them. After mating, she is able to lay eggs inside her bag before dying. In spring, the eggs hatch and some larvae are able to disperse by ballooning, another larval trick. As they release strands of silk in windy conditions, the tiny caterpillars can catch a breeze and float off to another tree.

In a recent discovery on the island of Oahu in Hawaii, another micro-

moth larva called bone collector has been discovered with a whole new trick. It sneaks into spider webs to feed on captured prey and adds the other insect’s body parts to their bodies to camouflage them. It is one of just a few carnivorous caterpillars.

“Writers have to keep writing if they want to mature, like caterpillars endlessly chewing on leaves.”

—Haruli Murakami

Another strategy some lepidopteran larvae use is a wrap. Feeding on leaves out on a branch, risking life and skin in the hopes of avoiding foraging kinglets, chickadees, warblers and vireos — there is a lot to worry about up there. To enhance their chances, some caterpillars wrap themselves up in a leaf, secured with silk, slipping out of sight and definitely make it harder to pluck off a branch.

There are some moth larvae bold enough to hide in plain sight, leaf miners. One leaf miner moth, a micro-moth, is occasionally seen in the woods of the U.P. The common aspen leaf miner moth lays her eggs on leaves of quaking aspen trees and other poplars. The larvae burrow between the upper cuticle and the lower epidermis of a leaf, feeding on sap as they work through the middle five layers of cells, leaving a trail of frass — caterpillar poop — behind.

The trails get wider as they grow, so it is easy to see which way they

Answers for the *New York Times* crossword puzzle, located on Page 17



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are going. They feed through the first three instars, those growth stages of the larvae, molting after each, and spend the last two stages working their way back to the edge of the leaves where they make their cocoon. Their mining tunnel serves as a record of their work, but there are few predators able to chase after them.

The roles caterpillars play are seldom considered unless damage is involved. As mentioned above, there are a number of moth caterpillars, like tent caterpillars and spongy moths, capable of putting a big dent in chlorophyll production of entire trees, as they do eat a lot of leaves. Few trees are killed, but several years of heavy damage can severely weaken trees and slow their growth.

In forests used for pulp, lumber or other products, this can be a concern. Several micromoths have a fondness for wool, feathers and/or fur, and can leave some big holes in clothes hanging in the closet and rugs on the floor. Luckily, the moths are not interested in cotton, so blue jeans, the one article often stylish with a holey look, is safe. Moth and butterfly larvae are also a danger concern for corn on the cob in the field, cabbage, broccoli, some fruits and flour in the pantry.

The value of caterpillars lies primarily as a source of food for birds. One estimate calculated it took more than 6,000 to feed a newly hatched chickadee before it fledged. Some larger larvae are used by humans as food and in traditional cultural use. The value of adult moths and butterflies as pollinators is also well known. Some is not readily visible as the larvae live underground in and around

roots of plants, especially fruit trees.

Perhaps the Chinese knew best the greatest value of silkworm caterpillars. The moths' cocoons were made of silk that can be processed and made into silk fabric.

That silk helped tie the world together 2,000 years ago, as it opened the trade routes between the Chinese and Roman empires because of its demand in the west. The Chinese went to great ends to protect the secrets of its production, including barring export of the caterpillars themselves. Natural silk is still made similarly today.

"The caterpillar does all the work, but the butterfly gets all the publicity."

—George Carlin

The shapes of snakes, worms and caterpillars leave many with distinctly uncomfortable or unpleasant feelings. Its difficult to describe. Many people just don't like them. But, like many things in life, a closer look and understanding of the part something plays in the jigsaw of life can lead to a better chance at appreciation. An acknowledgement and sometimes even a love can ensue.

Caterpillars — sometimes beautiful, sometimes interesting — are part of some of the greatest miracles in all of life. Inch into their world and watch as they prepare for a chance to fly into the face of all that challenges them.

MM

Scot Stewart is an educator, writer and photographer with an inherent love of the natural world. He is active with the MooseWood Nature Center at Presque Isle Park in Marquette.



Eastern tent caterpillar moth larvae have a distinctive pattern. The adult emerges from the cocoon in about three weeks. (Photo by Scot Stewart)

poetry

Missing Sisters Found Safe

By Milton Bates

April 24, 2015

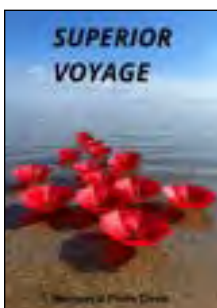
The sisters were sure it was a bear, emerging hungry from its den in April. It must have smelled the Girl Scout cookies and Cheetos. They locked the doors of their Ford Explorer and tried to sleep.

At daybreak on Day Thirteen, the landscape still looked nothing like the places they called home, Nebraska and Oklahoma. Deep woods and deeper snow, an unplowed two-track to nowhere. But it was all nowhere, wasn't it, in this part of Michigan?

Thank God for their Bible, the Cheetos, those eight boxes of cookies. New this year were Toffee-tastic and Rah-Rah Raisins. Holding their breakfast ration like communion wafers, they gave thanks and chewed them slowly, savoring the sugar. Maybe next year the GSA would issue cookies in their honor, call them — what? Leslie Lees? Assuming they survived, Lee and Leslie would vouch for their virtue in the field, claim they were the peer of Army MREs and NASA food pouches, not that they'd ever tasted either.

Just then they heard a distant roar. The bear was back, or so they thought, until a chopper cleared the treetops. Well, it was about time. They stepped out to wave like those people on the TV news, stranded on their roof when a levee failed. Now they would have to explain how they'd missed the turn to Mackinaw City. Which got them both to thinking: instead of Leslie Lees, how about Mackinaw-rooms?

Milton J. Bates's poetry includes the collections "Stand Still in the Light" (2019) and "Undivided Attention" (2025). He has also published two chapbooks, "Always on Fire" (2016) and "As They Were" (2018). He lives in Marquette.



This poem is from the 10-year anthology, "Superior Voyage," which is available for purchase. All proceeds benefit Peter White Public Library. "Superior Voyage" was selected as a 2023 U.P. Notable Book by the Upper Peninsula Publishers & Authors Association.

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NOTICE OF REGISTRATION for the

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026 ~ SPECIAL ELECTION

To the Qualified Electors of the Cities and Townships of Marquette County, STATE OF MICHIGAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of Marquette County who is not already registered; may register to vote at the office of the City or Township Clerk's Office; the office of the County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office; or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at www.mi.gov/vote and mailed to the Prospective Clerk listed below. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com

The Last Day to Register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is Monday, April 20th, 2026

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency in addition to proof of identity (MCL 168.492) at:

TOWNSHIP/CITY	ADDRESS & PHONE	Regular Business Hours	May 2 nd Hours	May 3 rd Hours
Chocolay Clerk: Max Engle	Chocolay Township ~ 5010 US 41 S., Mqt 906-249-1448	Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm	7:00am - 3:00pm	
Marquette Twp Clerk: Randy Ritari	Mqt Twp ~ 1000 Commerce Dr., Marquette 906-228-6220	Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm	8:00am - 4:00pm	
Sands Clerk: Carolyn Kerkela	Sands Twp Office ~ 987 S. M-553, Gwinn 906-249-9169	Monday - Friday 10:00am - 3:00pm		8:00am - 4:00pm
Marquette City Clerk: Kyle Whitney	Marquette City ~ 300 W. Baraga Avenue, Mqt 906-228-0430	Monday - Friday 7:30am - 4:30pm	8:00am - 4:00pm	
Negaunee City Clerk: Judy Iwanski	Negaunee City ~ 319 W. Case Street, Negaunee 906-475-7700	Monday - Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm	8:00am - 4:00pm	

Local Proposals are as follows:

NEGAUNEE CITY BOND PROPOSAL

Shall the City of Negaunee, Marquette County, Michigan, borrow the principal sum of not to exceed One Million Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,250,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds payable over a period not to exceed twenty years from date of issuance, to be used by the City for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring and constructing improvements to the City ice arena, including, but not limited to renovating/reconfiguring the locker rooms, kitchen, and bathrooms, upgrading the bleachers and seating, replacing the chiller and insulating the dehumidifier, together with all necessary site improvements, including parking and lighting, and appurtenances and attachments thereto? The estimated millage to be levied in 2026 is 0.4977 (mills (\$0.4977 per \$1,000 of taxable value) and the estimated simple average annual millage rate required to retire bonds is 0.4986 (mills (\$0.4986 per \$1,000 of taxable value).

MARQUETTE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$59,995,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Marquette Area Public Schools, 1201 West Fair Avenue, Marquette, Michigan 49855, telephone: (906) 225-4200

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE BONDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES

Sample Ballot may be viewed at www.mi.gov/vote

LINDA K. TALSMA - MARQUETTE COUNTY CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE - PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

A Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programs used to record and count the votes cast at the election meet the requirements of law.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Public Accuracy Tests for the May 5, 2026 Special Election will be held as follows:

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 - 11:30 a.m.
Negaunee City - Negaunee City Hall - 319 W. Case Street, Negaunee
Thursday, April 2, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.
Marquette City - Marquette City Hall, Room 103, 300 W. Baraga Ave., Marquette
Wednesday, April 15, 2026 - 1:00 p.m.
Marquette Township - Marquette Township Hall, 1000 Commerce Drive, Marquette
Wednesday, April 22, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.
Chocolay Township - Silver Creek Church, 219 Silver Creek Road, Harvey
Wednesday, April 22, 2026 - 10:00 a.m.
Sands Township - Sands Township Hall, 987 S. M-553, Gwinn

LINDA K. TALSMA - MARQUETTE COUNTY CLERK

SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026

**To the Qualified Electors of the Cities and Townships of Marquette County, State of Michigan
Polling Places Are Listed Below:**

Chocolay Twp	Pct. 1 & Pct. 2	Silver Creek Church, 219 Silver Creek Road, Harvey
Marquette Twp	Pct. 1	Marquette Township Hall, 1000 Commerce Dr., Marquette
Sands Twp	Pct. 1	Sands Township Hall, 987 South M-553, Sands
Marquette City	Pct. 1 & 2 Pct. 3 & 4	Baraga Gym, 300 W. Spring Street, Marquette YMCA, 401 E. Fair, Marquette
Negaunee City	Pct. 1	Negaunee Middle School, 102 W. Case Street, Negaunee

EARLY VOTE SITE FOR THE CITY OF MARQUETTE ONLY:

Peter White Public Library (Lower Level), 217 N. Front St., Marquette

Date: April 30th, May 1st & May 2nd, Time: 8 am – 4 pm

Marquette City – Precincts 1-4

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MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED
TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES.**

Signed by the following City/Township Clerks:

Chocolay Township	Max Engle
Marquette Township	Randy Ritari
Sands Township	Carolyn Kerkela
Marquette City	Kyle Whitney
Negaunee City	Judy Iwanski

The Polls for the said Election will be open from 7 o'clock A.M., and remain open until 8 o'clock P.M., on Election Day

LINDA K. TALSMA - MARQUETTE COUNTY CLERK

Impractical Joker comes to NMU

Comedian Sal Vulcano of “Impractical Jokers” fame will make a stop at NMU on his “Everything’s Fine” tour Thursday, April 23. Vandament Arena opens at 6:15 p.m. and the Northern Arts & Entertainment (NAE) show begins at 7 p.m.

Vulcano is an improvisational and stand-up comedian best known for co-creating, executive producing and starring in one of the most recognized and long-standing comedy shows of all time. “Impractical Jokers,” now on TBS, is in its 11th season and has produced multiple spin-off shows.

Alongside his co-stars from the series, Vulcano performs as part of The Tenderloins Comedy Troupe. He also created the No Presh Network in



2020, hosting “Hey Babe!” and “Taste Buds” podcasts.

In 2024, Vulcano debuted his own comedy special, “Terrified,” which served as a major step in launching

his independent stand-up career. Soon after, he announced his “Everything’s Fine” tour, which has gained popularity across the United States.

“NAE and its members are continuing their mission of bringing big-ticket entertainment to NMU, and we are thrilled to welcome Sal Vulcano to Marquette,” NAE Co-President Truman Thor said. “This is a fantastic opportunity for students and the community to experience an artist of such caliber, and we are looking forward to laughing along with everyone!”

General admission tickets are available for NMU students (one per ID) for \$5 and to the public for \$15. All can be purchased at tickets.nmu.edu.

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NMU hosts traveling Holocaust exhibit

“The Holocaust: History, Memory & Michigan Voices,” a new traveling exhibition created by the Zekelman Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills, is on display at NMU’s Olson Library through April 30.

“In many ways, the traveling exhibition is a condensed, portable version of the Zekelman Center,” said Ryan Bond, an NMU staff member who teaches a history of the Holocaust class and is a member of the center. “The content there used to be oriented more toward the Nazi perpetrators, but now the focus has shifted to victims’ and survivors’ personal stories — specifically, Michigan survivors. I just learned that the Holocaust survivors who came to this state at some point after the war numbered at least 4,000. That surprised me; I had no idea it was that many.”

When he taught the course in fall 2024, Bond wanted to do something beyond his classroom that would benefit the broader communities. He invited a guest to campus whose mother was a Holocaust survivor. She stayed for three days, visited six other classrooms, presented a workshop for educators and participated in two full-film screenings of a documentary about her mother.

This past October, three Zekelman Center staff members came to NMU to give class presentations. That visit inspired Bond to propose bringing a traveling exhibit to campus.

“The Holocaust is an important



topic that shouldn’t just be confined to my classroom,” he said.

Bond secured support for the idea from Olson Library Director Emera Bridger Wilson and Dean of Library and Instructional Support Leslie Warren. “Olson Library is excited to host this exhibit, the first of what we hope are many now that we are in our renovated spaces,” Bridger Wilson said. “This exhibit also complements our Holocaust and Genocide Studies collection. We hope that people are made more aware of the collection through programming such as this.”

“It was exciting to unpack three huge shipping crates and collaborate with colleagues from the library and history students who volunteered to

set up the main exhibit and the art installation,” said History Professor Kathryn Johnson, who was part of the team that made it happen.

Senior history major Alexis Hall is helping to coordinate the exhibit and related events via an internship. Bond says he is in conversations with the Zekelman Center about possible summer internship opportunities in Farmington Hills for NMU students.

Founded in 1984, the Zekelman Center is the only Holocaust museum in Michigan. Its newly renovated museum is complemented by a research and library archive, exhibit galleries, workshops and public programming. Learn more at holocaustcenter.org.

MM

LSSU's Escanaba/Iron Mountain center celebrates grads

Seven area residents have earned bachelor's degrees from Lake Superior State University (LSSU). Graduates achieved their degrees through LSSU's Escanaba/Iron Mountain Regional Center.

Graduating with a bachelor of science in accounting with the 150-credit hour Certified Public Accountant track is Allyson Lancour of Rock.

Graduating with a bachelor of science in business administration-management is Paige Labre of Escanaba. Labre is also graduating with an associate degree in general studies.

Graduating with a bachelor of science in teacher education are Megan

Robinson of Gladstone, Erika Silverstone of Escanaba, Amber Trombley of Escanaba and Gracie Wickham of Escanaba. All four graduates earned concentrations in grades PreK-3 and 3-6.

Graduating with a bachelor of arts in English language literature with a concentration in secondary teaching is Zoe Williams of Powers.

Lancour, Silverstone and Wickham graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors. Robinson and Trombley graduated with Magna Cum Laude honors. Williams graduated with Cum Laude.

"LSSU's regional center allowed me to stay close to home while com-

pleting my degree and student teaching locally," Silverstone said. "The support and encouragement from faculty, advisers and school partners made the experience both rewarding and impactful."

Robinson noted, "LSSU allowed me to earn my education degree while building connections in the schools where I hope to work. I'm especially thankful to my adviser, Heidi Rife, and professors Yong Zeng, Seth McCall and Jamie Curtis for their guidance and support."

Students completed their coursework through LSSU's Escanaba/Iron Mountain Regional Centers, in part-

nership with Bay College, allowing students to pursue LSSU bachelor's degrees on Bay College campuses.

They feature small class sizes, experienced faculty, and the ability to pursue your educational goals close to home.

LSSU's regional centers and locations are committed to providing Northern Michigan-area residents educational opportunities for intellectual, personal and professional growth.

For more information, visit lssu.edu/regional-center/ or contact Heidi Rife at 906-217-4123 or hrife@lssu.edu.

MM

Bay College BPA group donates to Chain of Love fundraiser

The Bay College/LSSU Regional Center chapter of Business Professionals of America (BPA) student club raised \$800 in donations for the Local Area 1 Special Olympics program of Delta, Schoolcraft and Menominee counties through the Chain of Love fundraiser. To participate in the fundraiser, donors wrote the name of a loved one on a link and added it to the chain. As a result, a long chain of love was created. The proceeds from this fundraiser help cover costs associated with the Local Area 1 Special Olympics program, such as purchasing uniforms, equipment and travel for all athletes.



