

Iron County REPORTER

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025
140th Year, Number 27 • Section B • Price \$1.50
Multi Media Channels, LLC | P.O. Box 311, Iron River, MI 49935
WWW.IRONCOUNTYREPORTER.COM



SERVING ALL OF MICHIGAN'S IRON COUNTY & SURROUNDING AREAS

FOCUS ON EDUCATION

We are pleased and proud to bring you our special "Focus on Education" section. Throughout the year, the Iron County Reporter keeps readers up to date on the accomplishments and activities happening in our school districts. With this special "focus," we're taking a closer look at some of the programs, people and activites who help provide our students of our community with opportunities within education.

Let's Take a Walk

BY PATRICK BROWNE

For at least as many years as *The Reporter* has had an annual "Focus on Education" during the month of February, Jim Nocerini had been putting his focus on education. He taught for 30 years (1966-1996) and, after retiring, served on the Forest Park School Board for 20 more (2004-2024). He gave five decades of his life to our children, our community and the field of education.

His journey, a journey which would lead him to teach, coach, start programs, lead a school's athletic department and be elected to the School Board, began with a nervous 23-year-old, first-year teacher making his way to school. It was a beautiful fall day with the morning sun dappling through the leaves, the teacher was on his way to Porter School, beginning a career which, unbeknownst to him at the time, would span five decades and end with an 81-year-old School Board President turning in his letter of resignation.

On that first day, Lyndon Baines Johnson was President of the United States, 'California Dreamin' by the Mamas and the Papas was the number one song, and the Vietnam War was at the forefront of the minds of many of our country's citizens.

Having received 27 job offers upon graduation from Northern Michigan University, but chose to live in Alpha, "to stay home where I was needed most." He lived in a 10' by 60' mobile home with his wife Donna, and, as his career in education began, they started their life together.

In the air on this fall day was a sense of change, of emergence, of beginning and ultimately of an end. While the world seemed a bit unsettled, no one could have anticipated how prophetic the words of Bob Dylan's 1964 'The Times They are A-Changin' truly were. The changes in the local area were taking place more quickly than they could be understood. Mines were closing, the population was



shrinking and, scrambling in the background, were the changes in the country which one day would be termed 'a time of upheaval'. While these changes came to fruition over the next five decades,

this young teacher, Jim Nocerini would work quietly at times, and loudly at others, to create a place for our children that would give them a brighter future.

Shortly after he began teaching, the Alpha schools, experiencing declining enrollment, consolidated with Crystal Falls and Amasa and he found himself working full-time at Forest Park. As the 1960's unfolded his students saw the Civil Rights Movement, the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Bobby Kennedy, national protests, and, within a decade, the resignation of a President. Through it all, Nocerini and a cadre of now retired teachers provided a place of continuity and continued to teach.

"We had a staff that really cared for each other and our students, and we were a tight community," Nocerini shared. "We worked together and always tried to do what was best for our students."

He earned just a bit over \$5,000 a year

See **WALK** page B4

WIC High School Symphony Orchestra

*A Year of Music,
Memories and Milestones*

BY MRS. CARR, WIC MUSIC
DIRECTOR

We've had a great start to our school year! The West Iron County High School Symphony Orchestra has been busy, participating in some incredible events that showcase the talent and dedication of our young musicians. In October, the orchestra took part in the *Big String Concert* held in Marquette and a festive Halloween performance, kicking off the season with energy and enthusiasm. November brought an opportunity to honor our veterans with a heartfelt performance for Veterans Day. And to close out 2024, our Christmas Concert featured the powerful and iconic *Christmas Eve in Sarajevo* by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, creating a truly memorable holiday experience for all.

The West Iron County High School Symphony Orchestra is a cornerstone of our school's music program, consistently showcasing the talent and dedication of our young musicians. With every performance, they not only entertain but also inspire—creating unforgettable moments for both the performers and the audience.

The journey continues into 2025 with many exciting events ahead.

Solo and Ensemble Festival: The Solo and Ensemble Festival is just around the corner, offering our talented musicians the chance to showcase their individual abilities. This event provides students with the perfect opportunity to shine solo and collaborate in small ensembles. We can't wait to see how our performers rise to the occasion. Join us at the Windsor Auditorium Tuesday, Feb. 25 starting at 4 p.m. to cheer on our students!

Winter Concert: Mark your calen-

See **SYMPHONY** page B7

Celebrating 30 Years of Musical Excellence at West Iron County High School

BY KALEE HERNANDEZ

IRON RIVER - The music program at West Iron County High School has been a beacon of creativity and talent under the guidance of Tammie Carr. This year marks the 30th anniversary of her dedication and passion for teaching music. Since 1995, Mrs. Carr has been nurturing young musicians, drawing inspiration from her own family's musical background.

Tammie Carr's love for music started early in her life. With a family rich in musical tradition, she was surrounded by melodies and rhythms. Her uncle's fascination with learning various instruments and her father's participation in a band left a lasting impression on her. Watching them play sparked a lifelong passion that began when she joined the orchestra in fifth grade, citing inspiration from her then-teacher Mrs. Rizner. It was then she knew she wanted to teach music, a dream she pursued by obtaining



Mrs. Tammie Carr, West Iron County Music Director.

a bachelor's degree in music education from Eastern Michigan University.

For Mrs. Carr, the most rewarding aspect of teaching is witnessing the growth and enthusiasm of her students. Introducing new concepts or pieces and seeing the excitement build as the program flourishes is her greatest joy. "Working with the kids and watching

them grow is incredibly fulfilling," she shares.

This year, the students at West Iron County High School are diligently preparing for various performances and competitions. Around 12 students are participating in the solo and ensemble event Saturday, March 8 at Kingsford High School, showcasing their talents on instruments ranging from the clarinet to the cello and violin. This event is an opportunity for students to perform their pieces in a professional environment, competing with peers from other schools around the immediate Western Upper Peninsula. The students are preparing to work with their accompanist Kalee Hernandez.

Upcoming events include: Tuesday, Feb. 25 Concert. A performance to help students overcome their jitters prior to solo and ensemble performance;

See **CELEBRATING** page B7

Forest Park High School's flourishing music program

BY KALEE HERNANDEZ

CRYSTAL FALLS - Forest Park High School's music program is experiencing an exciting development under the guidance of its new music educator, Corra Haen. With a fresh perspective and a passion for teaching, Corra has been deeply involved in the program since she began her inaugural teaching tenure this past fall. Corra graduated from Northern Michigan University in 2024 with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and a Minor in Secondary History Education.

