



District champs

Munising volleyball sweeps Big Bay de Noc to claim district title

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VETERANS AFFAIRS



Scott Mitchell

Ron Erickson was honored Monday night as the recipient of the Alger County Veteran of the Year Community Service Award.

Ron Erickson recognized for years of service

By Jennifer Champagne
Beacon Correspondent

The third annual Alger County Veteran of the Year Community Service Award banquet took place on Veterans Day at the American Legion in Munising, honoring Ron Erickson for his outstanding service to both his country and his community.

Hosted by Alger County Veterans Affairs — with Becky Burns, the accredited County Veterans Service Officer, emceeing the night — the event was filled with laughter as Burns kept the crowd entertained with her humor and clear love for her community. Nearly 200 attendees gathered to celebrate the spirit of service and camaraderie that defines the local veterans community.

“

It’s an honor to receive this recognition, but it’s also a tribute to all the other veterans who do so much for our community.

—Ron Erickson

”

Erickson, who served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, was named this year’s recipient of the Veteran of the Year Community Service Award. He is a member of multiple veteran organizations, including the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America, Disabled American

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CITY COMMISSION

Berry is Munising’s new mayor

By Michael Murray
Beacon Editor

The City of Munising has a new mayor.

At its annual organizational meeting Monday night, the Munising City Commission appointed Christine Berry to serve as mayor for the coming year. She succeeds Mike Nettleton, whose term on the commission recently expired.

Munising’s City Charter dictates that the first City Commission meeting after a regular election is to be an organizational meeting at which newly elect-

ed commissioners take the oath of office. The commission then selects a mayor and mayor pro-tem from among its members.

In the Nov. 5 general election, there were two open seats on the commission but only one candidate: Brice Burge. After Burge was sworn in Monday night, the group turned its attention to choosing the mayor.

Commissioner Bob Wilkinson made a motion, supported by Commissioner Jordan Prunick, to select Berry for the role, and the motion passed unanimously.

Now in the position of mayor, Berry made a motion, supported

by Wilkinson, to select Prunick as mayor pro-tem, and this was also approved unanimously. Prunick will preside over City Commission meetings when Berry is absent.

“I’m welcoming the opportunity to serve as mayor,” said Berry, who is in her fifth year on the commission. “I’ve been involved in economic development for 15 to 20 years and just moved back to the U.P. about seven years ago. I love what’s happening in Munising, and I’m glad to be part of it. ...

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Sunset from Sand Point



Kevin Dunham

Munising photographer Kevin Dunham captured this vibrant sunset over Munising Bay last week from Sand Point. It might be a while before a similar photo is possible, as clouds dominate the weather forecast for the coming week.

Science on Tap features talk on malting barley

By Jennifer Champagne
Beacon Correspondent

The Connection Beer Garden & Taproom, East Channel Brewing Company’s newest venue, is offering more than just a place to sip local craft beer. It’s becoming a hub for stimulating conversa-

tions through its Science on Tap series.

This monthly event, produced by Lara Bender, an environmental protection specialist, invites the community to explore fascinating scientific topics while enjoying a relaxed atmosphere at the brewery, which has quickly become a

beloved fixture in Munising.

The next Science on Tap event, taking place on Friday, Nov. 22, will feature Dr. James DeDecker, director of Michigan State University’s Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center (UPREC), who will present “No Barley, No Beer: The Science Be-

hind Malting Barley’s Comeback in Michigan.”

This presentation will explore the growing importance of local barley farming and its role in Michigan’s craft beer industry, focusing on UPREC’s efforts to support local agriculture and craft beer production.

DeDecker, who has been working on agricultural research and outreach for nearly a decade, will provide attendees with a deep dive into the science behind malting barley.

“When people think about

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WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY CLOUDY, 48/40

SATURDAY CLOUDY, 49/38

SUNDAY CLOUDY, 51/43

MORE INSIDE

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Community: The Alger County Heritage Center celebrates local history. Page 6

State: A new Feeding America center will better serve rural residents. Page 7

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