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MTU's broomball TA: a scholar and an athlete

Michigan Tech student Hieu Theriault knows that in both accounting and broomball, the details are where you win. In addition to balancing ledgers, he spent his winter balancing the busy schedule of one of Tech's most iconic traditions.

Broomball has been a staple at Tech for more than half a century. After years of pickup games and Winter Carnival competition, in the 1990s, broomball came under the Inter-Residence Hall Council (IRHC).

It grew into a large student-run organization with more than 200 teams — 263 this season — and the sport is so popular that those who can't participate or watch on campus tune in to the live webcams each season.

In his role as IRHC broomball special task manager, Theriault is in the thick of the action. An accounting major with a minor in economics, Theriault helps coordinate and run broomball events throughout the season. "I help ensure that broomball season runs as smoothly as it can with the various events and activities," Theriault said. Planning for events starts at the beginning of the fall semester. He's also part of the crew that assembles IRHC's three broomball rinks on Walker Lawn in late fall.

"If I have to say what my favorite event is, it would have to be the Alumni-Student Broomball Tournament," he said. "It's cool to see our alumni return to play; you can see how much experience some of the players have. It's really fun to see students play against alumni."

On top of his IRHC broomball duties, Theriault is a teaching assistant for Broomball 101. It's a for-credit course that equips students with the knowledge to enjoy one of the most quintessential Tech experiences.

"Being a TA for the broomball class



Tech student Hieu Theriault serves as broomball special task manager for Michigan Tech. (MTU photo)

is really fun," Theriault said. "I make sure students have the proper equipment. They learn the rules and what to do and not do during a game. Taught by our broomball advisers, it's an easy class to be in — and anyone can learn how to be better at broomball. Classes are split into beginner, intermediate and advanced."

So how does a kid from San Diego, California, find his way to Michigan Tech? Theriault wanted to explore a part of the country he'd never been.

"I was like, 'How can I get away from home?' and was doing a lot of internet research about schools," he said. "I landed on Michigan Tech. It was a part of the country that intrigued me and had a good program for one of the majors I wanted to go into. I also found that the Tech traditions were going to be really cool to participate in."

Another plus was the Keweenaw's atmosphere. "Life in a major city is great for a short amount of time, but it

feels so much better living in a small town like Houghton," he said.

Hearing back from Michigan Tech right away and getting answers to financial aid questions helped, too. "After I reached out to different schools, the first college I received an email from was Tech," Theriault said. "I found that the cost was fairly reasonable for being an out-of-state student, with the scholarships being offered."

The nation's Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) selected Theriault as a PCAOB Scholar. As one of 685 selected nationwide for the 2025-26 academic year, he received a \$15,000 award.

The merit-based award is designed to support outstanding students who are likely to become auditors and to make a difference for students who might otherwise pursue a different career path. Scholarship recipients are nominated by their institutions, which participate in the PCAOB Scholars Program based on accreditation and

the number of students who earn accounting degrees each year. He was nominated by Laura Sieders, assistant teaching professor of accounting.

Theriault, who likes "throwing sports," learned to play another sport in high school — Ultimate Frisbee. "There are lots of pickup games, leagues, club teams and professional teams from my part of the country," he said. "It's a fun environment where you're playing with your friends, get to travel and have lots of fun. Tech made it to nationals for Ultimate Frisbee back in 2019. In 2024 we were really close to making it again — hopefully we'll get there."

A fast-paced, noncontact sport that includes end zones, "Ultimate Frisbee is similar to football but with no tackling, and the only person on the field not moving is the person with the disc in their hands," he said. "It's also a unique sport in that it's mostly self-refereed."

MM

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Data science expands at Michigan Tech

Michigan Tech's College of Computing will officially launch its new Department of Data Science on July 1, becoming one of a handful of institutions across the nation with an academic department dedicated to the growing and in-demand discipline.

While the department is new, data science education and research have been an integral part of the College of Computing's focus since it was founded in 2019.

Data scientist is one of the United States' fastest-growing occupations. It's currently ranked fifth by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics among the 20 occupations with the highest projected increase in employment from 2024 to 2034.

Preparations to create a separate Department of Data Science (DS) have been in the works for quite some time, said Dennis Livesay, dean of the College of Computing.

"We've been working toward it since I arrived," he said. "Along the way, we've been gathering the assets needed to make sure the new department was successful."

The new data science department will house one bachelor's degree program and two of Tech's graduate degree programs. It will administer the Bachelor of Science in Data Science, which was created in 2023, and the Master of Science in Data Science that preceded it in 2014. It will also be home to the University's Master of Science in Health Informatics. A new bachelor's degree program in artificial intelligence (AI), currently undergoing the University approval process, is projected to join them in fall 2026. It will be jointly administered with the computer science department.

Health informatics is a broad field with far-ranging effects on health, bringing down costs for patients and providers and helping health care teams and their patients to make better decisions. It combines information technology and computer science with clinical expertise and management. "You can think of health informatics programs as biomedical data science," Livesay said. "Unifying our data science and health informatics faculty will make identifying and implementing efficiencies much easier."

Livesay said the reorganization positions the college to better align its resources with the fastest-growing areas in the computing field.

"Computer science remains our largest major — and one of the largest on campus," Livesay said. "Even with recent headwinds, that isn't likely to change," he added, referring to widespread and ongoing speculation related to how AI affects careers in computing. "However, students are increasingly looking for a broader range of computing opportunities, specifically in data science, AI and other more applied and focused areas."

He's excited about the potential for expanded enrollment reach, noting that 50% of students enrolled in data science are women, although women comprise just 17% of total student enrollment in the College of Computing.

Livesay also said Michigan Tech's renowned hands-on approach to learning across all of the university's degree programs will be a mainstay in the new data science department.

"We don't just teach the technical fundamentals like artificial intelligence, machine learning, data analytics and data wrangling as abstract tools; we pair them directly with real-world context," Livesay said. "Whether our students are diving into advanced manufacturing, the EV (electric vehicle) industry or health sciences, they aren't just 'processing data.' They are learning the deep context of the problems they're solving."

Livesay said that the implications of the new department are both simple and profound for Tech's current and prospective students, faculty and research projects.

"It's the difference between having a collection of related programs and finally having a home for the discipline. Students will become part of a department that treats data science as the discipline it is," he said. "We're building a dedicated intellectual community and providing a clear, recognizable home where partners from across the University know exactly where to go to find the DS expertise they need. We aren't just 'doing' data science anymore; we're defining what it looks like when it's built into the very architecture of a computing college."

Livesay said the most exciting aspect of the new department is yet to come. "I'm looking forward to what our students and faculty accomplish next. Both are amazing and I'm sure they'll surprise and impress us all."

MM

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— superior reads —
‘One of the truest things ever written about the U.P.’

Reviewed by Victor R. Volkman

“**A** Good Animal” is the debut novel by Sault Ste. Marie author Sara Maurer in wide release from St. Martin’s Press. She will be the keynote speaker at the 2026 U.P. Publishers & Authors Association (UPPAA) Spring Conference on May 16.

The pioneer of American writing, Mark Twain, apocryphally once said, “Write what you know.” As a 4-H kid born into a sheep farming franchise, she knows whereof she speaks.

The amount of background material deftly interwoven into what appears on the surface to be an ordinary boy-meets-girl story keeps the book grounded in the gritty reality of hardscrabble sheep farming in the U.P. She knows the thrill of lambing and the heartbreak of the many ways that sheep will die — from predators to rejection by their ewes or even herd bullying.

On the surface, “A Good Animal” appears to be an intimate story about four main characters — really just these two couples — who are, in the immortal words of Michigan bard Bob Seger, “Just young and restless and bored.”

However, if you read the very short bookend of a prologue and just a few sparse comments throughout the narrative, you’ll understand that this is more the mid-life lament of Everett Lindt, a third-generation Soo farmer and the lost love of his life that forever haunts his days and nights. Nor is “A Good Animal” a simple “YA romance” novel, because the content is extremely mature in its description of lust and the execution thereof.



Sara Maurer

In the Lindt family, we have Robert, his wife, his 7-year-old daughter Katie, his 11-year-old son Jay and Everett, age 17, who will be narrator throughout the seasons of this book.

The action begins in the midsummer of 1995 as Everett and his best buddy Charlie King are off to a busy season of “haying” the Masons’ farm for cash during the remains of summer vacation before senior year. The Lindts are sheep farmers and the Kings are pig farmers, and if you’ve ever been near a pig farm, then you know the unforgettable and all permeating scent. Charlie is quickly paired up with the Masons’ daughter Kylie. When Kylie delivers lunch to the boys out haying one afternoon with new arrival Mary, the sparks begin to fly between Mary and Everett. The romance is as delightfully awkward as

you would expect for a teenage first love epic. However, darker undercurrents abide here.

Everett Lindt loves the land and can aspire to no greater goal than building a new house atop the old and barren fieldstone foundations formerly belonging to his grandparents’ house, which is actually a metaphorical key to his psyche.

He has only known farm life on the Soo and has no greater ambition than to settle down with a wife, kids and his own farm as soon as he can. As a student in the self-professed “dumbf— English” class, he is sleepwalking through life, people actually look away when he is pressed for his life plans and he unabashedly chooses a farmer’s life.

Mary, on the other hand, is Everett’s diametrical opposite in most respects: she is as cool and sardonic

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Eggs And Crosses


Eggs and crosses. Both symbolize Easter and sacrifice and both hold promise and hope. An egg can be a new life ready to begin or a life sacrificed to nourish another. The cross is a symbol of a sacrifice that ends an old life and begins a new one.

Eggs and crosses are amazing and powerful. The energy and information needed to produce human life is contained in an egg so small it can barely be seen with the human eye. All of the power to overcome our greatest fears and trials is provided by the cross. But while an egg can be broken or spoil, the cross will never weaken or fail.

Easter is a joyous time, whether celebrated with an egg, a chocolate rabbit, a new hat or the cross. It is a time to shake off the cold and welcome the change that Spring brings. Marquette Hope's Easter starts with a 7:00 am Sunrise Service at South Beach, then 9:00 services at our Skandia and First campuses. Negaunee Mitchell and Connection Center services will be at 11:00. All will celebrate the joy of renewal, Christ's sacrifice for us and God's promise of life. Everyone is welcome to join and share in it. Breakfast, and likely eggs, will also be offered at all four campuses.

Sunday Services

Skandia Campus - 189 Krieger Dr. @ 9:00am
Marquette First Campus - 111 E. Ridge St. @ 9:00am
Negaunee Mitchell Campus - 207 N. Teal Lake Ave. @ 11:00am
Marquette Connection Center - 927 W. Fair Ave. @ 11:00am



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CELEBRATE THE ARTS WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS TO SUPPORT CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

as he is straightforward and forthright. Mary is a Coast Guard brat and has just landed in the Soo until her father's tour is up or she graduates high school, more likely. A consummate artist, she is constantly doodling everything she sees in life from rams to Katie's stuffed rabbit. She will get offers from art schools in California and kick the dust off her heels just as soon as she can get that cap-and-gown ceremony done, and probably with a scholarship.

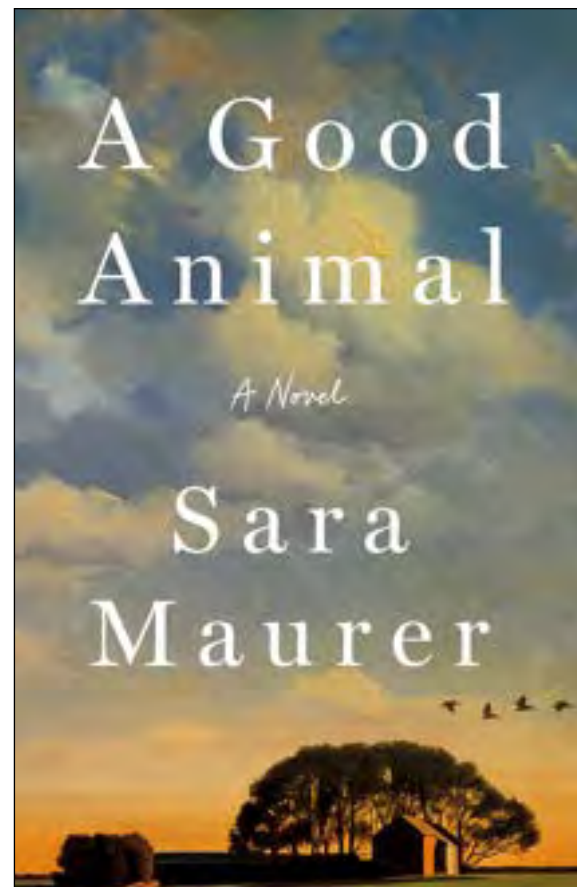
Beyond plot and conflict, "A Good Animal" is a book that I couldn't put down and actually read twice to complete this review — yes, it's really that good!

Maurer is a true writer of the five senses, often touching on the tastes, smells and feel of what the characters are experiencing in real time. The sensual frisson of feeling the accidental grazing of your potential lover's hair on your arm, the scent of a newborn lamb and even the physiology of human desire are perfectly conveyed. Here's a slightly ironic example as Everett is buying a flash truck from a man who Everett might himself become in 15 years because it no longer fits his youthful needs:

The man pulled his sleeve down over the heel of his palm and rubbed the chrome on the side mirror slowly, sadly, the way Dad handled the ewes in the fall that were separated for culling, letting them walk at their own pace up the ramp into the trailer. The man's eyes slid to the left, like he was looking at a memory, maybe the younger version of himself that bought the truck brand-new. Younger. Freer. The type of guy who needed a truck with a sport stripe.

As my good friend and colleague Sue Harrison remarked: "A Good Animal" is an incredible, incredible book, beautifully written, honest and true to life in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the pull of the land on almost everyone who stays in this harsh place for the love of the people, their loyalty to the land, and the soul-binding freedom of being owned by a farm. One of the truest things ever written about Michigan's Upper Peninsula and the lives of its people, those staying, those who will leave."

"A Good Animal" is a novel about life — everyday stuff, from the cycle



of life on the farm to how people meet and break up. There are no murders, no car chases, no forest fires, just the passions of life and learning how to be an adult in a world of unwritten rules.

The central conflict is Everett's desire to bind Mary to his life and how far he is willing to go to get her to comply with his ideal life plans. This is explored in the final act and cannot be commented on without spoilers.

Even though this book is thoroughly grounded in 1995, the societal themes are ripped from today's headlines in a way that never seems to die in American political discourse.

The lessons Maurer draws from life in the natural world are both cogent and undeniable as readers navigate the personal relationships in their own lives.

MM

Victor R. Volkman is a 1986 graduate of Michigan Tech and is the current president of the U.P. Publishers & Authors Association. He is senior editor at Modern History Press and publisher of the U.P. Reader.

HOW TO SUBMIT A BOOK

Send Upper Peninsula-related book review suggestions to victor@LHPress.com.

Books submitted for review can be sent to: MM Book Reviews, 5145 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

out & about

Out & About is a free listing of Upper Peninsula events. Events included must cost \$25 or less (except fundraisers).

All events are free and in Eastern time unless noted. We print information sent to us by a wide variety of people and organizations. It pays to double check the date, time, place and cost before heading out.

**E-mail your
May events by April 10 to:
calendar@marquettmonthly.com.**

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Earth Fest 2026: Armchair Trip - Grand Canyon | April 7 | Munising

april events

01 WEDNESDAY

sunrise 7:30 a.m.; sunset 8:17 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.*

Ishpeming

• **Crochet Club.** This is a time to gather with fellow crafters to socialize. Supplies and instruction will be

provided for those who are interested in learning how to crochet. 5 p.m. *Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeninglibrary.info.*

Marquette

• **Books and Banter Book Group.** The group welcomes readers interested in a variety of contemporary fiction. This month's selection will be "Girl Dinner" by Olivie Blake. 10 a.m. *Peter White Conference Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4311 or pwpl.info/news-events/book-groups.*

• **Spring Break: April Showers Bring Rain Flowers.** Families with youth of all ages can make and take home rain sticks and tissue paper flowers. 10 a.m.

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- 4/11 Festival of the Angry Bear
- 4/17 - 4/18 Lasers on the Ore Dock: Asinaabi and the Living Stones
- 4/18 Bill Beckman Memorial Guts Frisbee Tournament
- 4/23 - 4/25 Lasers on the Ore Dock
- 4/25 Marquette Mania IV
- 4/30 Lasers on the Ore Dock

MAY

- 5/1 - 5/2 Lasers on the Ore Dock
- 5/2 NMU Graduation
- 5/8 - 5/10 Mother's Day Craft Show
- 5/16 - 5/17 Gwinn Gus Macker Tournament
- 5/21 - 5/23 Lasers on the Ore Dock



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to 1 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Congregate Meals for Seniors—Dine in or Curbside Pickup.** Meals available to those age 60 and older and their spouses. Call to reserve a meal. \$3.50 suggested donation. Noon to 1 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.