Corra's journey to becoming a music teacher is both inspiring and heartfelt. She stated, "when you're growing up and you think 'I want to be a princess or an astronaut' but I always would go back to



Forest Park music educator, Corra Haen conducting the band at the superior dome in Marquette.

AUTO MAINTENANCE SAVINGS 101 AT STATELINE				
Maintenance Receive Up To \$80 In Rebates On The Purchase And Installation Of Eligible Batteries, Wiper Blades and Cabin & Engine Air Filters!	Parts/Accessories Make Your Ride Your Own With Genuine GM Accessories!  Get 10% Off Any One Accessory Over \$100	 Certified Service Offers expire 02/28/2025	Body Repair Want To Make Your Ride Look Like New? Let Stateline Repair It!  FREE ESTIMATES	Detailing Ready To Take Off Winter's Grime? Schedule A Professional Cleaning Today!  \$25.00 Off Complete Vehicle Detailing
Iron River 906-265-2200 • Crystal Falls 906-875-4511 • www.DriveStateline.com				



Forest Park High School host SnoCo

BY LILY SARDER
FOREST PARK STUDENT

CRYSTAL FALLS - Forest Park High School students decided to start a new tradition this year, SnoCo (*short for Snowcoming*). The inspiration behind the event came from the excitement of fall Homecoming. Students recognized that the long winter months can be very cold and slow, so they needed something fun to break up the winter. They wanted something festive that could be something to look forward to in the winter months. Students, teachers and staff were involved in the many events planned by Forest Park High School's student council.

Like the fall Homecoming, SnoCo started with a spirit week where students showed their school spirit by dressing for five different crazy themes. Each day encouraged students and staff to dress up in wacky and creative outfits. They included pajama day, rhyme without reason (students coordinated with their friends to dress as random rhymes), pink out (a reference to Mean Girls "On Wednesdays we wear pink"), beach day, and white lies (funny lies were written on white shirts). Throughout the week the halls were filled with fun themes and school spirit!

Thursday, Jan. 30 the school hosted a much-loved fall homecoming event. The bonfire was held immediately following the girls' basketball game against Kingsford. The cozy metal fire pit was set up just outside the building, by the football field. Students ate hotdogs, drank hot chocolate, and roasted marshmallows for s'mores while staying warm by the fire. The weather was amazing and it was a perfect night for a fire! During these freezing and dark months, a bonfire was just what everyone needed to melt away the winter chill. It brought some warmth, while giving the students a fun night of spending time with good friends.

The SnoCo dance was held in the school gymnasium following the boys' basketball game against North Central. Students changed fast into formal wear and sparkly dresses to bust their moves at the dance. The gym was lit up by sparkling lights strung over the dance floor. Everyone danced the night away while snacking on cookies, chips and punch.

SnoCo provided a much-needed break from the winter chill and was a nice way for students to have fun after completing the first semester and the exams that went along with it. The fun spirit week brought some light to the dark winter months. Even in this long and cold period of time, students at Forest Park are still showing school spirit and having fun. *(Submitted photos)*



Pink Out Games. West Iron County and Forest Park Girls Volleyball Teams.

Iron Area Health Foundation works with Schools to Enhance Healthy Initiatives

IRON COUNTY - The Iron Area Health Foundation (IAHF) works collaboratively with both the West Iron County and Forest Park School Districts to enhance Healthy Living Initiatives for the students and staff at both schools.

For the past two years the IAHF has met with administration, support personnel and Student Leadership Teams from both schools to review areas of need and to develop plans of action to address the identified areas of need. The identified areas of need included creating connections and a feeling of belonging for all students within the school, educate students on where to seek help and support for anxiety, suicide, depression, bullying and the negative effects of illegal substance use. The conduit from the adult support to the students has been the creation of the IAHF Student Leadership Teams within both school districts. Over the past two years the Student Leadership Teams have met regularly with adults from the school district and the IAHF to develop and implement activities, resources and share information within their respective schools to enhance the connectivity, safety and culture for all students. Some of the initiatives that the Student Leadership Teams have been involved in bringing to their schools include the 'Do It For Daniel Presentation' (anxiety, depression and anti-suicide education), 'Unity Day celebration' (inclusion and acceptance of all students), Clubs and Activities Fair and Brochure (inform students of the opportunities available to them outside of the classroom they can become involved in) and the creation of Anti-Bullying/Anti-Illegal Substance use banners to be displayed in their schools.

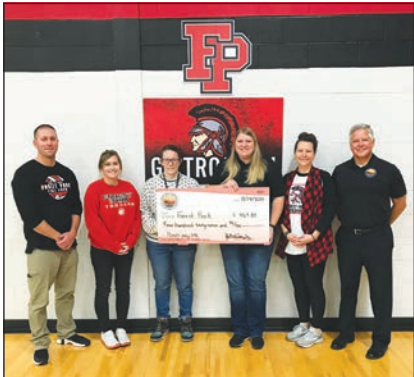
In addition the IAHF has worked with the local school districts through the Foundation's Grant and Mini-Grant opportunities to financially support initiatives that include athletic medical supplies for both schools athletic departments, a pre-SAT testing nutritious breakfast, a greenhouse project that will provide cross-curricular education on nutritious healthy food growth, AED machines for both schools, CPR training device and information that will be used for education purposes within the health curriculum and worked with the volleyball programs, parents and community supporting the "Pink Out" for Cancer fundraiser at both schools.

The IAHF provided eight scholarships to graduating seniors from the class of 2024 from the local high schools who were furthering their education in a health related field of study.

The collaboration on healthy living initiatives between the local schools and the IAHF is one that has a vision of not only making a positive difference in the present but also a sustainable positive difference for years to come. *(Submitted photos)*



Greenhouse Project. Pictured are, from left, Lyle Smithson Jr., Martha Rypstra, Mason Gray, Kim Nichols, Jeff Swenski, Alisa Porier, Kevin Schmutzler and Marli Kytta.



CPR Training Equipment. Pictured are, from left, Kurt Anderson, Ashley Campbell, Leah Ryan, Jessica Perry, Kristine Rivard and Lyle Smithson Jr.



