Attendance requested
To the editor:
The scheduled March 3 Governing Board meeting was changed to March 17. The reason given was the February financial reports would not be ready by March 3. The dates and times of the Governing Board changes were posted but the Finance Board meetings were not.

The Governing Board meeting for March 17 at 10 a.m. has been changed from the Iron County Board of Commissioners Board room to the city of Crystal Falls City Hall at 10 a.m.
The public should attend this meeting as they are the only source of what happens at these meetings regarding DICSA operations. DICSA and the DICSA Governing Board do not furnish information to the public.
-s- Gerald McCole
Channing

Mortgage free
To the editor:
The Alpha-Mastodon Senior Center is free of their mortgage, thanks to a very generous contribution by an anonymous donor. An angel came forward after seeing that our financial crisis was getting so serious that we would have no choice but to close the center permanently. The board is very grateful for this contribution.
Earlier this year, financial help came from the Iron County Board of Commissioners. In particular, thanks to members Carl Lind, Wayne Wales and Beverly Camp. Iron County needs more representatives like these. What a blessing this was and thank you all for your consideration and the effort you put into this issue. Now we can move forward with the use of our beautiful building.
Community functions are welcome here not only for our local area but also for surrounding area functions. We also have a large space upstairs that can be rented out to professionals or other businesses.
In 1998, the center took out a loan to meet the many requirements needed to serve meals. Since that time we have had fundraisers and received donations in order to make our payments. It has not been easy.
With the help of our anonymous benefactor, the Board of Commissioners and everyone who has stood by us, we were able to survive and now operate as others do.
We may be small as a community but big in spirit and pride. Our historic village circle is one of only two left in the state. It was designed as the hub of Iron County with spokes reaching out in all directions connecting our highways. We heartily welcome everyone from retirees to young families. Our center will continue to be open to residents and non-residents alike.
Our building was formerly the St. Edwards Catholic Church with Father Joseph Gondek as pastor. He saw the need for a church in our village. So with the help of people of all denominations construction began.

There were no backhoes or heavy machinery to do any of the backbreaking work. Labor came from the local miners who put in their shift at the mine then worked on the church during their free time. The exterior bricks came from recycling an old mine building in town. Each brick had to be cleaned by hand before they could be used. All the cement work including the mixing was done by hand. Other construction help came from professionals such as builders and electricians. Organizations such as the Masons also pitched in.

Much of the work and even the statues were donated. The women of the parish also played an important part. Besides helping with construction, they also provided the workers with food and beverage. In the end, our building was erected by the loyal and hardworking people of our community.

The building is now not only part of our community but our history as well. Many of the people responsible have passed on and now the building is the responsibility of the next and future generations. If you happen to pass through Alpha, please stop and see our building.

Lastly, I must commend the people of Iron County for voting for a millage that helps all senior centers in the county.

-s- Bruno Scarite
Alpha

Volunteers thanked

To the editor:

On behalf of the U.P. Regional Blood Center, I would like to thank Pat Kosbia, Crystal Falls, and Paul Starkweather, Lakeland Baptist Church, Iron River, for hosting a blood drive in the month of February.

As a result of their efforts, we collected 67 pints of blood.

I would also like to thank all of the community members who took the time to give the “gift of life.” Thank you for helping people in your Upper Peninsula communities.

-s- Sallie Coron
Coordinator of Blood Collections
U.P. Regional Blood Center
Marquette

Thanks

To the editor:

Tufts-Rondon VFW Post 2891 of Crystal Falls would like to thank everyone that participated in the smear tournament on March 5.

I would also thank the volunteers that helped make this fundraising event possible, and to the local business for supporting the VFW by donating items to be used in the 50/50 drawings. Without you it would not have been possible to raise what we raised to help the post out.

Thank you.

-s- Michelle Graves
Crystal Falls

Potholes need fixing

To the editor:

I wonder how long it would take to get the potholes fixed on County Road 643 if all the members of the Iron County Road Commission were required to drive that road every day.

I would also like to see their reaction to meeting a logging truck on a curve where the driver is straddling the center line because it's the smoothest part of the road.

The stretch between the Paint River Bridge and U.S. 141 near Amasa is an accident waiting to happen. It's just a matter of time.

I realize that paving is out of the question, but filling in the potholes is not unreasonable. Pretend it's 424.

-s- John Floodstrand
Crystal Falls Township