• **Spring Break Film: "Moana II."** Guests can bring their own lunch or snacks to enjoy a screening of "Moana II." There will be tissue paper spring flower making while watching the film. 12:45 to 2:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Scenic Spring Flower Painting with Gene Bertram.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. Registration is required. 1 p.m. City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center, lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register, call 906-225-8655.

• **Marquette County Quilters Association Meeting.** All skill levels are invited for socialization, program events and show and tell. Yearly membership fee, \$20. 6 p.m. Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. marquettequilters.org.

• **La Table Française.** This informal French conversation group is open to the public. 7 p.m. Conference room 141, Whitman Hall, NMU. 906-227-2648 or nkupper@nmu.edu.

Negaunee

• **Knitting Group.** Crocheters, knitters and others interested in fiber arts are welcome to bring their projects and enjoy fellowship. Coffee will be provided and lessons are available. 1 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **After-school Library Club.** This group is intended for middle school students and their homeschool peers ages 10 to 14. Snacks will be provided. 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Writing Workshop.** Aspiring writers ages 13 years and older are invited to learn about the craft of story writing from Leo Siren, who has more than 20 years of writing experience. Participants can work on current projects, find inspiration and critique each other's works in a friendly environment. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

02 THURSDAY

sunrise 7:28 a.m.; sunset 8:19 p.m.

Calumet

• **Preschool Story Time.** 10:15 a.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine

St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

• **Knitting and Needlework Group.** Participants can bring their portable handwork project and enjoy an informal social time. Open to everyone. 1 p.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

Ishpeming

• **Great Start's West End Playgroup.** Families can enjoy open-ended free play and a snack. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeninglibrary.info.

• **Book Club.** Hosted by the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, the selection will be "The Listeners" by Maggie Stiefvater. 11 a.m. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeninglibrary.info.

• **Seniors Eat Well Congregate Meal Program.** A nutritious meal is prepared for seniors 60 and older. Reservations are required. Suggested donation, \$7. Noon. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.

• **Drop-In and Draw Club: Kathi Hanson Instructs.** Artists ages 10 and older can experiment with watercolor pencil art, and pen and ink designs. 4 p.m. Ray Leverton Community Room, Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeninglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Spring Break Family Storytime.** Families with children of all ages can join Ms. Holli for a special storytime with interactive stories, songs and more. There will be a springtime dot painting craft available. 10 a.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Fire Site Storytelling Series.** This series will feature Anishinaabe winter storytelling, oral traditions and community discussion, supported and facilitated by the Center for Native American Studies (CNAS) director, faculty and staff. 1 p.m. CNAS Fire Site Pavilion, Whitman Woods. 906-227-1397 or nmu.edu/nativeamericanstudies.

• **The Crossiant: A Pastry Talk and Tasting.** This annual French baking seminar will feature a presentation by 231 Patisserie. Attendees will learn how to make crossiants. A tasting will follow. 1:30 to 3 p.m. Whitman Commons, NMU. 906-227-2648 or nkupper@nmu.edu

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travel-marquette.com.

• **Opera Theatre Workshop**



Performance. 7:30 p.m. Reynolds Recital Hall, NMU. nmu.edu/music.

03 FRIDAY
sunrise 7:26 a.m.; sunset 8:20 p.m.

Good Friday

Marquette

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travel-marquette.com.

04 SATURDAY
sunrise 7:24 a.m.; sunset 8:21 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.

• **The Go Rounds.** Graham Parson and the Go Rounds offer first-class musicianship and creativity to reach a place where psych-pop, Americana and twang-rock meet. Proceeds will support The Dan Schmitt Gift of Music. Youth 13 and younger, \$10; general admission, \$20. 7 p.m. Calumet Theatre, 340 Sixth St. 906-337-2610 or calumettheatre.com.

Crystal Falls

• **The Knockabouts.** This Celtic trio

plays traditional, contemporary and original music. Students, \$5; adults, \$23. 7 p.m. CDT. Crystal Theatre, 304 Superior Ave. 906-875-3208 or thecrystaltheatre.org.

Escanaba

• **Ink Society Local Writers' Group.** Intended for ages 16 and older. 10:30 a.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.

• **Easter Egg Hunt.** Visit with the Easter Bunny and enter for a chance to win an Easter basket. 2 to 3:30 p.m. Escanaba Civic Center, 225 N. 21st St. 906-789-3798 or deltami.org.

Houghton

• **Keweenaw Native Plant Symposium (Online).** This online symposium will feature talks on native plants and the wildlife that rely upon them. Special guests will be pollinator advocate Heather Holm, pollinator conservation expert Aaron Anderson of the Xerces Society and tree expert RJ LaVerne. 9 a.m. to noon. Via Zoom. keweenaw.wildones.org.

Ishpeming

• **Open Fiber Circle.** Fiber artists can drop in anytime with their current project. All crafts are welcome and newcomers are encouraged. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Snow Day Fibers, 200 E. Division St. snowdayfibers@gmail.com.

• **"Cultivating Joy" Community Art Show.** The art show will feature work on the theme of "joy" from artists 18 and younger. All guests will be invited to participate in inner child art making directed by art therapists and local artists. 6 to 8 p.m. The Woven Path Community Studio, 202 E. Division

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on the town

Escanaba

- **Upper Hand Brewery.**
- Tuesday, April 7: Open Mic Night. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, the 11th: Karaoke. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, the 25th: Karaoke. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Thursdays: Trivia. 7 to 8:30 p.m.
- Fridays: Live music. 6 to 8 p.m.
3525 Airport Rd. 906-748-9466 or upperhandbrewery.com.

Gwinn

- **Happy Hour Bar and Grill.**
- Saturdays: Karaoke. 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
5 E. Stephenson Ave. 906-346-6340.

Ishpeming

- **Shelly's Rainbow Bar.**
- Friday, April 17: Boots and Sandals. 5 to 8 p.m.
120 E. Canda St. 906-486-8998.

Marquette

- **906 Sports Bar and Grill.**
- Wednesdays: Trivia. 6:30 p.m.
145 W. Washington St. 906-273-0706 or 906barandgrill.com.
- **Blackrocks Brewery.**
- Friday, April 3: Vinyl Tap. 7 p.m.
- Saturday, the 4th: Not Quite Canada. 7 p.m.
- Saturday, the 18th: Groove Candy. 7 to 10 p.m.
- Sundays: Jim and Ray. 5 to 8 p.m.
- Mondays: Trivia. 7 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesdays: Open mic. 6 to 9 p.m.
424 N. Third St. 906-273-1333 or blackrocksbrewery.com.
- **Delft Bistro.**
- Thursday, April 2: The Wallens. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Monday, the 13th: Game Night. 4 to 8 p.m.
- Monday, the 27th: Game Night. 4 to 8 p.m.
139 W. Washington St. 906-273-2455 or thedelftbistro.com.
- **Drifa Brewing Company.**
- Saturday, April 18: Boots and

Sandals. 6 to 9 p.m.
- Mondays: Musicians' Open Mic. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Thursdays: Trivia. 7 p.m.
501 S. Lake St. 906-273-1300.

• Flanigan's.

- Mondays through Saturdays: Karaoke. 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- Tuesdays: Open Mic. 7 to 10 p.m.
429 W. Washington St. 906-228-8865.

• Kognisjon Bryggeri.

- Thursday, April 2: HOTplate: Spring Robin Canvas.
- Friday, the 3rd: Jakey Thomas. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, the 4th: Boots and Sandals. 6 to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, the 5th: Open Mic. 6 to 10 p.m.
- Friday, the 10th: Almost Elvis. 7 to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, the 11th: Jim and Ray. 6 to 9 p.m.
- Monday, the 13th: Recreational Music Bingo. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, the 16th: HOTplate: Terracotta Planter.

- Friday, the 17th: The Make-Believe Spurs. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, the 18th: Resinator Beer and Metal Fest. 5 p.m.

- Sunday, the 19th: Open Mic. 6 to 9 p.m.
- Friday, the 24th: Soul Responsibility. 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, the 25th: Greta and John. 6 to 9 p.m.

- Monday, the 27th: Recreational Music Bingo. 6 to 8 p.m.
- Tuesdays: Trivia. 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays: Vinyl Night.

- Thursdays: Iron Golem Games. 6 to 10 p.m.
1034 N. Third St. 906-273-2727.

• **Ojibwa Casino.**
- Friday, April 3: Talent Quest Karaoke Competition. 8 p.m. to midnight.

- Saturday, the 11th: Risqué. 8 p.m. to midnight.
- Friday, the 17th: Talent Quest Karaoke Competition. 8 p.m. to midnight.

- Saturday, the 11th: Risqué. 8 p.m. to midnight.
- Friday, the 17th: Talent Quest Karaoke Competition. 8 p.m. to midnight.



Almost Elvis | April 10 | Kognisjon Bryggeri, Marquette

- Saturday, the 25th: The Soulshine Band. 8 p.m. to midnight.
105 Acre Trail. 906-249-4200.

• Ore Dock Brewing Company.

- Wednesday, April 1: Revolve Arts Trivia. 6 p.m.
- Friday, the 3rd: Angry Bear Pre-Party. 7 p.m.
- Saturday, the 4th: The Make-Believe Spurs. 8 p.m.

- Tuesday, the 7th: Euchre. 7 p.m.
- Friday, the 10th: Baby Bear. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

- Saturday, the 11th: Festival of The Angry Bear. 3 p.m. \$10 wristband.
- Wednesday, the 15th: Hiawatha on Tap Kids Show. Music, 6 to 8 p.m.

Members, \$5; general admission, \$10. All shows are free unless noted.
114 W. Spring St. 906-228-8888 or oredockbrewing.com.

• Superior Culture.

- Friday, April 3: Streaking in Tongues. 8 to 11 p.m.
- Thursday, the 30th: Streaking in Tongues. 8 to 11 p.m.

- Tuesdays: Open Mic night. 8 to 10

p.m.
717 Third St. 906-273-0927 or superiorculturemqt.com.

Negaunee

• Smarty's Saloon.

- Sunday, April 26: Goof-Fest featuring music and prizes. 2 to 5 p.m.
212 Iron St. 906-401-0438.

Republic

• Pine Grove Bar.

- Friday, the 3rd: Acoustic Antics.
- Saturday the 4th: Copy That and Lost Cause.

- Sunday, the 5th: Nick Dittmeier.
- Friday, the 10th: Gena and Hozz.
- Saturday, the 11th: Toni Saari and Flat Broke Blues Band.

- Friday, the 17th: Anthony Lyndsey.
- Saturday, the 18th: Troy Graham and The Maynards.

- Friday, the 24th: Jackson Taylor.
- Saturday, the 25th: Gena and Hozz and Northern Daze.

286 Front St. 906-376-2234.

MM



Golden EGG Hunt

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St. wovenpatharttherapy.com.

K.I. Sawyer

• **Easter Eggstravaganza**. Each child will be able to fill a basket of Easter goodies and participate in an egg hunt. \$2 per person and a nonperishable food item or \$5 per family and three nonperishable items. 2 to 5 p.m. K.I. Sawyer Heritage Air Museum, 402 Third St. forsythforward.org.

Marquette

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club**. Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. Lessons, 10 a.m. Games, 11:30 a.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **da Upper Yoopers' Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal**. New members are welcome to join the group and prepare for upcoming performances. 10:30 a.m. For location, call 906-361-8308 or email upperyoppers@gmail.com.

• **Saturday Storytime**. Children through preschool age and a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings and older children are welcome. 11 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Community Seed Swap**. Community members can share open pollinated seeds that are not licensed or patented. There will also be information tables and a presentation on winter sowing and snail roll seed starting methods by Ray Bush. Bringing seeds is not required; anyone interested in local gardening is welcome. 1 to 3 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. queencityseedlibrary@gmail.com.

• **Art with Ella**. Kids of all ages can create art with NMU Art Education major Ella during this drop-in program. Techniques will be adaptable for kids of all ages and abilities, and all supplies will be provided. 1 to 3 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **NMU Percussion Ensemble Concert**. 3 p.m. Reynolds Recital Hall, NMU. nmu.edu/music.

• **Room at the Inn Awareness Concert**. Learn about homelessness in Marquette as panelists will provide education and answer questions. Performances by The Make-Believe Spurs and Willowby. Panelists, 6:30 p.m. Concert, 8 to 11 p.m. Ore Dock Brewing Company, 114 W. Spring St.

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock**. Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travel-marquette.com.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Run with the Sun DIY Small Scale Solar Installation Workshop, Part 1**. Public educator Maggie Bailey will lead a discussion about solar energy fundamentals: grid, systems and Siting. Attendees should

bring their own brown bag lunch; dessert will be provided. 11 a.m. Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplonline.org.

05 SUNDAY

sunrise 7:22 a.m.; sunset 8:23 p.m.

Easter

06 MONDAY

sunrise 7:20 a.m.; sunset 8:24 p.m.

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime**. Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club**. Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 6 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Craft Magic Series: Felt Magic with Jody Trost**. Participants will learn basic needle felting and leave with their own handmade felted project. Felting starter kits and wool will be provided; bring a small pair of scissors. 6:30 p.m. Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or machatz@pwpl.info. To register, visit pwpl.info.

Negaunee

• **Quiet Storytime**. Intended for younger children, short stories will be accompanied by soft voices and sounds, sensory-friendly movements and a fidget-friendly area. 11 a.m. Negaunee Public Library, Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Homeschool Hangout and Graphic Novel Book Club Interest Meeting**. Youth and their families who do not attend traditional school can meet others, have a snack and enjoy an activity. Homeschool students, online students through programs such as Link Learning, and others are welcome to participate. This week, there will also be a discussion of starting a Graphic Novel Book Club. 1 to 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

07 TUESDAY

sunrise 7:18 a.m.; sunset 8:26 p.m.

Escanaba

• **Tech Tuesday**. Appointments or walk-ins are welcome. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or

escanabalibrary.org.

Gwinn

• **Know Our Wild Lecture Series: Wildlife**. DNR Wildlife Specialist Dr. Tyler Petroelje will provide insight into the moose, bear and elk that live in the U.P. 6:30 p.m. Up North Events Center, 215 CR-557. forsythforward.org.

Hancock

• **Kids Make Art! Moose on the Loose**. Hailey Macias will guide artists ages six to 12 to create moose antler headbands with poster paper and fabric. Members, \$15; non-members, \$20. 4:30 p.m. Copper Country Community Arts Center, 126 Quincy St. 906-482-2333 or coppercountryarts.com.

Ishpeming

• **Tot Tuesday Storytime**. Toddlers and preschoolers can enjoy stories, songs and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime. 11 a.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpepinglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Preschool Storytime**. Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **One-on-one Tech Coaching for Seniors**. Learn how to make your electronic devices work with the help of retired teacher and librarian Christine Ault. Bring passwords and ensure the device is charged. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local History Research Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register for a 30-minute session, call 906-226-4311.

• **NCLL: Throwing Pots on a Wheel**. Participants will learn to throw various shaped pots, which will be kiln-fired and return to paint. Register for one session. NCLL members, \$5; non-members, \$10 (plus a studio fee). 10 a.m. to noon, or 1 to 3 p.m. HOTplate Pottery and Clayworks, 130 W. Washington St., Suite L. 906-227-2979.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club**. Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Oil Painting, Pastels and Drawing Classes with Marlene Wood**. Bring your own supplies. \$20. 1 p.m. Marquette Arts and Culture Center, Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-225-8655.

• **Write On**. Students in sixth through 12th grades can experience four weeks of inspired writing in a supportive environment. Each week, a different local writer will engage with attendees to enhance and inspire creative expression. Registration is required. 4:30 p.m. Heritage Room, Peter White Public



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April Featured Artists
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 Ilah Wilson**



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art galleries

Calumet

• **Calumet Art Center.** Works by local and regional artists. *Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 57055 Fifth St. 906-934-2228. calumetartcenter.com.*

• **Copper Country Associated Artist.** Works by members and workshop participants in watercolor and oil, drawings, photography, sculpture, quilting, wood, textile, clay, glass and other media. *Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 205 Fifth St. 906-337-1252 or ccaartists.org.*

• **Gallery on 5th.** Featuring works by local and regional artists. *Call or visit Facebook for up-to-date store hours. 906-299-0118 or gallery-on5th.com.*

• **My Story Gallery at Keweenaw Storytelling Center.** Presented by Real People Media, the gallery shares stories of ordinary residents through multimedia exhibits. *Contact for updated hours. 215 Fifth St. 906-934-2346 or realpeoplemedia.org.*

Curtis

• **Erickson Center for the Arts-Waterfront Gallery.** The gallery features unique work from local artists, including photography, pottery, jewelry, woodworking, paintings and more. *Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. N9224 Saw-Wa-Quato St. 906-586-9974 or ericksoncenter.org.*

Copper Harbor

• **EarthWorks Gallery.** Featuring Lake Superior-inspired photography by Steve Brimm. *Daily, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 216 First St. 906-231-6318.*

Escanaba

• **Besse Gallery.** Featuring works by local and regional artists. *Days and hours vary. Bay College, 2001 N. Lincoln Rd. baycollege.edu.*

• **East Ludington Gallery.** Featuring works by local and regional artists. *Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 1000 Ludington St. 906-786-0300 or eastludingtongallery.com.*

• **Hartwig Gallery.** Featuring works by local, regional and national artists. *Days and hours vary. Bay College, 2001 N. Lincoln Rd. baycollege.edu.*

• **William Bonifas Fine Arts Gallery.**

- "Extraordinary U.P. Women," a traveling exhibit from the Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center, is on display April 3 through May 28 with an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on the 3rd. There will also be artwork from the gallery's permanent collection created by U.P.-based female artists, including Alice Powers, the gallery's

namesake.

