

4th Quarter WWTV

Winter Tourism

Economy

Affordable Care Act (New Healthcare Law)

Weather

Holiday Travel

10/1/13

Economy:

One place immediately affected by the government shutdown was Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, they are closed.

10/2/13

Economy:

New boat line has NMI manufacturer preparing to hire dozens of new employees due to new boat line. This will be a much needed local economy boost.

Economy:

US Army Corps of Engineers had to furlough many workers, but many at the Soo locks still working through the shutdown, to keep boats going through so as not to hurt the economy.

10/6/13

Weather:

Due to heavy weekend rains, there are reports of some areas receiving more than 3" of rain the last 2 days.

10/8/13

Weather:

The Northern Lights are visible for most areas North of Cadillac or M-55. A geomagnetic storm has intensified and is pushing the lights southward.

10/16/13

Economy:

The Roscommon County citizens for consolidation of 4 townships believe that becoming one will create more economic opportunities. They feel that this would cut costs, therefore allowing the county to grow.

10/18/13

Economy:

Amazon launched a new website geared toward wine lovers and Michigan wineries can't wait to see what it will do for their businesses. Bower's Harbor and Black Star Farms are just 2 wineries selling their products on this site.

10/21/13

Holiday Travel:

Cherry Capital Airport is repaving their runway, which is bound to affect holiday travel.

10/21/13

Economy:

Moran Iron Works in Onaway hired more than 30 people this year, helping to boost the local economy.

Economy:

A deal between the City of Traverse City and Hagerty Insurance company, that would add jobs to the local economy and a parking structure, is coming to a close.

10/22/13

Economy:

Local school had to make several cuts due to lack of students, but as economy turns up, they're hoping for upswing in student numbers.

10/24/13

Economy:

Blue Angels hope to return to next Cherry Festival. They haven't visited since 2010, but having the Angels in town is not just entertainment, but good for the economy.

Weather:

Snow and rain may delay grape harvest, but vineyards still have great expectations for this year's crop. Corn crops may still have a record year.

Weather:

Winter weather means a growing demand for rooms at area homeless shelters.

Weather:

First slick road conditions of the year, MSP want to remind drivers to stay aware of changing weather conditions.

10/28/2013

Weather/Economy:

Some downtown TC shops already seeing a drop in momentum due to colder weather

10/29/13

Weather:

The wet, cold fall is delaying farmers trying to harvest soybean crops.

10/31/13

Weather:

After a wet, gloomy day, trick or treater's will have more wicked weather tonight

11/1/13

Holiday Travel:

Travel & Leisure Magazine named Harbor Springs #1 in the State to celebrate Halloween and #8 in the nation.

11/12/13

Economy:

Downtown shopping districts like Front Street in Traverse City are vital parts to local economies in many Northern Michigan communities.

11/13/13

Winter Tourism:

Lake County is an outdoorsmen's paradise with plenty of public land and trails. When it's too cold for quad runners and not enough snow for snowmobilers, hunters are what they depend on to help the economy in that county.

11/14/13

Economy:

More than a hundred jobs are coming to a Northern Michigan community. This could boost the entire town's entire economy.

11/15/13

Weather:

Good weather for the start of firearm deer season; mostly sunny with a slight breeze.

11/17/13

Weather:

Mecosta County suffered extreme damage, as far as trees crushing houses and cars and the roads being impassable, due to severe weather. Also Manistee had reports of flooding and Clare County had several downed power lines.

11/17/13

Winter Tourism:

During the firearm deer season, many downstate ladies travel to the local wineries for their own getaway, since their husbands are hunting. Many business owners say they believe hunting season helps get them through until the holiday season.

11/18/13

Weather:

Storm damage knocked out the 9-1-1 service to Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Counties for much of the day.

11/18/13

Weather:

Tonight the National Weather Service confirmed brief tornado touchdowns in Newaygo County near Grant and South Croton.

11/18/13

Economy:

At the Traverse City Commission meeting, the topic of discussion was the possibility of limiting festivals, due to 'festival fatigue' in the community. Many in the community came forward and expressed how they're in favor of several festivals as a way to boost the economy throughout the year.