IAHF Student Leadership Team. Pictured are, from left, Lyle Smithson Jr., Chris Kent, Jill Sabotta, Marlee Benson, Annika Johnson, Francy Economy, Lilly Post, Dalaney Wagner, Jonnie Ketola, Aiden Johnson, Anna Bandola, Colton Devore, Ava Fischer, Dax Huuki, Eiley Meske, Kallie Westcott, Donte White, Kaitlin Cvengros, Keenan Dobson-Donati and Konnor Bjorkman. Not pictured, Lily DeSousa.



Unity Day. Pictured are, from left, Chris Kent, Kaitlin Cvengros, Jonnie Ketola, Lilly Post, Anna Bandola, Dalaney Wagner, Ava Fischer, Kallie Westcott, Kristine Rivard, Lyle Smithson Jr. Seated at the table, Aiden Johnson, Colton Devore and Dax Huuki.

441879

Bigari

ACE

The helpful place.

Hardware Inc

IRON RIVER, MI

supports the students and educators of Iron County!

1/2 MILE FROM DOWNTOWN IRON RIVER ON M-189

HOURS: MON.-FRI. 7-6 • SAT. 8-3

SUN. 9-NOON

906-265-9614 • BigariAce.com



Iron County Mock Trial team

IRON COUNTY – Our Mock Trial team has one more opening for a high school student interested in learning how the court system works, if interested contact Mrs. Waara at Forest Park High School.

Introduction to Mock Trial. Mock Trial allows students to use simulated courtroom experiences to transform themselves into attorneys, witnesses, artists, journalists and more! Mock Trial is much more than a courtroom activity; it is a hands-on experience that inspires confidence, civic engagement and knowledge, legal appreciation, collaboration skills and more. Those skills are transferable into a lifetime of success.

Mock Trial provides opportunities to engage whole communities in learning. Together, students gain legal knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the American judicial system and

beyond. By using the MCCE Mock Trial rules, case materials and structures, students engage the legal system by enacting complex legal cases as lawyers and witnesses as well as courtroom artists and journalists. Showcases and competitions are available for those who wish to participate beyond the classroom and demonstrate their learning in front of legal experts. Furthermore, volunteers and teachers mobilize students to see the best in themselves as they practice skills for civic life. Moving beyond the courtroom, communities come together to celebrate and advance the accomplishments of the emerging legal advocates!

MCCE is committed to supporting teachers, coaches, and communities. To do so, we offer an annual Mock Trial community clinic, optional local clinics, regional competitions, state competition and support to the Michigan team

which qualifies for the national championship. Currently both showcase and competitive options are available for High School Mock Trial. Middle School Mock Trial showcases will be available in April 2024.

Michigan High School Mock Trial also includes Courtroom Artistry and Courtroom Journalism competitions. Courtroom Artistry and Journalism allows students to utilize the courtroom procedures to practice and exhibit their skills in illustration and reporting. The top placing artist can represent Michigan at the National High School Mock Trial Championship. There is not currently a Courtroom Journalism program at the National level.

How Mock Trial Benefits Students. More than a courtroom procedure, Mock Trial transforms students into efficacious, confident and collaborative

people. Working through case materials, questioning, and character development, students see themselves as part of a team and community while honing skills that will benefit them in all aspects of life.

According to Street Law, “...a Mock trials provide students with knowledge of the judicial system, legal process and courtroom procedures. Mock trials help to: develop students’ questioning skills, critical thinking skills and oratory skills; demonstrate the roles of various actors in the legal system; and provide the class with exposure to legal resource people, such as judges, attorneys and law school students.” Mock Trial programs promote civil conversations while emphasizing the importance of the rule of law in our democracy. These skills equip students to feel a sense of civic belonging and civic efficacy.

AutoMatons prepare for competition

The AutoMatons are busy building this season’s robot. They received the game Jan. 4 and have six weeks to design and build their robot. They will be competing in two district events as they try to qualify for the Michigan State Championship Tournament.

Cooper Hill, son of Van and Tracie Hill from Amasa, a Forest Park Junior and member of The AutoMatons Robotics Team of West Iron County has been selected to participate in a Michigan Tech Mechatronics learning experience this May. From now until May, Cooper will be completing online modules.

From May 19 – 31, Cooper will stay on Michigan Tech University’s campus for hands on learning in the mechatronics laboratory and visiting local industries.



Pictured are, back row from left, Scott Strom, Ray Guzowski, Jeff Davis, Coach Van Hill and Cooper Hill. Front row from left, Jeffery Knapp, Simeon Bear, Syler Bacon, Abigail Davis and Brie Porier.



Cooper Hill studying online for his upcoming trip.



Cooper Hill and Brie Porier working on building the robot together.

Mother/Son Dance

IRON RIVER – The Stambaugh Elementary PTO is hosting their annual Mother/Son dance Saturday, March 8 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at Stambaugh Elementary Gym.

There will be music from DJ Marc, a glow stick table and refreshments to enjoy.

Forest Park Kindergarten and GSRP Registration 2025-2026

Registration for students entering Kindergarten and the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) during the upcoming 2025-2026 school year will be Tuesday, Feb. 18 through Thursday, Feb. 20. Parents may come to the elementary office to register their child. Registration times are 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 - 3:30 p.m. There will be a extended registration and an Open House Wednesday, Feb. 19 from 4 - 5 p.m., and 5 - 6 p.m. (two, 1 hour session to choose from).

To enroll in the GSRP (4 Year –old program), a child must be 4 years old and to enter Kindergarten, a child must be 5 years old by Sept. 1.

Kindergarten registration requires:
Official birth certificate, immunization record, hearing and vision screening and oral screening.

GSRP 4 Year-old program registration requires:
Parents registering a student in the GSRP (4 Year-old program) will be given an enrollment packet to complete. A child is not officially enrolled until the completed packet is returned.

If you have any questions, please call the elementary office, 906-214-4695, ext. 320. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to the Forest Park School District.

Forest Park Elementary PTO

*One child. One voice
Thank you so much for all that you do.
Our school could not succeed without you!*

Forest Park Elementary PTO Officers

- **President** - Bobbie Anderson • **Vice-President** - Lisa Cousineau
- **Treasurer** - Tahoney Anderson • **Secretary** - Gail Brzoznowski

The “P” in PTO stands for parents and the “T” in PTO stands for teachers and symbolizes the vital partnership between home and school. All individuals in the school community are part of the PTO team. By working together, parents and school personnel can help ensure successful school experiences for your students. Promoting a better understanding of PTO programs and purposes will help us to be more effective in its student and family activities.