- Northern Exposure Featured Artist Award: Works by Avery Jade Graham, who won the award for her painting titled "Stare Down," will be on display April 3 through the 30th with an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on the 3rd. *Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 700 First Avenue South. 906-786-3833 or bonifasarts.org.*

Hancock

• **Finlandia Art Gallery.**

- "Me Siirtolaiset | We Immigrants," featuring art, artifacts and oral histories from the gallery's permanent collection, is on display through the 16th. *Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Located in the Finnish American Heritage Center; 435 Quincy St. 906-487-7309 or gallery@finlandiafoundation.org.*

• **Kerredge Gallery.**

- "Native Arts," a group exhibition, will be on display April 7 through May 2, with a public reception at 6 p.m. on the 9th.

Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Copper Country Community Arts Center; 126 Quincy St. 906-482-2333 or coppercountryarts.com.

• **Youth Gallery.** Featuring works by local students. *Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Community Arts Center, 126 Quincy St. 906-482-2333 or coppercountryarts.com.*

• **Lynn Mazzoleni Studio and Gallery.** This is the working studio and retail gallery space of acrylic and oil painter Lynn Mazzoleni, showcasing her original artwork as well as home décor pieces and unique goods. *Friday, 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. 116 Quincy St. lynnazzoleni.com.*

Houghton

• **The Rozsa Galleries.**

- "Beyond the Frame: Spring Student Art Showcase" will be on display April 10 through the 14th with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on the 10th. *Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturdays, 1 to 8 p.m. Rozsa Center; 1400 Townsend Dr. mtu.edu/rozsa.*

Ishpeming

• **Ishpeming Multi-Purpose Senior Center.**

- "A Caregiver's Butterfly Garden," produced by IMPART Alliance, which transforms personal stories of caregiving into an installation of handcrafted butterflies that represent gratitude, reflection and recognition, is on display through January 2027. *Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to*

4 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 121 Greenwood St. mobile.gicoaseniors.org.

Manistique

• **Lake Effect Community Arts Center.**

- "Made UP!," featuring work in a variety of media by artists living within a 100-mile radius of Manistique, will be on display beginning April 2 with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on the 10th. *Tuesday through Thursday, and Saturdays, April 4, 11 and 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 244 S. Cedar St. 906-286-4117 or lakeeffectarts.org.*

Marquette

• **Art—U.P. Style.** Art by Carol Papaleo, works by local artists, gifts, classes and more. *Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 130 W. Washington St. 906-225-1993.*

• **Deo Gallery.**

- "I Did Not Break," featuring acrylic and mixed media work by Taryn Okesson, will be on display through May 31 with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on the 23rd. *Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-228-0472.*

• **DeVos Art Museum.**

- "The NMU School of Art and Design Senior Exhibition," featuring the capstone projects by graduating seniors across a variety of concentrations, will be on display April 16 through May 1. *Monday through Wednesday, and Friday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.; Thursday, noon to 8 p.m. Corner of Seventh and Tracy streets. NMU. 906-227-1481 or nmu.edu/devos.*

• **The Gallery Marquette.** Featuring works by local and regional artists. *Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inside the Masonic Building, 130 W. Washington St. thegallerymqt.com.*

• **Huron Mountain Club Gallery.**

- "High School Arts" will be on display through May 31 with a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on the 23rd. *Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-228-0472.*

• **Lake Superior Photo and Gallery.**

The studio features landscape photographic art by Shawn Malone, including naturescapes of the Lake Superior region. *Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 211 S. Front St. 906-228-3686 or lakesuperiorphoto.com.*

• **Niik Creative Co.** Handcrafted and local artisan goods. *Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.*

(continued on page 83)

Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321 or apierce@pwpl.info. To register, visit pwpl.info.

• **Yarn Spinners.** Youth of all ages and skill levels are invited to work on their crochet, knit and weaving skills. Some tools and yarn will be provided, and parents are encouraged to attend with their kids to work on projects of their own during this drop-in program. 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Maritime History on Tap.** Marquette Maritime Museum intern Evan Sparks will present “The Ghost of Keeper Adam Sayles.” Keeper Sayles died of a heart attack in the Marquette Lighthouse on December 18, 1942. Additionally, Yooper Paranormal will share stories about Sayles’ presence in the Marquette Lighthouse during paranormal investigations. \$5. 7 p.m. Ore Dock Brewing Company, 114 W. Spring St. mqmaritimemuseum.com.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Armchair Trip.** Attendees can take an armchair trip to

Grand Canyon National Park. 10 a.m. The Gallery Coffee Company, 120 Elm Ave.

Negaunee

• **Readers Dozen Book Club.** As part of the “Readers Dozen Reading Challenge,” the library will host an optional book club for all participants. Participants can enjoy refreshments, share what they’ve been reading, swap recommendations for the coming month and connect with fellow readers. 5 p.m. Youth Area, Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Adult Book Club Interest Meeting.** Everyone is welcome to attend and share ideas, suggest times and dates to meet and what to read. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Bring Your Own Craft Night.** Community members can bring a craft they are working on or start a new one. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St.

906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

08 WEDNESDAY

sunrise 7:16 a.m.; sunset 8:27 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.

Gwinn

• **LEGO Club.** School-aged children drop in and build. Students younger than 10 must have an adult present. 4 to 5 p.m. Forsyth Township Library, 180 W. Flint St. 906-346-3433 or forsythtwplibrary.org.

Ishpeming

• **Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body.** Representatives from the Alzheimer’s Association will discuss healthy habits individuals can incorporate into their daily lives to help reduce the risk of dementia. 2 p.m. Ishpeming

Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Poetry Reading with Beverly Matherne and Troy Graham.** Local poets Beverly Matherne and Troy Graham will read from their work. 5:30 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Little Lake

• **Gwinn Quilters.** Members learn new skills and techniques, work on individual and group projects, and create items to donate to community organizations. A business meeting takes place at noon followed by show and tell. Bring a bag lunch. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fellowship Hall, Little Lake Chapel, 1761 M-35. 906-346-6344.

Marquette

• **Baby Storytime.** Newborns up to 17 months with a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323

art galleries

(continued from page 82)

Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. 2905 Island Beach Rd.

• **Presque Isle Station.** This working pottery studio features pottery by Michael Horton and Terry Gilfof, along with works by local artists. Days and times vary. 2901 Lakeshore Blvd. 906-225-1695.

• **Second Story Studio.** Featuring wildlife photography by Kurt Babcock and textured acrylic paintings by Taryn Okesson. Thursday through Saturday, 2 to 6 p.m., and by appointment. Inside the Wattsson and Wattsson Marketplace, 118 B W. Washington St. tarynokesson.com/second-story-studio.

• **Wintergreen Hill Gallery.** Work by Jess Davis and Ilah Wilson is on display through the 30th with a reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on the 21st. Wintergreen Hill Gallery strives to create an immersive art experience for visitors who are looking to buy or just looking for inspiration. Local art by local artists. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 810 N. Third St. 906-273-1374 or wintergreenhill.com.

• **Zero Degrees Gallery.** Works by watercolor artist Bill Hamilton will be on display through the 30th with a reception from 1 to 4 p.m. on the 11th. The gallery features works in oils, watercolors, mixed media, jewelry, photography, metals, woods, recycled and fiber arts, and more. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 525 N. Third St. 906-228-3058 or zerodegreesgallery.org.

Munising

• **UP-Scale Art.** Featuring works by local and regional artists. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. 109 W. Superior Ave. 906-387-3300 or upscaleart.org.

Rapid River

• **Ritch Branstrom’s adhocWORKshop.** Specializing in award-winning found object sculpture. By appointment or chance. 10495 S. Main St. 906-399-1572 or adhocworkshop.com.

Sand River

• **Aurelia Studio Pottery.** Featuring high fire stoneware, along with functional and sculptural pieces inspired by nature, created by potter and owner Paula Neville. Open by appointment. 3050 E. M-28. 906-343-6592.

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Christopher Weber | Zero Degrees Gallery, Marquette



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or pwpl.info.

• **Congregate Meals for Seniors—Dine in or Curbside Pickup.** Meals available to those age 60 and older and their spouses. Call to reserve a meal. \$3.50 suggested donation. Noon to 1 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.

• **Home School Chapter Book Discussion.** Home school teens ages 11 and older can gather to discuss “The Backstagers” by James Tynion IV. 1 p.m. Teen Zone, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321, apierce@pwpl.info or pwpl.info.

• **Teens Game On!** Youth in sixth through 12th grades can drop in to play a selection of video games, board games and more. 3 to 6 p.m. Teen Zone, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321, apierce@pwpl.info or pwpl.info.

• **Community Knit/Crochet Club.** 5:30 p.m. Alley Kat’s Quilt Shop, 1010 W. Washington St. 906-315-0050.

• **My Amazing Cousin Ben: A Historical Presentation on our Founding Father Benjamin Franklin.** Historian and NMU music professor Dr. James A. Strain will present a tour on the life and genius of Benjamin Franklin. Strain, a first cousin 12 times removed to Franklin, will also display his collection of early U.S. and colonial flags. Suggested donation, \$5. 6:30 p.m. Marquette Regional History Center, 145 W. Spring St. 906-226-3571 or marquettehistory.org.

• **MSHS Jazz Band Concert.** This evening of music will be performed by the Marquette Senior High School Jazz Band, led by MSHS Band Director Emily Morgan-Booth. Limited seating is available; free tickets can be picked up at the circulation desk. 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321, apierce@pwpl.info or pwpl.info.

• **League of Women Voters of Marquette County Meeting.** A panel led by NMU’s Sustainability Hub for Innovation and Environment will discuss climate change in the Great Lakes Region. All interested community members are welcome. Social time, 6:30 p.m.; meeting, 6:45 p.m. Room 309, Harden Hall, NMU. lwvmqtco@gmail.com or lwvmqt.org.

• **La Table Française.** This informal French conversation group is open to the public. 7 p.m. Conference room 141, Whitman Hall, NMU. 906-227-2648 or nkupper@nmu.edu.

• **Kaufman Lyceum Series featuring Nick Baumgartner.** Snowboarder and 2022 Olympic Gold Medalist Nick Baumgartner will speak about his life and experiences. Youth and NMU students, \$10; seniors, \$12; and general public, \$15. 7 p.m. Kaufman Auditorium, 611 N. Front St. 906-225-4213. For tickets, 906-227-1032 or tickets.nmu.edu.

• **Knitting Group.** Crocheters, knitters and others interested in fiber arts are welcome to bring their projects and enjoy fellowship. Coffee will be provided and lessons are available. 1 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **After-school Library Club.** This group is intended for middle school students and their homeschool peers ages 10 to 14. Snacks will be provided. 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Writing Workshop.** Aspiring writers ages 13 years and older are invited to learn about the craft of story writing from Leo Siren, who has more than 20 years of writing experience. Participants can work on current projects, find inspiration and critique each other’s works in a friendly environment. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

09 THURSDAY

sunrise 7:14 a.m.; sunset 8:28 p.m.

Calumet

• **Preschool Story Time.** 10:15 a.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

• **Knitting and Needlework Group.** Participants can bring their portable handwork project and enjoy an informal social time. Open to everyone. 1 p.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

Crystal Falls

• **U.P. Notable Books Club (Online).** This month’s guest will be Ellen Lord, author of “Vigil: Poems.” 7 p.m. EST, 6 p.m. CST. Via Zoom. 906-875-3344 or egathu@crystalfallslibrary.org. upnotable.com.

Escanaba

• **Fiber Arts a la Carte.** Intended for ages 16 and older. 5 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.

Houghton

• **Journey Through the Keweenaw: Interactive Museum Exploration.** Visitors can enjoy self-guided walk-through tours. 7:30 to 10 p.m. McArdle Theatre, MTU. mtu.edu/rozsa.

Ishpeming

• **Great Start’s West End Playgroup.** Families can enjoy open-ended free play and a snack. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Seniors Eat Well Congregate Meal Program.** A nutritious meal is prepared for seniors 60 and older. Reservations

Negaunee

are required. Suggested donation, \$7. Noon. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Fire Site Storytelling Series.** This series will feature Anishinaabe winter storytelling, oral traditions and community discussion, supported and facilitated by the Center for Native American Studies (CNAS) director, faculty and staff. 1 p.m. CNAS Fire Site Pavilion, Whitman Woods. 906-227-1397 or nmu.edu/nativeamericanstudies.

• **Pokémon Trading and Gaming.** Youth of all ages can trade and play the card game, and spend time with other Pokémon fans. Trading and gaming will be led by the youth participants. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Youth Services Makerspace, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Second Thursday Creativity Series.** This month's theme will be "Critters, Crocuses and Custard!" Guests can enjoy hands-on craft activities, a live musician and free Culver's frozen custard. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Upper Peninsula Children's Museum, 123 W. Baraga Ave. 906-226-3911 or upchildrensmuseum.org.

• **April Square Dance with the Hiawatha House Band.** Donations appreciated. 6 to 8 p.m. The Fold, 1015 N. Third St. #9. hiawathamusic.org.

• **Yarnwinders Fiber Guild of Marquette.** 6 p.m. Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St.

• **GLPF Marquette Poets Circle: Melissa Faliveno Reading.** In partnership with NMU's Visiting Writers program, Marquette Poets Circle will host author Melissa Faliveno, former senior editor of Poets and Writers Magazine, as part of the Great Lakes Poetry Festival. Faliveno's essay collection "Tomboyland" was named a best book of 2020 by NPR and Oprah Magazine, and their debut novel "Hemlock" was released in January. 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

• **"9 to 5."** "9 to 5" is a high-energy, laugh-out-loud tale of friendship, revenge and female empowerment in the workplace. Presented by NMU Theatre and Dance. NMU students, \$5; students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre,

NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.

Negaunee

• **Drop-in Craft Event for Kids.** Children ages 5 and older can stop by to create something fun to take home. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Poetry and Short Story Night.** Participants are invited to bring their own work or share a poem or story from their favorite writer or collection. 5 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Language Club Interest Meeting.** All are welcome to attend and help to shape a new language learning group. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

10 FRIDAY
sunrise 7:12 a.m.; sunset 8:30 p.m.

Gwinn

• **Storytime.** Preschool-age kids can enjoy stories, crafts and light snacks. 10:30 a.m. Forsyth Township Library, 180 W. Flint St. 906-346-3433 or forsythtwplibrary.org.

Houghton

• **Celebrations!** The Superior Wind Symphony and Campus Concert Band will combine for their end-of-semester concert featuring music of joy, triumph and celebration. Pay As You're Able ticketing. 7:30 p.m. Rozsa Center, MTU. events.mtu.edu.

• **Journey Through the Keweenaw: Interactive Museum Exploration.** Visitors can enjoy self-guided walk-through tours. 7:30 to 10 p.m. McArdle Theatre, MTU. mtu.edu/rozsa.

Ishpeming

• **Homeschool Hangout.** Homeschooling families are invited to visit the library and hang out with old and new homeschooling friends. Special guests and events will begin at 10:30 a.m. 10 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Preschool Storytime.** Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Cultivating Care, Compassion and Connection.** This event will offer a safe space to pause, reflect and build connections with others who are committed to cultivating kindness. Each

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- Line Dancing: Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 PM
- Folk Dancing: Tuesdays at 7 PM
- Stability (for Fall Prevention): Mondays and Wednesdays at 2 PM
- Zumba Gold: Mondays and Wednesdays at 3 PM
- Belly Dancing Class: Thursdays at 7 PM

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museums

Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress



Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center, Marquette

Baraga

• **Baraga County Historical Museum.** The museum highlights the historic and cultural heritage of Baraga County. Current exhibits include "The Ford Motor Company in Baraga County" and prehistoric copper objects on loan from the Ancient Artifacts Preservation Society. *By appointment. 803 U.S. Hwy. 41 S. 906-395-1730 or baragacountyhistory@gmail.com.*

Calumet

• **International Frisbee/USA Guts Hall of Fame and Museum.** Learn about the history of Guts Frisbee. *Days and hours vary. Open when events are held. Second floor ballroom, Calumet Colosseum, 110 Red Jacket Rd. 906-281-7625.*

Escanaba

• **Upper Peninsula Military Museum and Honor Flight Legacy Museum.** The museum honors Upper Peninsula veterans, and features exhibits and dioramas portraying the Upper Peninsula's contribution to U.S. war efforts from the Civil War through the Afghanistan wars. Learn the history of the honor flight trips. *Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inside the Delta County Chamber of Commerce, 1001 N. Lincoln Rd.*

• **Webster Marble Inventing the Outdoors Museum.** Webster

Marble came to the U.P. in the late 1880s to be a timber cruiser and surveyor, but later became an inventor. He held 60 patents and invented a long list of gear for camping, hiking, hunting and fishing, including a safety ax with an attached blade guard that folded into the handle. *Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Inside the Delta County Chamber of Commerce, 1001 N. Lincoln Road. 906-786-2192 or deltami.org/webster-marble-inventing-the-outdoors-museum.*

Hancock

• **Quincy Mine Tours.** Guided tours take guests on a two-hour walking tour featuring the World's Largest Steam Hoist and historic mine workings more than 300 feet underground. Walking is on level ground in a 43-degree damp atmosphere; mobility assistance may be available upon advanced request. Options for a "hoist only" tour and self-guided tour of the surface structures are also available. *Prices vary. 49750 U.S. Hwy. 41. quincymine.com.*

Houghton

• **A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum.** View Yooperlites, sodalite-bearing syenites that possess fluorescent properties. View the largest collection of minerals from the Great Lakes region and the world's finest collection of Michigan minerals. *Prices*

(continued on page 87)

museums

(continued from page 86)

vary. Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1404 E. Sharon Ave. museum.mtu.edu or 906-487-2572.

