‘Gift’ appreciated

To the editor:

On behalf of the U.P. Regional Blood Center, I would like to thank Synders, Iron River and Pat Kosiba of Crystal Falls for hosting a blood drives in the month of June.

As a result of their efforts, we collected 61 pints of blood. I would also like to thank the members of the community for taking the time to give the “gift of life.” Thank you for supporting your community blood supply.

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

Too much talk

To the editor:

There is a lot of talk going on around the county right now that the Iron County Board is trying to shut down the Iron County Fair. This talk was generated by the bad timing of the Iron County Board to withhold the annual budgeted allotment to the Iron County Fair Board along with legal action by the Iron County Board against the Iron County Fair Board 51 days prior to the Iron County Fair.

The reason for the Iron County Board’s action involves the delinquent payments by the U.P. Rodeo Association to Iron County for the fairgrounds grandstand and summer utility usage at the fairgrounds. I personally believe no Iron County Commissioner would be “foolish enough” to shut down the oldest county fair in Michigan within a month and a half of the Iron County Fair.

Over the past few years whether one thought it was a wise decision or not, the Iron County Fair Board continued to support the U.P. Rodeo Association with the rental of the grandstand and the arena, the Fair Board believed it was in the best interest of the county to give the new managers of the Rodeo Association time to try and make the rodeo a viable entity capable of meeting all their financial obligations and bring money into Iron County.

The common sense solution would be for the Iron County Board to immediately release the full $10,000 that was approved in the Iron County 2011 budget on Nov. 23, 2010, for the Iron County Fair Board. Along with an understanding that besides an annual budget statement the Iron County Fair Board submit a copy of their monthly budget to the Iron County Board that no new contracts with the U.P. Rodeo Association be allowed until the full Iron County Board, the Iron County Fair Board and the U.P. Rodeo Association Board meet within 14 days after the Iron County Fair and settle this issue.

There are those who want only certain representatives of each party to meet, to avoid “airing our dirty laundry in public.” Normally I would agree, it is always best to settle issues at the lowest level. But, with all the misinformation out in the public, it would be better to do everything out in the open. Like they say “sunlight is the best disinfectant.”

If the result of such a meeting would be that the U.P. Rodeo Associatoin could no longer rent Iron County property “i.e. grandstand arena” until all their financial obligations have all been met, so be it. If utility usage at the fairgrounds has to be reduced that can be addressed as well.

With all the commitments already in works for both the 2011 U.P. Rodeo and the Iron County Fair at this late date. Let’s use some common sense. Proceed with both and then with all parties involved. Settle the situation in the proper format and at the proper time for the benefit of all in Iron County.
-s- Don Wolf
Iron River

Thanks for the help
To the editor:
The Alpha Museum Board of Directors would like to thank the community for their support of our annual Memorial Raffle fundraising effort. The raffle drawing held on July 4th resulted in the following winners: first place of $300, Jeff Bickel of Brookfield, Wis.; second place of $150, Steve Simbob of Crystal Falls, and third place of $50 to Sue Hoogland of Florence, Wis.
Everyone's generous support will help us continue our efforts in saving and housing historic memorabilia from the Mastodon Township and Village of Alpha area. We look forward to seeing everyone once again next year, if not before.
We would also like to remind everyone of Alpha's centennial coming up in 1914. Be sure to mark your calendars for a very special Fourth of July in the village.
-s- Sharon Eaton
Museum Secretary
Alpha

Only source
To the editor:
The scheduled July 14, DICSA Governing Board meeting is posted by DICSA to be held at the Iron County Board of Commissioners board room in the courthouse at Crystal Falls.
Sources outside of DICSA stated the meeting will be held at the Crystal Falls Senior Center in Crystal Falls on Thursday, July 14, at 10 a.m.
Once again the only notice the public will receive will be from the Iron Mountain Daily News and the Iron County Reporter.
The public should attend these meetings as they are the only source of what happens at these meetings regarding DICSA operations.
-s- Gerald McCole
Channing