Forest Park PTO continues to find new ways to provide a setting for parents, teachers, principal, staff and community members to come together to improve the lives of children and families through our programs and activities. We invite you to support and join our PTO. There are no membership dues.

With your support, we can strengthen the home to school connection through parents, teachers and staff working together to produce parent information programs, newsletters and other activities.

Your membership and support in Forest Park PTO will strengthen our ability to provide the best learning environment for all our students and encourage parents to participate and be more involved.

PTO Supported Programs are as follows: Back2School Kickoff Event (Open House/ Refreshment/ Meet and Greet), Special Event Programs, All Elementary Field Trips, Teacher Appreciation Week, Spring Carnival, Education Box Tops - PTO Member in charge: Bobbie Anderson, My Coke Rewards - PTO Member in charge: Jill Wagner, Elementary Yearbook - PTO Member in charge: Debi Bendick

Our PTO is committed to helping parents understand the importance of supporting their children in school activities. We encourage parents and community members to be informed about education issues in order to understand and support our school.

Please join Forest Park PTO today by contact Bobbie Anderson for more information.



Stambaugh Elementary PTO

The PTO provides assistance to teachers in the classroom setting, raising funds for supplemental educational materials and experiences and supporting school and family social interaction. Parents of the PTO help with Teacher Appreciation Week, end of school year events, help with fundraising activities, work pencil sales and so much more. The amount of effort that teachers put towards helping our children grows is invaluable and our goal it to help support their amazing efforts throughout the school year in as many ways possible. If you or someone you know may be interested in being a part of this rewarding group, we meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:15 p.m. in the elementary gym (No summer or December meetings because, you know... busy). You can also find us on Facebook under “Stambaugh Elementary PTO”. Give us a look and a follow today and hopefully we’ll see you at our next meeting. Or, reach out to any of our board members for info. We’re a friendly bunch.

Stambaugh Elementary PTO Board

- **President** - Nancy Cheney, 419-575-7092 or pto@westiron.org
- **Vice President** - Heather Cronkright • **Treasurer** - Jocelyn Mottes
- **Secretary** - Lindsay Demske • **Executive Chair** - Robin Marchildon
- **Executive Chair** - Mike Ehlinger • **Executive Chair** - Stacy Sucholl



Head Start applications being accepted

BATES TOWNSHIP - The Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District Head Start Program is accepting applications for the current school year at the Bates Township Center.

Early Head Start and Head Start are comprehensive preschool programs that involve the family in the development of the child. The curriculum is designed to address all aspects of the child’s development and lesson plans are created to meet the child’s school readiness goals.

Pregnant mothers and children ages birth to three may be eligible for the Early Head Start Program. Children ages three and four may be eligible to attend Head Start. The programs are free to families who qualify, and children are not required to be potty trained prior to enrollment. Families with children with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

If you have any questions or would like to apply for your child, please call the Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District-Department of Early Childhood Education at 906-779-2695 or visit www.diisd.org.

Iron River Housing Commission

Sunset Manor Apartments
208 Jefferson Avenue
Iron River, MI 49935
906-265-5540

City View Apartments
236 3rd Avenue
Iron River, MI 49935
906-265-5540

Utilities Included in Rent
Trash Removal
Garages Available (Sunset Manor)
Smoke-Free
Must Meet HUD Income Requirements



FOCUS ON EDUCATION

Area Schools Contact Information



West Iron County Schools

Administration Building
601 Nick Baumgartner Way, Iron River, MI 49935
906-265-9218
Middle & High School
701 Nick Baumgartner Way, Iron River, MI 49935
906-265-5184
Stambaugh Elementary
700 Washington Ave., Iron River, MI 49935
906-265-6141
Kevin Schmutzler - Superintendent
Angie Williams - Executive Secretary
Mike Berutti - Middle & High School Principal
Kathy Kinner - Secretary
Amber Laturi - Business Manager
Heidi Priestley - Elementary School Principal
Kristyna Laturi - Secretary
www.westiron.org



Change for a Change Donation

Rachel Gramann of the U.P. Foster Care Closet (on the right) in Iron River accepted a donation from Mrs. Priestley, Stambaugh Elementary School Principal (on the left). The money collected was from Stambaugh Elementary's Change for a Change campaign which works to make a positive impact on our school and community through donations.



Forest Park Schools

801 Forest Parkway, Crystal Falls, MI 49920
906-875-3131
Michelle Thomson - Superintendent
Kurt Anderson - At Risk Coordinator/Assistant Principal
Jackie Guliani - K-12 Principal
Teresa Kudwa - Administrative Assistant, Elementary office
Kristine Rivard - Administrative Assistant, MS/HS/District Office
Kathy Stankewicz - Business Manager (retiring Friday 2/7/25)
Kallie Westcott - School Counselor
www.fptrojans.org

History of Forest Park Schools

The Forest Park High School building was erected in 1970 and includes a full size gymnasium for physical education and indoor sports such as basketball and volleyball. It also boasts of a fully equipped weight lifting area. The gym has a full size stage area for various presentations such as chorus and band concerts, plays and graduation ceremonies. In addition to classrooms and the High School Principal's office, the High School building houses the Superintendent's office, library, cafeterias and music department for the school district.

The Forest Park Grade School building was built in 1998. It too has a gymnasium for the promotion of physical education of the youth. A part of this facility houses a day-care center run by the Forest Park Community School program.



A bit of history on the Wykon

What is a Wykon? A Wykon is a three-legged mythological creature that represents West Iron County Public Schools as its mascot.

The Wykon was originally created by three members of the West Iron County faculty: Floyd Carlson, a school counselor; Donald MacDonald, a football coach; and Brandon Giovanelli, an art teacher. Counselor Carlson and Coach MacDonald coined the word Wykon, which was originally Wicon, but it was determined that this might be confused with Wisconsin, so the spelling was changed.

Feb. 8, 1968 Brandon Giovanelli, art teacher at the then Stambaugh High School, was given five minutes to design a mascot for the newly consolidated district of West Iron County. However, two of Giovanelli drawings of the Wykon, each representing a different design, are dated March 27, 1968, hence the establishment of that date as the Wykon's official birthday. The original drawings are housed separately: one is located in the Administration Building and the other in the High School.