• Carnegie Museum of the Keweenaw.

- "WWI and the Copper Country Home Front 1917-1918," explores how the people of the Copper Country supported the national war effort from the home front based on research as reported in the Daily Mining Gazette. The museum features changing exhibits and programs about the region's natural and cultural history. Tuesday and Thursday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. 105 Huron St. 906-482-7140 or carnegiekeweenaw.org.

• MTU Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections.

Features a variety of historical memorabilia, highlighting life in the Copper Country. Open by appointment. Lower level of the J.R. Van Pelt Library, MTU. 906-487-3209.

Iron Mountain

• Imagination Factory Children's Museum.

The museum features thoughtfully designed play areas that spark curiosity and ignite the love of learning. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Imagination Factory Community Center, 301 W. Hughitt St. imaginationfactory.us.

Ishpeming

• Ishpeming Area Historical Society Museum.

The museum focuses on everyday life, people, businesses and past times that showcase Ishpeming's citizens, including John Voelker, Kelly Johnson and Glenn Seaborg, as well as memorabilia from the filming of "Anatomy of a Murder." Open by appointment. See website for updates. Gossard Building, Suite 303, 308 Cleveland Ave. ishpeinghistory.org.

• U.S. National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum.

The museum features more than 300 Hall of Fame inductees, presented in photographs and biographies, and displays and exhibits of skiing history and equipment, an extensive library, video show, gift shop, special events and more. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. US-41 and Third Street. 906-485-6323 or skihall.com.

K.I. Sawyer

• K.I. Sawyer Heritage Air Museum.

The museum promotes and preserves the aviation history the air base brought to the area. Air Force-related materials are on

display, including photographs, flags, medals and more. Wednesday through Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. 402 Third St. 906-236-3502 or kisawyerheritageairmuseum.org.

Marquette

• **Baraga Educational Center and Museum.** View artifacts and tools used by Venerable Bishop Baraga. Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. and by appointment. 615 S. Fourth St. 906-227-9117.

• Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center.

- "The Conservationists: George Shiras III, Theodore Roosevelt and the Migratory Bird Act" is on display through May 2. The exhibit will feature correspondence between the Shiras and Roosevelt from the collection of the Central Upper Peninsula and NMU Archives as well as bird mounts from the Northern Museum of Zoology. The museum promotes and preserves the history and culture of the U.P. and collects and preserves artifacts related to the history of NMU. Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. 223 Harden Hall, NMU. 906-227-1219 or nmu.edu/beaumier.

• Marquette Regional History Center.

- "The U.P. through 250 Artifacts," featuring 250 artifacts, photographs and documents from the museum's permanent collections, connecting local history to the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, will be on display through Jan. 2, 2027. The museum also includes interactive displays as well as regional history exhibits.

Youth 12 and under, \$3; students, \$4; seniors and military, \$8; adults, \$10. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 145 W. Spring St. 906-226-3571 or marquettehistory.org.

• Upper Peninsula Children's Museum.

A variety of interactive exhibits offer learning through investigation and creativity. Prices vary. Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 123 W. Baraga Ave. 906-226-3911 or upchildrensmuseum.org.

Munising

• Alger County Historical Society Heritage Center.

Exhibits include the Grand Island Recreation Area, Munising Woodenware Company, barn building, homemaking, sauna and more. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 1496 Washington St. 906-387-4308.

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Events Calendar

THURSDAY, MAY 14 | 7 PM

John Daly presents "Mark Twain's American West" at The Pine Performance Center

Mark Twain's early days were formative to his development as American literature's most iconic character. Join John Daly as he brings Twain to life with amusing tales of the Mississippi River, Virginia City's silver boom, San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands from Twain's books, *Life on the Mississippi*, *Huckleberry Finn* and *Roughing It*.

Tickets: \$15 MyNorthTickets.com; Door: \$20

****PLEASE NOTE:** Your Mark Twain Program ticket also includes admission to John's Michigan History Program being presented at The Pine Performance Center May 15th at 10 AM

FRIDAY, MAY 15 | 10 AM

John Daly presents "How Michigan Became Michigan" at The Pine Performance Center

Michigan's shape is unusual. Anyone working with a modern map is unlikely to have put these two peninsulas together. It happened due to some strange twists of history. Come learn how an inaccurate 1755 map led to Michigan's boundaries, gave us Isle Royale National Park and started the Toledo War.

Tickets: \$5 MyNorthTickets.com

****FREE ADMISSION FOR MARK TWAIN PROGRAM TICKET HOLDERS****

THURSDAY, MAY 28 | 7 PM; DOORS @ 6:30 PM

The Sue Huber Evening of Piano featuring Doc Woodward at The Pine Performance Center

Doc Woodward has performed as the house pianist at the Walloon Lake Inn for the last seven years, and before that was the house pianist at Joe Muer's in Detroit's Renaissance Center for eight years. His selections are from the "great American songbook" standards, jazz, blues, and even some oldies and classic country.

Advance Tickets: \$25 Adults/\$15 Students/\$10 10 & Under at MyNorthTickets.com; Door: \$30/\$20/\$15

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MYNORTHTICKETS.COM

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week, a different local organization will present educators and leaders who will facilitate a discussion while maintaining a shared commitment to the Charter for Compassion and the Circle of Trust principles. *Noon. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4303 or pwpl.info.*

• **NCLL: A Taste of India.** Participants will learn to cook some common Indian dishes and enjoy their creations. *NCLL members, \$5; non-members, \$10 (plus an additional fee). 11 a.m. Marquette Food Co-op, 502 W. Washington St. To register, visit humantix.com/ncll-indian-cuisine. 906-227-2979.*

• **GLPF Docu Cinema: "Al Purdy Was Here: Portrait of a Great Canadian Poet."** As part of the Great Lakes Poetry Festival, PWPL will screen this portrait of a writer driven to become a great Canadian poet at a time when that title barely existed. *Rated PG. Noon. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. *\$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **LEGO Club.** Participants can meet other LEGO enthusiasts and build projects with the library's LEGO blocks. *4 to 5 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **"9 to 5."** "9 to 5" is a high-energy, laugh-out-loud tale of friendship, revenge and female empowerment in the workplace. Presented by NMU Theatre and Dance. *NMU students, \$5; students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre, NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.*

Negaunee

• **Graphic Novel Book Club Interest Meeting.** Youth ages 10 to 18 are invited to share ideas, decide meeting dates and times, and choose books for the group to read. *3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

11 SATURDAY

sunrise 7:11 a.m.; sunset 8:31 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** *11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.*

• **Sixtiesmania.** This tribute band will play hits from The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Beach Boys, The Kinks and more. *Prices vary. 7:30 p.m. Calumet Theatre, 340 Sixth St. 906-337-2610 or calumettheatre.com.*

Escanaba

• **LEGO Club.** This month's theme is "Trap the Leprechaun." *1 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

Houghton

• **Journey Through the Keweenaw: Interactive Museum Exploration.** Visitors can enjoy self-guided walk-through tours. *7:30 to 10 p.m. McArdle Theatre, MTU. mtu.edu/rozsa.*

Iron Mountain

• **NSDAR Meeting.** This is the monthly meeting of the Onagomitingway Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). Lunch will be provided. *Noon. Conference Room, TownPlace Suites, 200 Stephenson Ave. 906-226-7836.*

Ishpeming

• **Open Fiber Circle.** Fiber artists can drop in anytime with their current project. All crafts are welcome and newcomers are encouraged. *1 to 2:30 p.m. Snow Day Fibers, 200 E. Division St. snowdayfibers@gmail.com.*

Marquette

• **Marquette City Nature Challenge Informational Session and iNaturalist Training.** This session will provide information about the City Nature Challenge, an annual survey and celebration of nature and biodiversity, and a training on how to use iNaturalist. *10 a.m. Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 616-843-1151 or ovanantw@nmu.edu.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. *\$5 for games. Lessons, 10 a.m. Games, 11:30 a.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **da Upper Yoopers' Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal.** New members are welcome to join the group and prepare for upcoming performances. *10:30 a.m. For location, call 906-361-8308 or email upperyoopers@gmail.com.*

• **Saturday Storytime.** Children through preschool age and a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings and older children are welcome. *11 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Repair Cafe.** In partnership with the Marquette Sustainability Coalition, residents can bring in broken household goods such as appliances, clothing or bikes and skilled fixers will assist in repairing them. *11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Huron Mountain Club Gallery, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4311 or mqt sustainability@gmail.com.*

• **"9 to 5."** "9 to 5" is a high-energy, laugh-out-loud tale of friendship, revenge and female empowerment in the workplace. Presented by NMU Theatre and Dance. *NMU students, \$5;*

students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 1 p.m. (Theatre for All) and 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre, NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.

• **Night Sky Tour.** Learn about the stars, planets and constellations visible in the Upper Peninsula skies. \$10. 6:30 p.m. Shiras Planetarium, 1203 W. Fair Ave. shirasplanetarium.org/tickets

• **Marquette Symphony Orchestra Concert.** The performance will feature “Beethoven’s 5th” and the winner of the Young Artist Concerto Competition. Ticket prices vary. 7:30 p.m. Kaufman Auditorium, 611 N. Front St. marquettesymphony.org. For tickets, 906-227-1032 or nmu.universitytickets.com.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Run with the Sun DIY Small Scale Solar Installation Workshop, Part 2.** Public educator Maggie Bailey will join Krystle Baecker, U.P. Elective Pay Ambassador from the Superior Watershed Partnership, in leading a discussion about permitting, interconnection and operations, and funding and incentives in relation to solar panel installation. Attendees can bring their own brown bag lunch; dessert will be provided. 12:30 p.m. Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplonline.org.

12 SUNDAY

sunrise 7:09 a.m.; sunset 8:32 p.m.

Calumet

• **Art Play.** This open studio time for adults encourages artists to create and share their work. 2 to 4 p.m. Calumet Art Center, 57055 Fifth St. 906-934-2228 or info@calumetartcenter.com.

Escanaba

• **Bay de Noc Choral Society Spring Concert.** The concert will be “A Rutter Celebration.” A free will donation will be collected. 1:30 p.m. Bethany Lutheran Church, 202 S. 11th St.

Little Lake

• **Bingo.** A concession stand will be available. Doors open, 11 a.m.; early bird games, 1:30 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary Post 349, 1835 E. M-35. 906-346-6000.

Marquette

• **Free Community Dinner.** All are welcome. 5:45 p.m. Downstairs social hall, First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St. 906-226-6587 or firstpresbyterianmq@gmail.com.

13 MONDAY

sunrise 7:07 a.m.; sunset 8:34 p.m.

Houghton

• **Spring Student Art Exhibition: Studio Here Now.** Students from across campus will host an exhibition of their artworks. 5 to 6:30 p.m. Studio G04W. Wadsworth Hall, MTU. events.mtu.edu.

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Senior Theatre Experience: Monthly Theatre Workshop and Discussion.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. 4 p.m. Room B, Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. To register, 906-225-8655.

• **D&D Junior Campaign No. 2: Grades 4 and 5.** In-person registration is required at the Youth Services Desk to claim a spot in this fantasy adventure. Registration will be for all three sessions. Experienced and first-time players are welcome. 4:30 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **GLPF Dinner and A Movie Block Busting Cinema: “A Quiet Passion.”** Attendees can bring their dinner and enjoy this 2016 biopic about the life of Emily Dickinson starring Cynthia

Nixon. Rated PG-13. Part of the Great Lakes Poetry Festival. 5:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

• **NMU Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Reynolds Recital Hall, NMU. nmu.edu/music.

Negaunee

• **Quiet Storytime.** Intended for younger children, short stories will be accompanied by soft voices and sounds, sensory-friendly movements and a fidget-friendly area. This week’s storytime will feature a special guest and focus on music and movement. 11 a.m. Negaunee Public Library, Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Homeschool Hangout.** Youth and their families who do not attend traditional school can meet others, have a snack and enjoy an activity. Homeschool students, online students through programs such as Link Learning, and others are welcome to participate. 1 to 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Poets Troy Graham and Soph.** Local poets Troy Graham and Soph will read from their work. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.

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14 TUESDAY
 sunrise 7:05 a.m.; sunset 8:35 p.m.

Escanaba

• **Tech Tuesday.** Appointments or walk-ins are welcome. *11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

Gwinn

• **Literature at the Lodge.** This month's selection will be "Where the Rivers Merge" by Mary Alice Monroe. *6 p.m. Up North Lodge, 215 S. Co. Rd. 557. 906-346-3433 or forsythtwplibrary.org.*

Hancock

• **Kids Make Art! There's a Fungus Amongus.** Hailey Macias will guide artists ages six to 12 to create a mushroom study with pen and colored pencil. *Members, \$15; non-members, \$20. 4:30 p.m. Copper Country Community Arts Center, 126 Quincy St. 906-482-2333 or coppercountryarts.com.*

Ishpeming

• **Tot Tuesday Storytime.** Toddlers and preschoolers can enjoy stories, songs and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime. *11 a.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeinglibrary.info.*

• **Adult Book Club.** This month's

selection is "Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant" by Curtis Chin. *2 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeinglibrary.info.*

Marquette

• **Preschool Storytime.** Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. *10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **One-on-one Tech Coaching for Seniors.** Learn how to make your electronic devices work with the help of retired teacher and librarian Christine Ault. Bring passwords and ensure the device is charged. *10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local History Research Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register for a 30-minute session, call 906-226-4311.*

• **Tasty Reads Book Group.** The group welcomes readers who love to cook. This month's selection will be "Like Water for Chocolate" by Laura Esquivel. *Noon. Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4303 or pwpl.info.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. *\$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **Oil Painting, Pastels and Drawing Classes with Marlene Wood.** Bring your own supplies. *\$20. 1 p.m. Marquette Arts and Culture*

Center, Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-225-8655.

• **Lake Superior Knitters.** Learn how to knit, solve problems in reading patterns and expand your knitting skills. The group includes a variety of ages and levels of experience. Bring a skein of lighter color yarn and a size 7, 24-inch wooden circular needle to make a hat or cowl. The Knitters also welcome other fiber artists—crochet, embroidery, felting—who have pieces that can fit in their lap or seat at a table. *Suggested donation, \$1 to \$5 to the MRHC for the study and preservation of the fiber arts. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Marquette Regional History Center, 145 W. Spring St. beehive47@yahoo.com.*

• **Senior Dance Class.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. 4 p.m. Baraga Gym, Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. To register, 906-225-8655.

• **Write On.** Students in sixth through 12th grades can experience four weeks of inspired writing in a supportive environment. Each week, a different local writer will engage with attendees to enhance and inspire creative expression. Registration is required. 4:30 p.m. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321 or apierce@pwpl.info. To register, visit pwpl.info.

• **Muggles for Potter.** Young wizards in third through sixth grade can listen to the book read aloud while enjoying butterbeer, jellybeans and a Potter-themed craft. 4:30 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Superiorland Woodturners.** Norman Dill will demonstrate how to make hollow forms with regular lathe tools. *Setup and social time, 6 p.m.; meeting, 6:30 p.m. Studio 1, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. jmarchimes@charter.net.*

• **Holocaust Remembrance Service.** This annual event will include word, music and prayer, and a keynote address by writer, instructor and photographer Annette Gendler. Additional remarks will be shared by a selection of interfaith community members and musical presentations will be performed by the Marquette Male Chorus, Marquette Senior High School Chorale and Elizabeth Grugin. Presented by Temple Beth Shalom and the Marquette Interfaith Forum. 6 p.m. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 E. Ridge St. 906-869-6543.

