



Petoskey hockey advances on record; PHS boys, BC girls impress

SPORTS, 1B

News-Review

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Munson Healthcare warns of rising snowmobile accidents

Janis Reeser
The Petoskey News-Review
USA TODAY NETWORK

Munson Healthcare has reported a significant increase in snowmobile-related accidents this winter.

The hospital system has seen a 150% rise in such incidents from late December to late January, according to a community announcement. Several of the recent incidents involved collisions be-

tween snowmobiles and vehicles. Hospital officials said several factors contribute to the surge in accidents, including high speeds, high snowbanks, decreased visibility during snowfall, drifting snow and blowing snow from traveling vehicles.

Increased snow, increased visitors

“With the increased amount of snow this season bringing more visitors into

the area, we want to encourage people to ride safely. Snowmobiles are powerful machines and ensuring both snowmobile and vehicle drivers are looking out for one another is crucial,” Dr. Shaun Ramsey, emergency physician and EMS medical director for North Central and Northwest Regional Medical Control Authorities, said in the announcement.

See ACCIDENTS, Page 4A

Foster hometown pride to grow civic engagement



Regular community events, from farmers markets to fireworks, build emotional ties to a place. GETTY IMAGES

Local patriotism one cure for sour feelings about politics

Sean Richey
Georgia State University | THE CONVERSATION

Eileen Higgins won a historic victory in December. She became the first woman ever elected mayor of Miami, as well as its first Democratic mayor since 1997. • Although the stakes in the city’s Dec. 9, runoff election were high, interest was not – 4 in 5 registered voters stayed home. See LOCAL PRIDE, Page 4A



Turnout in local elections regularly falls below 20%, often leaving critical decisions in the hands of small, unrepresentative groups, creating an electorate that’s disproportionately White, elderly and affluent.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

City council continues Winter Sports Park talks

Jillian Fellows
The Petoskey News-Review
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Petoskey City Council continued its discussion of the proposed Winter Sports Park master plan on Monday, Feb. 16, and will now seek further review on specific elements of the plan by the Parks & Recreation Commission.

The council had previously reviewed the document during its meeting on Feb. 2, and the draft plan from their latest meeting reflected changes from that discussion.

“We tried to capture your initial comments back on Feb. 2 and the draft that’s in your packet hopefully captures some of that,” said city manager Shane Horn. “Obviously continued discussion will continue to mold this plan.”

Horn also noted that “none of this is cast in stone.”

See COUNCIL, Page 2A

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