WALK from page B1

(\$171 every two weeks), and, as each of his children were born, the need to support his family grew. Often credit had to be extended by the grocery store until payday, and summers were no longer a time to relax, but found him working construction to support his family. "Our first job was working on St. Edward's Church in Alpha, and we worked from early morning until the sun went down, but the family was growing."

Like all great teachers, he looked for ways to connect with the kids he taught and took on the responsibility of coaching basketball and eventually cross country and track. He and his wife raised four children and, while days could at times be long, the years passed quickly.

In 1980, he worked with the superintendent to establish a Building Trades Program. For the next 15 years, he and a group of students built one house each year. "The students would have an opportunity to be at a job site. For three hours a day they worked together as a team. Many of the houses are still as solid as the day they were built."

"A good district has offerings for all the kids," stated Nocerini. "We wanted to prepare kids and help them see what's out there. We started many of them on a path that led them to be successful in the trades, and it was fun to work with them."

Nocerini took on the role of athletic director from 1991 until his retirement in 1996. "It was so fun being with the kids," he recalled. "Athletics gives you an opportunity to talk with the students and know their concerns."

In 1996, with the district under significant financial pressure, Nocerini retired. His journey seemingly complete, he received a proclamation from the state of Michigan, accolades from his coworkers and a tribute was published in the now shuttered Diamond Drill. Everyone thought at that time, his years in education had come to an end.

For the next eight years his walk took him into the field of construction where he hired former students, built homes and helped neighbors. These eight years would mark the only time between 1966 and 2024, a span of 58 years, when he would not be involved directly with helping the students of our community.

In 2004, with the district again facing significant challenges, Nocerini returned to do what he could do to help. Running for office with the encouragement of his wife, he was elected and served for the next two decades on the Board of Education. Just as he had entered the classroom nervously on his first day of teaching, so he entered his first Board meeting.



"It was a lot of responsibility. Just keeping the doors open those first years was an accomplishment," he recalled. "At the end of one year we had a fund balance of just about \$2,000. It was hard to say no to good ideas we knew would be good for kids, but we simply didn't have any money."

The Board worked together with different superintendents to build the fund balance and right the ship. "We had our share of challenges," Nocerini shared, "But the hardest thing we had to do was discipline students. When discipline issues come to the Board, it's life changing and you worry about the effect on the student and their family."

Nocerini was a popular teacher, fair yet demanding. Former student, Andrew Grosvenor, 1996 graduate of Forest Park recalls Mr. Nocerini fondly. "He was my teacher and my coach for four years and even now as an adult I don't know how he did all he did." Grosvenor continued, "He was immensely popular with the students as he was down to earth, but very knowledgeable."

Mike Bjork, a native of Alpha, who had Mr. Nocerini as a teacher, later worked construction for him and served with him on the School Board shared, "I have a deep respect for Jim and his dedication to the school district, the school, the students and the teachers. It was important to him that the district continue to move in the right direction." Bjork added, "When he believed in something he wouldn't back down, but he always respected the decisions of the board no matter what side he was on."



For 20 years, as a member of the Board, his concern for students and appreciation for teachers never wavered. A video clip from a Board meeting in February of 2024 is a testament to the strength he often had to show as President of the Board and reveals his character. During a contentious meeting he adamantly stated, "I promise you right now we are working on education. Our goal is to educate kids."

At the Forest Park School Board meeting Nov. 25, 2024 the President of the Board, Jim Nocerini resigned his position. With his resignation, the journey which began on a fall day in 1966 came to an end. Nocerini's term was not due to expire until 2028, but was prompted by health concerns and, in his words, "The need to focus on my health and the desire to spend more time with my wife and family."

The meeting was concluded, we returned to our homes and an announcement was penned for the newspaper announcing the change. Life, as it does, moved on. Many were saddened by the announcement, some saw it as an opportunity to move the school in a different direction, and after 58 years a journey which had begun with a single step came to an end.

FOCUS ON EDUCATION

Iron County 4-H Sharpshooters

IRON COUNTY – 4-H Shooting Sports is the second largest 4-H project area in Michigan, providing youth the opportunity to safely learn and participate in life-long outdoor recreational activities with avenue for leadership, personal growth and achievement. The Iron County Sharpshooters 4-H Club serves over 20 youth participants, offering experiences to learn personal responsibility; developing confidence, discipline, self-control and focus through setting personal goals and through the overall structure of the sport. The club promotes standards of safety and ethical

behavior, teaching youth about responsible shooting sports. The Club provides everything the youth needs: safety equipment, shooting gear and instructors. The Sharpshooters also attend competitions. Members have competed and won medals and honors at regional and state competitions. State competition is in the late summer. To find more information or to register online, go to v2.4honline.com or email to IronCountySharpshooters@yahoo.com. (Submitted photos)



Join Iron County 4-H

Iron County 4-H programs provide hands on, educational activities and opportunities for youth aged 5-19 designed to promote positive youth development. Clubs conduct a wide variety of activities such as sewing, archery, arts, gardening, rifle shooting sports, outdoor recreation, animals, crafts, natural resources and community service projects to benefit the community. Through the dedication of volunteers, clubs in Iron County meet weekly or twice every week providing youth the opportunity to gain leadership and life skills. Iron County 4-H has five clubs for youth: Young Pacesetters, Community Kids, Market Steers, Artemis Archers and the Iron County Sharpshooters 4-H Club(s).

4-H (c. 1902) is the nation's largest youth development organization, empowering young people throughout the United States, as the primary youth development program of the Cooperative Extension System of 110 land-grant universities. 4-H reaches every corner of our nation-- from urban neighborhoods to suburban schoolyards to rural farming communities. With a network of more than 6 million youth, 611,800 volunteers, 3,500 professionals and more than 25 million alumni, 4-H helps shape youth to move our country and the world forward in ways that no other youth organization can.

The 4-H mission is to create non-formal, educational opportunities to help youth thrive in a complex and changing world. 4-H aims to help young people, aged 5-19, become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society by providing educational, youth-focused experiences designed to build life skills, support in school learning and teach employment skills.

The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development, a decade-long study shows that 4-H youth excel beyond their peers. They are: four times more likely to make contributions to their communities (Grades 7-12); two times more likely to be civically active (Grades 8-12); two times more likely to make healthier choices (Grade 7); two times more likely to participate in Science, Engineering and Computer Technology programs during out-of-school time (Grades 10-12); 4-H girls are two times more likely (Grade 10) and nearly three times more likely (Grade 12) to take part in science programs compared to girls in other out-of-school activities.