• **Laughing Whitefish Bird Alliance Meeting.** Gary Palmer will present "Spring Tune-up". 7 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St.

• **Science on Tap.** This month's topic will be "Forensic Biology" presented by Hayden McKee-Zech of NMU's Department of Biology. Sponsored by the NMU departments of biology and EEGS. 7 p.m. Blackrocks Brewery, 424

N. Third St. 906-273-1333.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Armchair Trip.** Attendees can take an armchair trip to Yosemite National Park. 10 a.m. The Gallery Coffee Company, 120 Elm Ave.

Negaunee

• **Monthly Culture Program.** Intended for older children and teens, the program will focus on Guinea, a country in West Africa, with a 30-minute educational segment and a craft. 4 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

15 WEDNESDAY

sunrise 7:03 a.m.; sunset 8:36 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.

Gwinn

• **Cooking with Garden Produce.** Emily Tigue of MSU Extensive Snap-Ed will cook a spring dish from saved winter produce along with fresh garden selections grown in a greenhouse. Food samples will be provided. 6 p.m. Up North Event Center, 215 S. Co. Rd. 557. gwinnfoodsystem.com.

Houghton

• **The Kids Consignment Sale.** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Copper Country Mall. thekidsconsignment@gmail.com.

Ishpeming

• **Aspen Ridge Playgroup.** 10 to 11:30 a.m. Library, Aspen Ridge, 350 Aspen Ridge School Rd. 906-485-3178 or ballweberd@nice.k12.mi.us.

• **Italian Lessons: Casual Conversation.** Marilena Corradino will teach Italian in a casual conversation format. The class is intended for beginners as well as those who want to practice speaking Italian with others. 4 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Adult Book Club.** This month's selection is "Everything I Learned, I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant" by Curtis Chin. 6 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Baby Storytime.** Newborns up to 17 months with a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Congregate Meals for Seniors—Dine in or Curbside Pickup.** Meals available to those age 60 and older and their spouses. Call to reserve a meal.

\$3.50 suggested donation. Noon to 1 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.

• **Scenic Spring Flower Painting with Gene Bertram.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. Registration is required. 1 p.m. City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center, lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register, call 906-225-8655.

• **Family Day and Family Night at Peter White: Family Game Time!** Families with youth of all ages can drop-in for family game time. 1:30 to 3 p.m., or 4:30 to 6 p.m. Youth Services Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Marquette County Genealogical Society Meeting.** The program will be "Lost in the Trees: Brickwalls and Branches." Members, visitors and guests are encouraged to attend. A short business meeting will follow the program. 6 p.m. Family Search Center, 350 Cherry Creek Rd., Chocolay Township.

• **Teens Cook!** In this hands-on class, teens in sixth through 12th grades will make Mexican sopes with refried beans and homemade salsa (gluten-free and vegetarian). Online registration is required. 4 p.m. Marquette Food Co-op, 502 W. Washington St. 906-226-4321 or pwpl.info.

• **Mustard's Retreat Concert.** Folk group Mustard's Retreat has been performing for 40 years featuring accomplished songwriters and musicians (guitars, dulcimer, electric bass, mandolin, harmonica and pennywhistle). This event will also be livestreamed. 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

• **Superior A Capella Concert.** 8 p.m. Reynolds Recital Hall, NMU. nmu.edu/music.

Negaunee

• **Knitting Group.** Crocheters, knitters and others interested in fiber arts are welcome to bring their projects and enjoy fellowship. Coffee will be provided and lessons are available. 1 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **After-school Library Club.** This group is intended for middle school students and their homeschool peers ages 10 to 14. Snacks will be provided. 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Writing Workshop.** Aspiring writers ages 13 years and older are invited to learn about the craft of story writing from Leo Siren, who has more than 20 years of writing experience. Participants can work on current projects, find inspiration and critique each other's works in a friendly environment. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

16 THURSDAY

sunrise 7:01 a.m.; sunset 8:38 p.m.

Calumet

• **Preschool Story Time.** 10:15 a.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

• **Knitting and Needlework Group.** Participants can bring their portable handwork project and enjoy an informal social time. Open to everyone. 1 p.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

Escanaba

• **Open Mic Poetry Night.** 5:30 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.

Houghton

• **The Kids Consignment Sale.** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Copper Country Mall. thekidsconsignment@gmail.com.

Ishpeming

• **Great Start's West End Playgroup.** Families can enjoy open-ended free play and a snack. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Seniors Eat Well Congregate Meal Program.** A nutritious meal is prepared for seniors 60 and older. Reservations are required. *Suggested donation, \$7. Noon. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.*

• **Crochet Club.** This is a time to gather with fellow crafters to socialize. Supplies and instruction will be provided for those who are interested in learning how to crochet. 2 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Graphic Novel Book Club.** Intended for students in fourth through seventh grades. 4 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Celebration of Student Scholarship.** This annual event recognizes the scholarly activity of undergraduate and graduate students in all disciplines. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. John X. Jamrich Hall, NMU. nmu.edu.

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Special Topic Tech Coaching.** Tech Coach Christine Ault will host participants for a series of special topics that go in-depth about different digital tools on their personal device and in

MM

HOW TO SUBMIT:

Calendar Events

Email calendar@marquettmonthly.com
by the 10th of the month prior.

City Notes

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MM

Marquette Monthly is accepting
2027 cover art submissions.



Maximum of 6 submissions per artist.

Submit high quality art: covers print at 300 dpi.

Approximate size is 9.75 in. wide by 12 in. high.

Art that is not roughly scalable or cannot be cropped may not be considered.

Email files by **December 1, 2026** to:
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The MM committee will review all submissions and choose the 2027 Marquette Monthly covers. All artists will be notified if their work has been chosen.



Glow Painting | April 20 | Gwinn

the library. This session will discuss the library apps Libby and Superiorland Library Co-op. 10:30 a.m. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register, call 906-226-4311.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Fire Site Storytelling Series.** This series will feature Anishinaabe winter storytelling, oral traditions and community discussion, supported and facilitated by the Center for Native American Studies (CNAS) director, faculty and staff. 1 p.m. CNAS Fire Site Pavilion, Whitman Woods. 906-227-1397 or nmu.edu/nativeamericanstudies.

• **¡Hola Español! Spanish Club.** Kids in kindergarten through sixth grade can enjoy an interactive introduction to the Spanish language and the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries, and learn basic Spanish vocabulary through games, stories and hands-on activities. 4:30 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Staying Positive in Difficult Times.** The Marquette Baha'i Community will lead a presentation and informal discussion on remaining hopeful, resilient and spiritually grounded in a world that may feel uncertain and overwhelming. All are welcome. 6:30 p.m. Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-361-1844 or bahai.org.

• **"9 to 5."** "9 to 5" is a high-energy, laugh-out-loud tale of friendship,

revenge and female empowerment in the workplace. Presented by NMU Theatre and Dance. NMU students, \$5; students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre, NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.

Negaunee

• **Building Club.** Youth ages five and older will discuss a topic that will be the focus of their creations, and then have time to build with blocks such as LEGO bricks. Participants can have their creations displayed in the library until the following meeting. 3:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

17 FRIDAY

sunrise 7:00 a.m.; sunset 8:39 p.m.

Gwinn

• **Storytime.** Preschool-age kids can enjoy stories, crafts and light snacks. 10:30 a.m. Forsyth Township Library, 180 W. Flint St. 906-346-3433 or forsyhtwplibrary.org.

Houghton

• **The Kids Consignment Sale.** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Copper Country Mall. thekidsconsignment@gmail.com.

Ishpeming

• **Baby Play Day.** Intended for littles younger than two, this program will include a brief storytime with songs and time to play with infant-friendly toys and socialize with other babies

and caregivers. 10 a.m. *Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.*

• **Bell Bingo.** Open to seniors 60 and older. Sign-up is required. Noon. *Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.*

Marquette

• **Preschool Storytime.** Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Cultivating Care, Compassion and Connection.** This event will offer a safe space to pause, reflect and build connections with others who are committed to cultivating kindness. Each week, a different local organization will present educators and leaders who will facilitate a discussion while maintaining a shared commitment to the Charter for Compassion and the Circle of Trust principles. Noon. *Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4303 or pwpl.info.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. *Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **Denim Day Awareness Walk 2026.** Walk in solidarity with survivors of sexual assault. The walk begins at Harlow Park and ends at The Commons. 4 p.m. *Harlow Park, 623 W. Washington St. 906-225-1346.*

• **LEGO Club.** Participants can meet other LEGO enthusiasts and build projects with the library's LEGO blocks. 4 to 5 p.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Spring Fling.** Students in sixth through eighth grades are invited to put on their best summer-themed attire, dance to their favorite songs and hang out with friends. Tickets are required and can be purchased in person at the Teen Zone. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. *Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321, apierce@pwpl.info or pwpl.info.*

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock: Anisaabi and the Living Stones Laser Show.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. *Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travelmarquette.com.*

• **"9 to 5."** "9 to 5" is a high-energy, laugh-out-loud tale of friendship, revenge and female empowerment in the workplace. Presented by NMU Theatre and Dance. *NMU students, \$5; students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre, NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.*

18 SATURDAY

sunrise 6:58 a.m.; sunset 8:40 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.*

Escanaba

• **Delta County Family Coalition Children's Storytime.** The theme will be "A Million Ways to Count." Intended for families with children up to age six. 10:30 a.m. *Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

• **YMCA Healthy Kids Day.** Families with children up to age eight can enjoy games and activities, resources and interactive fun, including a visit from the Escanaba Public Library Bookmobile. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Northern Lights YMCA, 2000 N. 30th St. 906-789-0005. nlymca.com/delta.*

Gwinn

• **Grafting Tomatoes.** Grace Aalto Rosenbaum will lead this hands-on workshop to demonstrate the techniques for using root stock to grow better tomatoes and how to combine cherry tomatoes on a single plant. Materials and plants will be provided. A materials donation is suggested. 11 a.m. *Gwinn Community Church, 85 N. Pine St. gwinnfoodsystem.com.*

Hancock

• **Buellwood Weavers and Fiber Arts Guild Meeting.** This month's topic will be angora (rabbit). All fiber artists are welcome. 1 p.m. *Fiber Arts Studio (Room 105), Finnish American Folk School, lower level, Skyline Commons, 200 Michigan St. jegale@att.net or 906-221-5306.*

Houghton

• **The Kids Consignment Sale.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. *Copper Country Mall. thekidsconsignment@gmail.com.*

• **Mahler Resurrection Symphony.** In celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts, the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, Michigan Tech Choirs, musicians from the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, and soloists Lara Neves and Kathryn Summersett, will combine for Gustav Mahler's transcendent Resurrection Symphony. *Pay As You're Able ticketing. 7:30 p.m. Rozsa Center, MTU. events.mtu.edu.*

Iron Mountain

• **Imagination Factory Children's Museum Opening.** The Imagination Factory Community Center will open the first floor Imagination Factory Children's Museum and the Gus Macker Cafe. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. *Imagination Factory Community Center, 301 W. Hughitt St. imaginationfactory.us.*

Ishpeming

• **Open Fiber Circle.** Fiber artists can drop in anytime with their current project. All crafts are welcome and newcomers are encouraged. 1 to 2:30 p.m. *Snow Day Fibers, 200 E. Division St. snowdayfibers@gmail.com.*

• **Foundations of Investing with Edward Jones.** Open to those who are new to investing or need a refresher. 1 p.m. *Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.*

Marquette

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. Lessons, 10 a.m. Games, 11:30 a.m. *Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **da Upper Yoopers' Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal.** New members are welcome to join the group and prepare for upcoming performances. 10:30 a.m. For location, call 906-361-8308 or email *upperyoopers@gmail.com.*

• **Saturday Storytime.** Children through preschool age and a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings and older children are welcome. 11 a.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Bill Beckman Superior Dome Guts Frisbee Tournament.** Noon. *Superior Dome, NMU.*

• **"9 to 5."** "9 to 5" is a high-energy, laugh-out-loud tale of friendship, revenge and female empowerment in the workplace. Presented by NMU Theatre and Dance. *NMU students, \$5; students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 1 and 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre, NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.*

• **NMU Student Art Gallery Pop-Up.** 5:30 p.m. *Ore Dock Brewing Company, 114 W. Spring St. 906-228-8888 or ore-dockbrewing.com.*

• **Cause for Paws Gala.** Benefitting the Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter (UPAWS), this event will include music, auctions, raffle prizes, hors d'oeuvres, an awards ceremony and more. \$50. 6 to 9 p.m. *Ore Dock Brewing Company, 114 W. Spring St. upaws.org.*

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock: Anisaabi and the Living Stones Laser Show.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. *Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travelmarquette.com.*

• **Marquette City Band Spring Concert.** The program will be "A Musical Potpourri." 7:30 p.m. *Kaufman Auditorium, 611 N. Front St.*

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Run with the Sun DIY Small Scale Solar Installation Workshop, Part 3.** Retired NMU instructor and public educator Steve Waller will lead the discussion on

factors to consider when installing solar panels. Tabletop demonstrations with hands-on experience will be offered to participants during this session. Bring a brown bag lunch; dessert will be provided. 11 a.m. *Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplonline.org.*

19 SUNDAY

sunrise 6:56 a.m.; sunset 8:42 p.m.

Little Lake

• **Bingo.** A concession stand will be available. *Doors open, 11 a.m.; early bird games, 1:30 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary Post 349, 1835 E. M-35. 906-346-6000.*

20 MONDAY

sunrise 6:54 a.m.; sunset 8:43 p.m.

Au Train

• **Earth Fest 2026: Hot Dog Social and Tree Presentation.** Alger Conservation District staff will lead "I'm Growing Tall Like a Tree," an interactive activity to learn about what trees need to grow. Grilled hot dogs will be available. 5:30 p.m. *Au Train Community Center, N7569 Spruce St.*

Gwinn

• **Glow Painting.** Adults and teens can enjoy an evening of glow painting in the blacked out Community Room. Supplies will be provided; wear white or neon clothing. 5:30 p.m. *Forsyth Township Library, 180 W. Flint St. 906-346-3433 or forsythwplibrary.org.*

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **GLPF Writers on Writing: Dennis Hinrichsen.** Great Lakes Poetry Festival Headline Poet Dennis Hinrichsen will host an afternoon of poetic challenge and creation. Experienced as well as beginning poets are welcome. 2 p.m. *Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.*

• **D&D Junior Campaign No. 2: Grades 4 and 5.** In-person registration is required at the Youth Services Desk to claim a spot in this fantasy adventure. Registration will be for all three sessions. Experienced and first-time players are welcome. 4:30 p.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **A Tour of the Universe.** Dr. Weisberg will lead the audience on a journey across the cosmos, exploring astronomical objects and the wonders of the universe. Limited to 60 attendees.

6:30 p.m. Shiras Planetarium, 1203 W. Fair Ave. shirasplanetarium.org/tickets.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 6 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **GLPF Headline Poet: Dennis Hinrichsen Reading.** Acclaimed poet Dennis Hinrichsen, former inaugural poet laureate of the Greater Lansing area, will read from his work. He is the author of 11 poetry collections, including the recently released “Dementia Lyrics.” 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322, or pwpl.info.

• **Shiras Planetarium 61st Anniversary Celebration: Stories Under the Stars.** Becky LaBrecque, Scott Stobbeaar and Joel Weisberg will share their astronomy knowledge with the audience. 7:30 p.m. Shiras Planetarium, 1203 W. Fair Ave. shirasplanetarium.org/tickets.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Tail Spinners Storytime.** Preschool-aged children and their caregivers are invited to listen to Ranger Read-Along. 10:30 a.m. Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplonline.org.

Negaunee

• **Quiet Storytime.** Intended for younger children, short stories will be accompanied by soft voices and sounds, sensory-friendly movements and a fidget-friendly area. This week’s storytime will include a special program for Financial Literacy Month. 11 a.m. Negaunee Public Library, Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Homeschool Hangout.** Youth and their families who do not attend traditional school can meet others, have a snack and enjoy an activity. Homeschool students, online students through programs such as Link Learning, and others are welcome to participate. 1 to 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

21 TUESDAY

sunrise 6:52 a.m.; sunset 8:44 p.m.

Escanaba

• **Tech Tuesday.** Appointments or walk-ins are welcome. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.

Hancock

• **Kids Make Art! Happy Place Collage.** Hailey Macias will guide artists ages six to 12 to create a collage that showcases their happy place. Members, \$15; non-members, \$20.



Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress

Swimming Suffragettes | April 22 | Marquette

4:30 p.m. Copper Country Community Arts Center, 126 Quincy St. 906-482-2333 or coppercountryarts.com.

Ishpeming

• **Paint and Palettes.** Attendees can paint with acrylics and watercolors for small, creative work. 9 a.m. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.

• **Mystery Lunch/Shopping Bus Trip.** Hosted by the Ishpeming Senior Center, lunch will be a mystery destination within Marquette County. The cost is \$1 for the bus, the price of lunch and any shopping attendees would like to do. 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. To make a reservation, call 906-485-5527.