To join Iron County 4-H go to <https://v2.4honline.com>. To learn more about 4-H opportunities in the area please contact the Michigan State University Extension: Iron County 4-H office at kretsc11@msu.edu or 906-875-0604.

Iron County 4-H welcomes new members and volunteers to become involved.



Celebrate Michigan 4-H at the 19th annual 4-H Day at the Breslin

EAST LANSING— Michigan State University (MSU) Extension invites 4-H members, families, volunteers and staff to join them Saturday, March 1 for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU women's basketball team takes on the Minnesota Golden Gophers. The 19th annual event celebrates the 4-H and MSU Extension community. Attendance is free for MSU Extension friends, Michigan 4-H members and their families, MSU Extension and 4-H volunteers as well as MSU Extension professionals. Make ticket reservations at extension.msu.edu/4HDayatBreslin2025. "We look forward to Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin each year as a fun way to celebrate with our Michigan 4-H community," said Jodi Schulz, co-director of MSU Extension children and youth programs and state leader for Michigan 4-H. "We can't wait to come together with youth, families, volunteers and staff from across the state."

4-H Day at the Breslin participants are encouraged to come early to partake in MSU Extension games and activities throughout the concourse. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel. "There is so much to enjoy at this fun event - from activities to networking and the game itself" said Lisa Bottomley, co-director of MSU Extension children and youth programs. "We hope to see many of our 4-H friends and family there." Visitors to Breslin Center events must comply with MSU's clear bag policy. For more information on this event, contact your local MSU Extension office. Send additional questions to Jamie Wilson at jmwilson@msu.edu. To learn about the MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development program, go to 4h.msue.msu.edu. More information on the Breslin Center, visit their website.

Subscription Order Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

1 Year ☐ \$57 In Iron County ☐ \$67 Out of Iron County
6 Mos. ☐ \$40 In Iron County ☐ \$45 Out of Iron County
☐ \$35 E-Edition Only ☐ \$10 Add E-Edition to Your Newspaper Subscription

Mail Payment To: REPORTER • P.O. Box 311 • Iron River, MI 49935

IRON COUNTY REPORTER.com

SERVING ALL OF MICHIGAN'S IRON COUNTY & SURROUNDING AREAS

906-265-9927 and Shopper's Guide

FOCUS ON EDUCATION

West Iron County Art Room

Spring is fast approaching in the art room. That means Alisa Porier and her students are getting ready for art shows.

They are currently participating in two shows. One is the Art Students Association (ASA) show, which features high school work from the following school districts: West Iron, Forest Park, Kingsford, Iron Mountain, Norway, Goodman - Armstrong Creek, Niagara and Pembine. This show is judged by college admission representatives. The ASA show takes place Monday, April 14 at Kingsford Middle School. The show is open to the public from 4 - 6 p.m. Students who receive judges' awards will be awarded at 6 p.m.

This year makes the third year participating in ASA. It is a wonderful experience for the students. Each year, the students meet five times to attend a workshop/luncheon with a visiting artist. It is at that time the student 'Artist of the Month' is selected through a vote. Students, staff and friends vote to select the winner. At these workshops, students have learned how to do stained glass, macramé, floral arrangements, etc. In the past year Kaitlyn Smith, Cheyenne Ritchie and Laurel Johnson have been selected as West Iron's Student Artist of the Month.

The second art show will be the West Iron County show. This show features work from K-12 students. The

show will be open Monday, April 28 through Friday, May 2 at the Windsor Center in the Windsor Hall. A few awards will be given to 6th-12th grade students Friday, May 2 at 6 p.m.

The students and I are also busy booking some art workshops to further our artistic skills thanks to a donation from Mrs. Maggie Nelson. Advanced students have opportunities to go to an encaustic, watercolor and a book binding workshop in the near future. The class cannot thank Mrs. Nelson enough for her wonderful support of our art program. *(Submitted photos)*



WIC Junior, Laurel Johnson was selected West Iron's Student Artist of the Month in February of 2025.



WIC Senior, Cheyenne Ritchie was selected as West Iron's Student Artist of the Month in December of 2024.



WIC Senior, Kaitlyn Smith was selected as West Iron's Student Artist of the Month in October of 2024.

2025 season at Camp Batawagama

Senior days at youth camp are scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, Thursday, June 12 and Friday, June 13. This program has been in existence since 1981 and is a highlight of the summer for many seniors. Rain or shine, the day begins at 10 a.m. with registration, coffee and gourmet snacks. Then it is off to some serious socializing and AM Fitness in Friends Hall followed by lunch. The afternoon is filled with variety of craft projects, river & lake excursions, cribbage tournaments and golden zumba. Dinner and entertainment will round off the day at 5 p.m.

The Iron County Band Camp started in 1955 and will be returning to Camp Batawagama's summer schedule. The 2025 Band Camp will feature some of the finest musicians in the country. They will be spending the week teaching middle and high school band students from Iron County and surrounding areas. The Annual Band Camp Faculty concert for the community will take place at Batawagama Thursday, June 19. A 'Meet and Greet Reception' will directly follow the concert. There will be more highlights to come about the 2025 Band Camp Music Faculty on the Camp website: camp-batawagama.com.

The 67th Annual Iron County Band Camp concert will take place on Saturday, June 21, at the Forest Park Gymnasium in Crystal Falls. The middle and high school bands will be playing music that they practiced and perfected during their week at Band Camp. The combined middle and high school bands will join together to premiere an original composition written exclusively for Batawagama by Dr. Robert Hanson.

The Iron County Youth camp is scheduled to begin Sunday, June 22. Boys and girls from the ages of 9-16 are eligible to register. This program was established in 1945 and has been providing a wonderful and safe environment for children to learn outdoor camping skills, lessons in swimming for beginners to scuba diving, watercraft safety, and much, much more.

Registration information for Senior Days, Band Camp and Camp Youth can be found on the Camp website: campbatawagama.com.

* DISCLAIMER: We are not a special needs camp and are not required to accept your child if they have a medical diagnosis that does not fit our criteria. We do not have the staffing or the training for campers with certain disabilities. All diagnosis must be stated on a camper's medical form. Any diagnosis that isn't stated on a camper's medical form and becomes a behavioral issue at camp and results in the camper breaking the camper pledge on the registration form can be grounds for expulsion.



FOCUS ON EDUCATION



Pictured are, from left, Lizzy Gursky, Kloe Thunander and Gracyn Melstrom.

CELEBRATING from page B1

Thursday, March 13 Winter Concert. A celebration of their hard work and progress; Tuesday, March 18 Large Group Competition. A showcase of the entire ensemble's talent and May Spring Tour to Toronto. An exciting trip involving 29 high school symphony orchestra students, offering them a chance to experience everything from a music clinic at University of Toronto to viewing Niagara Falls.

West Iron County High School stands out for being the only school in Iron and Dickinson County to offer a string program, only one of four schools in the U.P. to do so. The school caters to students from kindergarten through grade 12, providing opportunities in elementary vocal, middle school band, middle school orchestra and a high school symphony.

SYMPHONY from page B1

dars for our Winter Concert Thursday, March 13 at the Windsor Auditorium starting at 6 p.m. This highly anticipated event will feature our large group selections, including: *Russian Sailor's Dance* by Glière, *Amazing Grace* arranged by Del Borgo and *Jazzy Little Brown Jug* by Joseph Winner, arranged by Bullock.

This concert will bring an exciting blend of classical, folk and jazz repertoire, all performed by the talented students of the West Iron County High School Symphony Orchestra. It's an event you won't want to miss.

Canada Trip: In what promises to be an unforgettable experience, the orchestra will travel to Canada Wednesday, April 30 through Sunday, May 4. The trip will include a music clinic at the University of Toronto, where students will further hone their musical skills. In addition to the musical experience, the students will have the chance to view Niagara Falls up close, hike behind the falls and learn the fascinating history of this natural wonder. The trip also includes a visit to the iconic Casa Loma, followed by a performance of *The Lion King* on

MUSIC PROGRAM from page B1

being a teacher, no matter what". From a young age, she was drawn to the idea of teaching, an aspiration that was solidified during her middle school years. In eighth grade, Corra auditioned for the jazz choir, a selective group that accepted only 20 students out of a class of 100. Her successful audition marked the beginning of her realization that she had a natural talent for music. She credits her senior year music teacher, Mr. Knox, as an influence in her life. He made Corra a teacher's assistant to the middle school band which inspired her love for teaching. His ability to inspire and mentor left a lasting impression on Corra, leading her to pursue a career in music education.

When asking Corra what is the most rewarding part of teaching she stated, "the kids having those 'aha' moments where they click with something is what makes teaching rewarding for me". She believes that when students connect with music, it becomes fulfilling not just for them but for her as well. Currently, she is working on a piece with the middle school students that they "absolutely adore". Additionally, she has implemented a monthly series for elementary students, exploring different genres and composers, with last month dedicated to rock and roll. She also presented an introduction to instrument families which included Corra playing for the students.

Corra's dedication to her students is evident in the program's achievements. The students are diligently preparing for the upcoming Solo and Ensemble event Saturday, March 8 at the Kingsford High

The students are enthusiastic about their music classes and have expressed their appreciation for Mrs. Carr's teaching style. Kloe Thunander remarked, "Mrs. Carr is a very helpful person. She knows just what to tell you to help you play better." Another student, Gracyn Melstrom, enjoys the symphony because it allows her to "have fun, use more dynamics and bring out creativity." Lizzy Gursky cherishes playing her mother's violin, continuing a family tradition and showcasing generational talent.

The music program at West Iron County High School is more than just classes and concerts; it is a community where students learn, grow and express themselves through music. As they celebrate 30 years under the leadership of Tammie Carr, the program continues to inspire and cultivate the next generation of musicians.

stage.

Our students have been working hard on fundraising to help offset the cost of this exciting trip. The next fundraising event will be the Dina Mia sale, running through Saturday, Feb. 22, with a delivery date of Friday, Feb. 28. Please contact a Symphony student or Mrs. Carr if you're interested in purchasing Dina Mia products to support this trip.

Spring Concert: Our Spring Concert Tuesday, May 13 will serve as the grand finale of the school year. The concert will start 6 p.m. at the Windsor Auditorium. Expect a diverse mix of compositions, and perhaps even a few surprises from our talented musicians. This is the perfect way to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our orchestra members as we close out the school year.

A Season to Remember: We're so proud of what our musicians have accomplished so far, and we can't wait to see what the rest of the season holds. Whether you're a long-time supporter or new to the orchestra's music, we invite you to join us for these upcoming performances and share in the joy of music.

School, where they will perform for judges and receive ratings based on their class and performance. Furthermore, for the first time, the middle school students will join the high schoolers in the large group festival, fostering a sense of collaboration.

The music program has several exciting events on the horizon. The middle and high school bands will perform a concert Wednesday, April 16 and will also play at the Forest Park graduation ceremony. Corra is introducing new programs such as a choir club, alongside the existing pep band, senior band and middle school band.

One of Corra's most memorable moments thus far was witnessing her students perform at the Superior Dome in Marquette, when the Trojans advanced to state for football where she notes the students "absolutely killed it". The community's positive feedback on the elementary Christmas concert has also been a highlight of her career.

Looking ahead, Corra has plans to reinstate the marching band for the 2026 school year, a tradition that was paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She plans to focus on improving marching techniques as she states, "even the most advanced band's lines can be better". She also plans on introducing more challenging repertoire, encouraging students to think outside the box.

Corra Haen's passion and dedication is an exciting addition to Forest Park High School's music program. Her commitment to nurturing young musicians and creating meaningful experiences ensures a bright future for the program and its students. *(Submitted photo)*

UPCC Seeking Students for 'Construction Connect UP'

Program for high school seniors provides earn-and-learn opportunity

MARQUETTE – The Upper Peninsula Construction Council is seeking current high school juniors to participate in Construction Connect UP for the 2025-26 school year.

"The Construction Connect UP Program is designed to serve as an effective transition from school to career," said UPCC Executive Director Mike Smith. "Students who successfully complete the program can be drafted directly into skilled trades apprenticeships, bypassing the application process altogether."

The UPCC collaborated with its signatory contractors and UP building trades unions, UP Michigan Works, Delta-Schoolcraft ISD, Dickinson-Iron ISD and Marquette-Alger Regional Education Services Agency to develop a program that is skill-based, labor- and industry-approved and directly linked to real workplace situations.