• **Tot Tuesday Storytime.** Toddlers and preschoolers can enjoy stories, songs and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime. 11 a.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Preschool Storytime.** Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **One-on-one Tech Coaching for Seniors.** Learn how to make your electronic devices work with the help of retired teacher and librarian Christine Ault. Bring passwords and ensure the device is charged. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local History Research Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register for a 30-minute session, call 906-226-4311.

• **NCLL: I’ve Forgotten That! Dr.**

Sarah Vasquez will discuss aging, mental illness and dementia. NCLL members, \$5; non-members, \$10. Noon. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-227-2979.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Oil Painting, Pastels and Drawing Classes with Marlene Wood.** Bring your own supplies. \$20. 1 p.m. Marquette Arts and Culture Center, Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-225-8655.

• **Senior Dance Class.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. 4 p.m. Baraga Gym, Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. To register, 906-225-8655.

• **Write On.** Students in sixth through 12th grades can experience four weeks of inspired writing in a supportive environment. Each week, a different local writer will engage with attendees to enhance and inspire creative expression. Registration is required. 4:30 p.m. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321 or apierce@pwpl.info. To register, visit pwpl.info.

• **GLPF Yooper Poetry Night: Suzanne Sunshower and John Hilden.** The Great Lakes Poetry Festival will celebrate the latest book releases from U.P. poets Suzanne Sunshower and John Hilden. Sunshower’s “Still Wild: Poems from the Bear Shack” contains meditations from the poet, who, at the age of 60, moved to a remote hunting camp trailer in the U.P. to start a new adventure. Hilden’s “The ABCs

of Infatuation” showcases his crisp poetry, wry observation and trademark wit. 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Armchair Trip.** Attendees can take an armchair trip to Big Bend National Park. 10 a.m. The Gallery Coffee Company, 120 Elm Ave.

• **Earth Fest 2026: Data Mining, AI and Crypto Pros/Cons. (In-person and online).** A representative from the Advanced Power Systems Research Center of MTU will explore the pros and cons of data mining, AI and cryptocurrency. This will be a blended in-person and virtual event. 6 p.m. Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. For online link, call 906-387-2125 or visit msplonline.org.

Negaunee

• **Bring Your Own Craft Night.** Community members can bring a craft they are working on or start a new one. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

22 WEDNESDAY

sunrise 6:51 a.m.; sunset 8:46 p.m.

Earth Day

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.

Ishpeming

• **Aspen Ridge Playgroup.** 10 to 11:30 a.m. Library, Aspen Ridge, 350 Aspen Ridge School Rd. 906-485-3178 or ballweberd@nice.k12.mi.us.

• **Italian Lessons: Casual Conversation.** Marilena Corradino will teach Italian in a casual conversation format. The class is intended for beginners as well as those who want to practice speaking Italian with others. 4 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **Baby Storytime.** Newborns up to 17 months with a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Congregate Meals for Seniors—Dine in or Curbside Pickup.** Meals available to those age 60 and older and their spouses. Call to reserve a meal. \$3.50 suggested donation. Noon to 1 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.

• **Home School Chapter Book**

Discussion. Home school teens ages 11 and older can gather to discuss “The Experiment” by Rebecca Stead. 1 p.m. Teen Zone, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321, apierce@pwpl.info or pwpl.info.

• **Adult Nonfiction Book Group.** The group is for people who enjoy reading narrative nonfiction that tells stories of the past, present and future. This month’s selection will be “Four Mothers” by Abigail Leonard. 2 p.m. Conference Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4311 or refdesk@pwpl.info.

• **Dungeons and Dragons @ PWPL.** Jordan, from Iron Golem Games, and local dungeon masters will lead groups of teens in sixth through 12th grades on a quest with this role-playing game. Registration is required. 4 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321, apierce@pwpl.info or pwpl.info.

• **Swimming Suffragettes: The Evolution and Revolution in Women’s Bathing Suits.** Carrie Moon-Dupree, director of development for the League of Women Voters of Michigan, will showcase her collection of vintage to modern swimwear. This event is a fundraiser for the League of Women Voters of Marquette County. \$45 (additional \$5 at the door or over the phone). 5:30 p.m. Marquette Regional History Center, 145 W. Spring St. 906-226-3571 or marquettehistory.org.

• **Earth Day Family Storytime.** Families with children of all ages can enjoy this environmentally minded storytime with stories, songs and interactive activities. 6 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **GLPF Keynote Poet: Patricia Killelea Reading.** In honor of Earth Day, Great Lakes Poetry Festival Keynote Poet Patricia Killelea will read from her recently released collection “Solace: Poems from the Northwoods” and premiere a new videopoem. 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

• **NMU Orchestra Concert.** 7:30 p.m. Reynolds Recital Hall, NMU. nmu.edu/music.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: “Nature is Speaking” Videos Series.** This video series includes segments featuring actress Julia Roberts as Mother Nature along with other celebrities. 6 p.m. Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplonline.org.

Negaunee

• **Knitting Group.** Crocheters, knitters and others interested in fiber arts are welcome to bring their projects and enjoy fellowship. Coffee will be provided and lessons are available. 1 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

[com/NegauneePublicLibrary](http://NegauneePublicLibrary.com).

• **After-school Library Club.** This group is intended for middle school students and their homeschool peers ages 10 to 14. Snacks will be provided. 3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

• **Writing Workshop.** Aspiring writers ages 13 years and older are invited to learn about the craft of story writing from Leo Siren, who has more than 20 years of writing experience. Participants can work on current projects, find inspiration and critique each other’s works in a friendly environment. 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

23 THURSDAY
sunrise 6:49 a.m.; sunset 8:47 p.m.

Calumet

• **Preschool Story Time.** 10:15 a.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

• **Knitting and Needlework Group.** Participants can bring their portable handwork project and enjoy an informal social time. Open to everyone. 1 p.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.

Ishpeming

• **Great Start’s West End Playgroup.** Families can enjoy open-ended free play and a snack. 10:30 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Secretary of State Mobile Office.** The community is invited to utilize all available services. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.

• **Seniors Eat Well Congregate Meal Program.** A nutritious meal is prepared for seniors 60 and older. Reservations are required. Suggested donation, \$7. Noon. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Special Topic Tech Coaching.** Tech Coach Christine Ault will host participants for a series of special topics that go in-depth about different digital tools on their personal device and in the library. This session will discuss the PWPL Memory Lab, a hands-on digital preservation station. 10:30 a.m. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register, call 906-226-4311.

• **Piano Pop-In Recital.** 11:30 a.m. Reynolds Recital Hall, NMU. nmu.edu/music.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **Fire Site Storytelling Series.** This series will feature Anishinaabe winter storytelling, oral traditions and community discussion, supported and facilitated by the Center for Native American Studies (CNAS) director, faculty and staff. 1 p.m. CNAS Fire Site Pavilion, Whitman Woods. 906-227-1397 or nmu.edu/nativeamericanstudies.

• **Pokémon Trading and Gaming.** Youth of all ages can trade and play the card game, and spend time with other Pokémon fans. Trading and gaming will be led by the youth participants. 4 to 5:30 p.m. Youth Services Makerspace, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **AAUW Spring Book Sale.** Proceeds support the Marquette chapter of American Association of University Women and its mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. \$5. 5 to 8 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St.

• **GLPF Keynote Presentation: Cindy Hunter Morgan and the Artist Book.** Michigan Notable writer, artist and educator Cindy Hunter Morgan will discuss the process of creating limited edition artist books. 6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

• **Kaufman Auditorium Fundraiser.** The Make-Believe Spurs will present Music by John Prine. \$20. 7 p.m. Kaufman Auditorium, 611 N Front St. nmu.universitytickets.com.

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travel-marquette.com.

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: All About Bats.** DNR Bat Expert John De Pue will share his knowledge of bats. 1 p.m. Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplonline.org.

Negaunee

• **Drop-in Craft Event for Kids.** Children ages 5 and older can stop by to create something fun to take home. 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.

24 FRIDAY
sunrise 6:47 a.m.; sunset 8:48 p.m.

Gwinn

• **Storytime.** Preschool-age kids can

enjoy stories, crafts and light snacks. 10:30 a.m. Forsyth Township Library, 180 W. Flint St. 906-346-3433 or forsythtwplibrary.org.

Ishpeming

• **Friends of the Library Used Book Sale.** Used gift-quality books will be available for purchase. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

• **Homeschool Hangout.** Homeschooling families are invited to visit the library and hang out with old and new homeschooling friends. Special guests and events will begin at 10:30 a.m. 10 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.

Marquette

• **AAUW Spring Book Sale.** Proceeds support the Marquette chapter of American Association of University Women and its mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St.

• **Preschool Storytime.** Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Cultivating Care, Compassion and Connection.** This event will offer a safe space to pause, reflect and build connections with others who are committed to cultivating kindness. Each week, a different local organization will present educators and leaders who will facilitate a discussion while maintaining a shared commitment to the Charter for Compassion and the Circle of Trust principles. Noon. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4303 or pwpl.info.

• **GLPF: Cindy Hunter Morgan Film Screening.** Cindy Hunter Morgan, author of the Michigan Notable Book “Harborless” and co-founder of the Film Festival of Poetry and Film in Lansing, will screen some of the festival’s award-winning short films based on the poems of noted writers. Noon. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.

• **LEGO Club.** Participants can meet other LEGO enthusiasts and build projects with the library’s LEGO blocks. 4 to 5 p.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. Ore Dock,

Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travel-marquette.com.

• **Class of 2026 Senior Showcase.** NMU Theatre and Dance will present the work of graduating seniors in this showcase-style performance. Some content may not be suitable for younger audiences. *NMU students, \$5; students 18 and younger, \$15; NMU staff, seniors (60 and older) and military, \$22; and general public, \$25. 7:30 p.m. Forest Roberts Theatre, NMU. tickets.nmu.edu.*

25 SATURDAY

sunrise 6:45 a.m.; sunset 8:50 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.*

Escanaba

• **STEAM Storytime.** Intended for children ages five to 12. 1 p.m. *Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

Ishpeming

• **Friends of the Library Used Book Sale.** Used gift-quality books will be available for purchase. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.*

• **Silent Book Club.** Hosted by the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, attendees can bring their own book to read silently for one hour, followed by time to socialize and talk about books. *Noon. Velodrome Coffee, 105 S. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.*

• **Open Fiber Circle.** Fiber artists can drop in anytime with their current project. All crafts are welcome and newcomers are encouraged. 1 to 2:30 p.m. *Snow Day Fibers, 200 E. Division St. snowdayfibers@gmail.com.*

Marquette

• **AAUW Spring Book Sale.** Proceeds support the Marquette chapter of American Association of University Women and its mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. The \$5 bag sale will begin at 12:30 p.m. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. *First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. \$5 for games. *Lessons, 10 a.m. Games, 11:30 a.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **da Upper Yoopers' Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal.** New members are welcome to join the group and prepare for upcoming performances. 10:30 a.m. *For location, call 906-361-8308 or email upperyoopers@gmail.com.*

• **Preschool Prom: Wild Rumpus!** Families with kids aged three to eight

can enjoy a Wild Rumpus Preschool Prom. There will be a photo booth, snacks and dancing. Costumes and dress-up is encouraged. Register for one session only; required registration opens in-person at the Youth Services Desk on April 13. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., or 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. *Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **GLPF Teen Reading/Poetry Contest Award Ceremony.** Winners and participants from the annual Great Lakes Teen Poetry Contest will read from their work. 11 a.m. *Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.*

• **Marquette County String Orchestra Society Rehearsal.** All adult string players are welcome to gather for the joy of making music together, particularly those who are getting back into music. 3 p.m. *St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 E. Ridge St. To register and receive music for the event, email mqtcountysos@gmail.com.*

• **"Birds and Brews."** Presented by the Laughing Whitefish Bird Alliance (LWBA), this fourth annual event will include a bird nerd trivia game styled after the "Jeopardy" game show. 5 p.m. *Ore Dock Brewing Company, 114 W. Spring St. laughingwhitefishbirdalliance.com.*

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock.** Presented by Travel Marquette. 7 p.m. *Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park. travel-marquette.com.*

• **UPW Pro Wrestling: Marquette Mania IV.** General admission, \$10. 7 p.m. *Lakeview Arena, 401 E. Fair Ave. tickets.nmu.edu.*

• **NMU Arts Chorale, University Choir and Marquette Choral Society Concert.** The program will be "Magnificent Mozart," including Coronation Mass in C Major and Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de confessore*. Conducted by Erin Colwitz with collaborative pianist Jan Broderson, the performance will feature orchestra and soloists Keri Lee Pierson, Erin Sura, Tony Beacco and Alexander Romero-Wilson. *Youth 12 and younger, \$5; general public, \$15. 7:30 p.m. Kaufman Auditorium, 611 N. Front St. tickets.nmu.edu.*

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Planetary Health Check.** Retired NMU instructor Steve Waller will explain the planetary boundaries framework that identifies nine key processes that need to be the focus for keeping the Earth healthy. Bring a brown bag lunch; dessert will be provided. 11 a.m. *Munising School Public Library, 810 State Hwy. M-28 W., Suite A. 906-387-2125 or msplon-line.org.*

26 SUNDAY

sunrise 6:44 a.m.; sunset 8:51 p.m.

Calumet

• **Art Play.** This open studio time for adults encourages artists to create and share their work. 2 to 4 p.m. *Calumet Art Center, 57055 Fifth St. 906-934-2228 or info@calumetartcenter.com.*

Little Lake

• **Bingo.** A concession stand will be available. *Doors open, 11 a.m.; early bird games, 1:30 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary Post 349, 1835 E. M-35. 906-346-6000.*

Marquette

• **NMU Arts Chorale, University Choir and Marquette Choral Society Concert.** The program will be "Magnificent Mozart," including Coronation Mass in C Major and Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de confessore*. Conducted by Erin Colwitz with collaborative pianist Jan Broderson, the performance will feature orchestra and soloists Keri Lee Pierson, Erin Sura, Tony Beacco and Alexander Romero-Wilson. *Youth 12 and younger, \$5; general public, \$15. 3 p.m. Kaufman Auditorium, 611 N. Front St. tickets.nmu.edu.*

27 MONDAY

sunrise 6:42 a.m.; sunset 8:52 p.m.

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. 10 a.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **All Booked Up: Can We Talk?** This month's selection will be "Hemlock" by Melissa Maliveno. 10 a.m. *Dandelion Cottage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.*

• **NCLL: Christmas Markets on the Rhine River.** Attendees can take a trip from Amsterdam to Basil exploring Christmas markets along the way. *NCLL members, \$5; non-members, \$10. 10 a.m. Shiras Room Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-227-2979.*

• **Senior Theatre Experience: Monthly Theatre Workshop and Discussion.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. 4 p.m. *Room B, Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. To register, 906-225-8655.*

• **D&D Junior Campaign No. 2: Grades 4 and 5.** In-person registration is required at the Youth Services Desk to claim a spot in this fantasy adventure. Registration will be for all three sessions. Experienced and first-time players are welcome. 4:30 p.m. *Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **GLPF Global Cinema: "Endless**

Poetry." In this acclaimed film, a young man living in Santiago, Chile, goes against his family's wishes and pursues a career as a poet. The film is not rated. 5:30 p.m. *Shiras Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.*

Negaunee

• **Quiet Storytime.** Intended for younger children, short stories will be accompanied by soft voices and sounds, sensory-friendly movements and a fidget-friendly area. 11 a.m. *Negaunee Public Library, Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

• **Homeschool Hangout.** Youth and their families who do not attend traditional school can meet others, have a snack and enjoy an activity. Homeschool students, online students through programs such as Link Learning, and others are welcome to participate. 1 to 3 p.m. *Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

28 TUESDAY

sunrise 6:41 a.m.; sunset 8:54 p.m.