Students' schedules need to allow for two hours in the mornings or afternoon for working, learning and earning \$14 an hour on job sites.

To qualify, students must at the time of the program's start:

- Be a high school senior at least 17 years of age
- Be enrolled in a certified CTE Program
- Have a driver's license (or in process) and reliable transportation
- Pass a drug screen

"There is a huge need across the U.P. for skilled tradespeople," Smith said. "The CCUP program is great because you get to work in the real world, and you get paid doing it. It's a great way to get out and start a career."

Students can apply at: upmichiganworks.org/the-construction-connect-up-program.

Students encouraged to explore education and career pathways during Career and Technical Education Month

MICHIGAN DEPT. OF LABOR & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

LANSING — Governor Gretchen Whitmer is shining a spotlight on the power of hands-on learning to prepare Michiganders for in-demand, good-paying careers through high-quality Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that are helping students gain the real-world skills they need to succeed. That's why Gov. Whitmer, along with the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), has proclaimed February as Career and Technical Education Month!

With nearly 500,000 job openings projected in our state each year through 2032, CTE offers high school and college students hands-on learning experiences that can be applied to real-world training and career pathways. This February, students and job seekers of all ages are encouraged to explore programs that pave the way for career success, advancement, and further education.

"Career and Technical Education programs prepare Michiganders of all ages for high-skill, high-wage and in-demand careers," said Governor Whitmer. "CTE programs also support Michigan businesses by developing the talent they need to fill jobs and grow our economy. Through our ongoing commitment to supporting our workforce, we're creating opportunities for people to get the skills they need to secure brighter futures in Michigan."

High schools, colleges and some universities across Michigan offer CTE programs that are aligned with in-demand, high-wage careers in fields such as business, information technology, healthcare, hospitality and manufacturing. Most high school programs also offer early college credit opportunities to provide a seamless transition to post-secondary education.

Students enrolled in state-approved CTE programs have significantly higher high school graduation rates and higher earnings in the labor market. They acquire skills that prepare them for successful career entry, advancement and/or continuing education for high-wage, in-demand careers.

CTE is also a part of the state's strategy to expand pathways to lifelong learning and career success that's laid out in the Michigan Statewide Workforce Plan – a bold vision that helps Michiganders acquire the skills and earn the credentials they need to compete while growing opportunities for the middle class and supporting our businesses and entrepreneurs throughout Michigan.

"The education and hands-on training Career and Technical Education students receive gives them a head start on their path to a certificate in professional trades, registered apprenticeships or a college degree and a good-paying career," said LEO Director Susan Corbin. "That's why we're working hard to ensure all students have access to CTE opportunities in Michigan."

During the 2023-24 school year, CTE enrollment hit a high of 112,156 secondary students, greater than the pre-pandemic level by 9%. Completers during the 2023-24 school year totaled 52,625 students, the highest level in history, with a 19% increase over the last three years.

Michigan also offers Early Middle Colleges (EMCs), an MDE approved five-year program of study. EMCs work closely with post-secondary partners to provide students with an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and one or more of the following: 60 transferable college credits, an associate degree, a professional certification, the Michigan Early Middle College Association technical certificate and/or participation in a registered apprenticeship.

Michigan's post-secondary institutions offer 1,572 unique CTE programs leading to a certificate or associate degree. During the 2023-2024 school year, 122,062 students were enrolled in these programs across the state.

"During Career and Technical Education Month, we encourage Michiganders to explore the many options available to them," said Stephanie Beckhorn, Deputy Director of LEO's Office of Employment and Training. "CTE programs offer academic, technical and real-world skills that prepare our high school and college students for lifelong success and rewarding futures in Michigan."

Several events will be held throughout the state in celebration of CTE Month. A list of events is available on MDE's CTE Month website.

Students, parents, educators and others interested in exploring career options, training, wages and projected openings should visit Michigan's free online career exploration tool, Pathfinder. Additional high school CTE resources and information may be found on MDE's website.

Also check out MiSchoolData.org, the State of Michigan's official source for pre-K, K-12, post-secondary and workforce data to help residents, educators and policymakers make informed decisions to improve student success.



441882

FUNDRAISING

is

EASY & FUN

COMPLETE PROGRAMS
AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH GROUPS

Put the FUN in fundraising with

email: jeff@dinamiakitchens.com





More than pages at West Iron District Library

IRON RIVER - The West Iron District Library provides educational opportunities for all ages and in a variety of formats throughout the year. When one thinks of a library, books are usually top on the list of things that come to mind. Whether you want to learn about your next travel destination, do research for a book report, or just want to read a book for enjoyment, every encounter with a book provides a learning opportunity.

In addition to learning through books, the library provides activities for children of all ages that provide learning through play, art and imagination. Our youngest patrons learn fine motor, literacy and social skills at events like Story Time and Infant Toddler Time, as well as after school programs, such as STEM Day, holiday art activities and passive programs such as the Art Cart and the Lego station.

The summer months bring the ever-popular Summer Reading Program, a series of programs that encourages children to continue reading during the summer. During the six-week series, children and teens can learn through hands-on activities provided in the outdoor courtyard when they stop to check in with their reading progress. “There is something really special about watching over 100 children walking out of the library on check-in day with a bag full of books and smiling ear to ear,” says Stephanie Swenski, Director and Early Literacy Coordinator. “We just love to hear a child say ‘this is the best day ever’ because they learned and explored at the library.

There is plenty of engaging learning opportunities for adults, including our take-home Hobby Bags.



Choose to bring a bag home with all the supplies needed to learn a new skill, including crocheting, cribbage, water coloring painting and more. Another great educational series is Armchair Airline, which is a program offered periodically throughout the year that focuses on ‘traveling’ to another country and learning about their customs and the land through a PowerPoint presentation accompanied by samples of common foods from the region.

Drop in for the Knit and Crochet Circle, read a local or national newspaper, or keep your mind sharp with a game of chess or at the community puzzle table. Adults in our community have a multitude of learning opportunities available to them at the library.

More information about upcoming library events and services provided, please call 906-265-2831, visit our website at www.westironlib.org or follow us on Facebook.



Better begins with healthy families.

Better begins at Aspirus Health.

We’re committed to building healthy families and communities, from generation to generation.

438073



SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE.
visit aspirus.org
call 800.847.4707