Escanaba

• **Tech Tuesday.** Appointments or walk-ins are welcome. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

• **Morel Mushroom Hunter Anthony Williams.** 5:30 p.m. *Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

Gwinn

• **Read It and Eat Book Club.** The selection will be "Chocolat" by Joanne Harris. Attendees are asked to bring a homemade snack to share. *Noon. Forsyth Township Library, 180 W. Flint St. 906-346-3433 or forsyhtwplibrary.org.*

Hancock

• **Kids Make Art! Portrait Swap.** Hailey Macias will guide artists ages six to 12 to create a portrait of a buddy using mixed media. *Members, \$15; non-members, \$20. 4:30 p.m. Copper Country Community Arts Center, 126 Quincy St. 906-482-2333 or coppercountryarts.com.*

Ishpeming

• **Diabetes Education.** This program focuses on understanding and managing diabetes and offers tips on healthy eating, physical activity, blood sugar management and lifestyle choices to support overall wellness. 10 a.m. *Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.*

• **Tot Tuesday Storytime.** Toddlers and preschoolers can enjoy stories, songs

and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime. *11 a.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpepinglibrary.info.*

Marquette

• **Preschool Storytime.** Preschool-age children and a loving adult can enjoy stories, songs, finger-plays, crafts and other school-readiness activities. Siblings are welcome. *10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **One-on-one Tech Coaching for Seniors.** Learn how to make your electronic devices work with the help of retired teacher and librarian Christine Ault. Bring passwords and ensure the device is charged. *10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local History Research Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. To register for a 30-minute session, call 906-226-4311.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested players. *\$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. superiorland_bridge.tripod.com.*

• **Oil Painting, Pastels and Drawing Classes with Marlene Wood.** Bring your own supplies. *\$20. 1 p.m. Marquette Arts and Culture Center, Lower level, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-225-8655.*

• **Lake Superior Knitters.** Learn how to knit, solve problems in reading patterns and expand your knitting skills. The group includes a variety of ages and levels of experience. Bring a skein of lighter color yarn and a size 7, 24-inch wooden circular needle to make a hat or cowl. The Knitters also welcome other fiber artists—crochet, embroidery, felting—who have pieces that can fit in their lap or seat at a table. *Suggested donation, \$1 to \$5 to the MRHC for the study and preservation of the fiber arts. 1 to 2:30 p.m. Marquette Regional History Center, 145 W. Spring St. beehive47@yahoo.com.*

• **Senior Dance Class.** Free for City of Marquette and neighboring township residents ages 50 and older. *4 p.m. Baraga Gym, Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. To register, 906-225-8655.*

• **Write On.** Students in sixth through 12th grades can experience four weeks of inspired writing in a supportive environment. Each week, a different local writer will engage with attendees to enhance and inspire creative expression. Registration is required. *4:30 p.m. Heritage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4321 or pwpl.info.*

• **Honor a Woman Fundraiser.** Presented by the Zonta Club of Marquette Area, the program will commemorate the sacrifices made by women. The evening's guest speaker will be Stephanie Graef, of the U.P. Human Trafficking Task Force. Emcees

will be Elizabeth Peterson and Jennifer Perez. *\$50. 5:30 p.m. Northern Center, NMU. zontamarquette@gmail.com.*

• **Bluesday Tuesday Concert.** The Marquette Area Blues Society will present a concert. *6:30 p.m. Community Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4322.*

Munising

• **Earth Fest 2026: Armchair Trip.** Attendees can take an armchair trip to Badlands National Park. *10 a.m. The Gallery Coffee Company, 120 Elm Ave.*

Negaunee

• **Book Bedazzling Craft Night.** Crafters can bring a favorite book to decorate or use a book that the library provides. *5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

29 WEDNESDAY

sunrise 6:39 a.m.; sunset 8:55 p.m.

Calumet

• **Drop-in Knitting and Crochet.** *11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Supernova Yoga, Gallery and Gifts, 220 Fifth St. 906-934-2170 or dosupernovayoga.com.*

Ishpeming

• **Aspen Ridge Playgroup.** *10 to 11:30 a.m. Library, Aspen Ridge, 350 Aspen Ridge School Rd. 906-485-3178 or ballweberd@nice.k12.mi.us.*

• **Bingo for Adults.** Adults are invited to play a few rounds of Bingo with the chance to win gift cards. Registration is required. *5:30 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. To register, call 906-486-4381.*

Marquette

• **Baby Storytime.** Newborns up to 17 months with a loving adult can enjoy songs, rhymes, stories and finger-plays. Older siblings are welcome. *10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Congregate Meals for Seniors—Dine in or Curbside Pickup.** Meals available to those age 60 and older and their spouses. Call to reserve a meal. *\$3.50 suggested donation. Noon to 1 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.*

• **NCLL: Tour of Able Medical Device Manufacturing Facility.** Attendees will tour this new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Marquette, which researches, designs, develops and manufactures medical devices for orthopedic, dental, spine and cardiothoracic uses. *NCLL members, \$5; non-members, \$10. 5:30 p.m. Able Medical Devices, 2812 Beecher St. 906-227-2979.*

Negaunee

• **All Booked Up (On Air).** “Upper Michigan Today” host John Redfield, along with Peter White Public Library staff, will host an on-air, in-person discussion of “Hemlock” by Melissa Maliveno. *9 a.m. WLUC TV6 Studio, 177 U.S. Hwy. 41 E. 906-226-4322 or pwpl.info.*

• **Knitting Group.** Crocheters, knitters and others interested in fiber arts are welcome to bring their projects and enjoy fellowship. Coffee will be provided and lessons are available. *1 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

• **Take Control of Your Future: Advance Directives Made Simple.**

In recognition of National Advance Directive Month, this informative presentation will discuss the importance of making your healthcare wishes known. *2 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.*

• **After-school Library Club.** This group is intended for middle school students and their homeschool peers ages 10 to 14. Snacks will be provided. *3 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

• **Financial Advisor Tyler Vertin.** Tyler Vertin will educate attendees on how they can outsmart the scammers, learn how to spot certain red flags that may indicate a fraudulent encounter, resources to use if you become a victim of fraud and steps to take to protect your finances. *5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

• **Writing Workshop.** Aspiring writers ages 13 years and older are invited to learn about the craft of story writing from Leo Siren, who has more than 20 years of writing experience. Participants can work on current projects, find inspiration and critique each other's works in a friendly environment. *5:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

Rock

• **Escanaba Public Library Bookmobile.** *1 p.m. Rock Senior Center, 3892 W. Maple Ridge 37 Rd. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

30 THURSDAY

sunrise 6:37 a.m.; sunset 8:56 p.m.

Calumet

• **Preschool Story Time.** *10:15 a.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.*

• **Knitting and Needlework Group.** Participants can bring their portable handwork project and enjoy an informal social time. Open to everyone. *1 p.m. Calumet Public Library, 57070 Mine St. 906-337-0311, ext. 1107, or clklibrary.org.*

Escanaba

• **Pop Culture Trivia.** Registration is required. *5:30 p.m. Escanaba Public Library, 400 Ludington St. 906-789-7323 or escanabalibrary.org.*

Ishpeming

• **Great Start's West End Playgroup.** Families can enjoy open-ended free play and a snack. *10:30 a.m. to noon. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpepinglibrary.info.*

• **Seniors Eat Well Congregate Meal Program.** A nutritious meal is prepared



Morel Mushroom Hunter Anthony Williams | April 28 | Escanaba

for seniors 60 and older. Reservations are required. *Suggested donation, \$7. Noon. Ishpeming Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St. 906-485-5527.*

• **Graphic Novel Book Club.** Intended for students in fourth through seventh grades. *4 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.*

• **Chair Yoga with Kristen Carlson.** Certified yoga instructor Kristen Carlson will lead a session of chair yoga that will be accessible to both beginners and those more experienced

with yoga. *6 p.m. Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-486-4381 or ishpeminglibrary.info.*

Marquette

• **Toddler Storytime.** Children ages 18 to 36 months with a loving adult can enjoy stories and songs, followed by sensory play activities. Siblings are welcome. *10 a.m. Great Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Superiorland Duplicate Bridge Club.** Games open to all interested

players. *\$5 for games. 12:30 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St.*

• **Pokémon Trading and Gaming.** Youth of all ages can trade and play the card game, and spend time with other Pokémon fans. Trading and gaming will be led by the youth participants. *4 to 5:30 p.m. Youth Services Makerspace, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-226-4323 or pwpl.info.*

• **Lasers on the Ore Dock.** Presented by Travel Marquette. *7 p.m. Ore Dock, Mattson Lower Harbor Park.*

travelmarquette.com.

Negaunee

• **Building Club.** Youth ages five and older will discuss a topic that will be the focus of their creations, and then have time to build with blocks such as LEGO bricks. Participants can have their creations displayed in the library until the following meeting. *3:30 p.m. Negaunee Public Library, 319 W. Case St. 906-475-7700, ext. 18, or facebook.com/NegauneePublicLibrary.*

MM

support groups

• **12-Step Contemplative Prayer.** Attendees can practice the 11th step with a 20-minute meditation followed by a short reading from “Divine Therapy” by Thomas Keating. All 12 step groups are welcome to drop in. *5:30 p.m. Messiah Lutheran Church, 305 W. Magnetic St.*

• **Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families—Marquette.** *Sundays, 7 p.m. Use the parking lot entrance. Downstairs meeting room, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 201 E. Ridge St. adultchildren.org/meeting.*

• **Alano Club—Marquette.** Twelve-step recovery meetings daily. *Daily, noon and 7:30 p.m. 106 Coles Dr.*

• **Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups.** A fellowship offering strength and hope for friends and families of problem drinkers. *al-alon.org or 888-425-2666.*

• **Al-Anon—Ishpeming.** Friends and family who have loved ones dealing with alcohol issues are invited. *Mondays, 6 p.m. Wesley United Methodist Church, 801 Hemlock St. 906-361-9524.*

• **Alcoholics Anonymous.** Daily meetings throughout Marquette County at many locations and times. *Twenty-four-hour answering service. aa-marquettecounty.org or 906-291-3334.*

• **Open AA Meeting—Gwinn.** *Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Basement, Gwinn Community Building, 165 N. Maple St.*

• **Open AA Meeting—K.I. Sawyer.** *Fridays, 8 p.m. 906 Community Church, 315 Explorer St.*

• **Men’s AA Meeting—Gwinn.** *Thursdays, 8 p.m. Saint Anthony’s Catholic Church, 280 Boulder St. (entrance to the right of main entrance).*

• **ALZConnected.** This is a free, online community for everyone affected by Alzheimer’s disease and other memory loss diseases. *alzconnected.org.*

• **American Legacy Foundation.** Smoking quit line for expectant mothers and cessation information for women. *800-668-8278. Call*

for Marquette County schedule. 906-225-4545.

• **Caregiver Support Group—Marquette.** Family, friends and others who are caring for a person with a chronic illness or disability can share their feelings, develop friendships and learn about available community resources. *April 8. 2 p.m. Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice, 914 W. Baraga Ave. 906-225-7760 or lakesuperiorhospice.org.*

• **Caregiver Support Group (Phone-based).** Intended for family, friends and other caregivers who are caring for a person with a chronic illness or disability. Support will be provided from your own home via telephone or cell phone. Registration is required. *April 15. 2 p.m. To register, call Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice at 906-225-7760.*

• **Celebrate Recovery—Gwinn.** *Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. First Baptist Church of Gwinn, 195 N. Billings St.*

• **Celebrate Recovery—Marquette.** Twelve-step program for hurts, habits and hang-ups. *Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. Marquette County Salvation Army, 1009 W. Baraga Ave. 906-226-2241.*

• **Disabled American Veterans Chapter 22 of Marquette.** All disabled veterans are welcome. *Second Wednesday of each month. 7 p.m. American Legion Post, 700 W. Bluff St. upexplorer2014@gmail.com.*

• **Gamblers Anonymous.** This group is for those who have or think they have a problem with gambling. *Thursdays, 7 p.m. Library Room, First Presbyterian Church, 120 N. Front St., Marquette.*

• **Grief Support Group—Marquette (Drop-In).** Guided by trained facilitators, these gatherings will offer comfort, understanding and connection through shared experiences. Open to all, whether you’ve recently lost a loved one or are still coping with grief from the past. *April 22. 4 p.m. Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice, 914 W. Baraga Ave., Marquette. 906-225-7760.*

• **Grief Support Group—Gwinn.**

People dealing with grief and loss are encouraged to attend. Individual grief counseling is available. *April 8. 2 p.m. Forsyth Senior Center, 165 Maple St. 906-225-7760 or lakesuperiorhospice.org.*

• **Grief Support Group—Ishpeming.** U.P. Home Health and Hospice offers support for those caring for a loved one with a life-limiting diagnosis or who recently experienced the loss of a loved one. *Second and fourth Thursdays. 2 p.m. Ray Leverton Community Room, Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library, 317 N. Main St. 906-225-4545.*

• **Grief Support Group—Ishpeming.** Anyone dealing with grief and loss is invited to attend. *Third Wednesday of each month. 7 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1889 Prairie Ave. 906-376-8475.*

• **Grief Support Group—Marquette.** U.P. Home Health and Hospice will offer support for those caring for a loved one with a life-limiting diagnosis or who recently experienced the loss of a loved one. *First and third Thursdays. 3 p.m. Dandelion Cottage Room, Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St. 906-225-4545.*

• **iCanQuit.** Smokers are invited to learn more about quitting with the help of a quitting coach. *800-480-7848.*

• **Marquette Codependents Anonymous Meeting.** *Mondays, 7 p.m. LoveMarq Church, 728 W. Kaye Ave. coda.org.*

• **Michigan Tobacco Quit Line.** This free quit smoking coaching hotline provides callers with a personal health coach. *800-784-8669.*

• **Nar-Anon Meetings—Ishpeming.** Family and friends who have addicted loved ones are invited. *Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Mission Covenant Church, 1001 N. Second St. 906-361-9524.*

• **Narcotics Anonymous Meetings—Marquette.** Family and friends who have addicted loved ones are invited. *Open meetings on Wednesdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Closed meeting on Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Downstairs Social Room, Marquette Hope First Campus, 111 E. Ridge St. (use Ridge*

Street entrance).

• **Nicotine Anonymous.** *415-750-0328 or nicotine-anonymous.org.*

• **Parkinson’s Support Group.** Open to people living with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. *April 15. 2 p.m. Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St. 906-228-0456.*

• **SMART Recovery—Calumet.** A self-help group for alcohol and substance abuse and other addictive behaviors. *Mondays, 7 p.m. Copper Country Mental Health, 56938 Calumet Ave. smartrecovery.org.*

• **SMART Recovery—Hancock.** *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 p.m. Conference Room No. 5, U.P. Health System—Portage Hospital, 500 Campus Dr. smartrecovery.org.*

• **SMART Recovery—Marquette (Zoom).** *Mondays, noon. Via Zoom. smartrecovery.org.*

• **Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** This is a non-commercial weight-control support group. *Various places and times throughout the U.P. 800-932-8677 or TOPS.org.*

• **UP VIPs.** This is a support group for Visually Impaired People (VIPs) living with any visual impairment, no matter how temporary or permanent. *Second Tuesday of each month. 10 a.m. Great Lakes Talking Books, 1615 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette. Remote join options are available; for the Zoom link or to join by phone, email mbrodeur@superiorlandlibrary.org.*

• **Virtual Caregiver Support Group.** U.P. family caregivers are welcome to join. A device with an internet connection, webcam, microphone and an email address are necessary. Advanced registration required. *Second Tuesday of each month. 2 p.m. 906-217-3019 or caregivers@upcap.org.*

• **Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program.** Clinics include nutritional counseling and coupon pick-up. *Appointments required. Call for Marquette County schedule. mqthealth.org or 906-475-7846.*

MM

HELP PROTECT THE BLUE-SPOTTED SALAMANDERS DURING THEIR ANNUAL MIGRATION!



Migration begins...



Migration continues...



Migration halted by flash photography



Migration ended; salamander turns around!



Countless generations of blue-spotted salamanders have made their annual, nocturnal migrations undisturbed. Quietly emerging in early spring they travel from interior woodlands to vernal pools and wetlands in order to spawn and reproduce. Ironically, recent social media attention has raised awareness about the salamander migration but it has also dramatically increased the number of visitors vying to get a glimpse of these cute spotted amphibians!

Fortunately there are some common-sense guidelines that can reduce potential impacts:

- Please show respect for the salamanders on their important annual migration! Environmental ethics recommends minimizing human interference to allow natural migration behaviors.
- Please limit flash photography and other bright lights! While flashlights may be needed to avoid stepping on salamanders please do not shine lights directly on them. SWP monitoring confirms the bright lights cause some salamanders to turn completely around and abandon the migration attempt (see photos).
- Please limit foot traffic! During peak migration hundreds of salamanders can attempt to cross the roadway in one night! Obviously, limiting the number of people reduces the likelihood of someone inadvertently stepping on a salamander in the dark. Remember; they're small (3-5 inches on average) and difficult to spot...especially when it's drizzly and dark!
- No cars or bikes! Road closed to vehicles daily from 8:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m.



The Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP) thanks the City of Marquette for their ongoing support in protecting the Presque Isle Park blue-spotted salamander population!



ANNUAL EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH • 11AM-2PM

Every year the MFC Board of Directors, along with its community, picks up garbage that has accumulated over the winter months in the neighborhoods surrounding the store. Join us in this cooperative celebration of Earth Day and the community we call home!

Meet us in the classroom (in the Co-op basement) at 11 to get geared up with gloves and bags before venturing out. We'll have warm beverages, snacks, raffle prizes, and local sustainability organizations tabling in the store, too.

BULK SALE

APRIL 24 - 26

**25%
OFF**

bulk department items

**SHOP SUSTAINABLY
FOR EARTH DAY
AND SAVE**

You can bring your own containers for bulk food and reduce packaging waste. It's easy!



**MARQUETTE
FOOD CO-OP**

FEEL GOOD, SHOP THE CO-OP

DOWNTOWN MARQUETTE | OPEN DAILY 8 AM - 9 PM

LEARN MORE AT MARQUETTEFOOD.COOP