11/20/13

Weather:

Farmers are working to stay ahead of the weather that could wipe out the rest of their corn crop. They are trying to harvest as much as they can before the snow harms their crop. Falmouth Co-Op reports most cornfields are only half harvested.

11/20/13

Affordable Care Act:

Most local hospitals are behind the health care reform, due to the fact that providing health coverage for all is good for people's health. Freeing up the emergency room is a priority for Munson Medical Center and hospitals everywhere and people who are uninsured tend to use ER as their primary care physician.

11/21/13

Economy:

Dowker's Meat Market in Gaylord says their business is up about 25% this year, due to the successful deer season.

11/22/13

Weather:

The incoming snow has winter businesses like Classic Motor Sports in Traverse City seeing a spike in snowmobile tune ups. Mount Holiday says this is the earliest in 6 years they've got things ready for the upcoming ski season, due to the high snow amounts.

11/24/13

Weather:

Fife Lake was hit the hardest with the recent snowfall, receiving 10 inches.

11/26/13

Weather:

Snowy and slick roads played a part in a crash that closed part of U.S. 31 in Mason County this evening.

11/26/13

Holiday Travel:

Cherry Capital reminds flyers to keep checking with their airline to see if there are delays or cancellations on connecting flights due to our weather issues and an East Coast storm, during this upcoming holiday travel time.

11/26/13

Economy:

The Antrim County Commission on Aging suspended 3 programs and laid off 12 employees for the rest of 2013, due to a budget shortfall. The cuts are due to money paid for snow removal last year and although the suspended programs will be brought back in 2014, it is unknown if the laid off employees will be brought back due to limited funds.

11/27/13

Economy:

Some Northern Michigan counties are concerned over a proposed bill in Lansing that could mean a loss in tax revenue.

11/29/13

Weather:

Freezing temperatures create ice and this is creating problems on the Muskegon River South of Big Rapids. Due to ice jams, the water is moving over the river bank and onto lawns.

11/29/13

Winter Tourism:

This is the first time Crystal Mtn has been able to open on Thanksgiving in 8 years. On just the 2nd day of the season, hundreds were already out enjoying the winter recreation.

11/29/13

Winter Tourism:

Skiers weren't the only ones enjoying the early snow, many snowmobilers hit the trails for the first time as well. Many sleds were out and about near the Lost Pine Lodge in Wexford County.

11/30/13

Economy:

After the rush of Black Friday, many opted out of the big crowds and shopped locally to support Small Business Saturday, helping to keep dollars in our local communities.

12/01/13

Winter Tourism/Holiday Travel

Skiers and snowboarders are excited to see the snow and the slopes open earlier. This year Boyne Mountain opened up before Thanksgiving, their earliest opening in a decade. Families say it's a great way to spend their holiday weekend.

12/03/13

Weather:

The words 'Skating Rink' are a few descriptions of secondary roads in Northern Michigan. Cars are covered with ice.

12/4/13

Economy:

The fate of 'the Wex' is in question because the county is trying to balance their budget and they say operating the facility costs too much money. As of right now, they only have enough money to remain operational until the end of April.

12/4/13

Weather:

Ski slopes are not enjoying the warm up. Last week many resorts had a great grand opening with natural snow. This week they had to close for a few days due to the warm up and the inability to run their snow machines.

12/5/13

Winter Tourism:

Due to snowmobile trail #4 in Otsego County closing, many local business owners are very concerned about the impact they will endure. Many say that after the golf season ends, they depend on this income, as well as their employees throughout the winter months.

12/10/13

Weather:

Areas from Sault Ste. Marie to Whitefish Point will see 10-16" of snow with some isolated areas pushing two feet of snow.

12/10/13

Weather:

The first flight out of Cherry Capital Airport was cancelled due to hazardous travel conditions.

12/11/13

Weather:

Nearly 2 feet of snow has fallen and is continuing to fall in the Eastern U.P. at Whitefish Point.

12/11/13

Winter Tourism:

Although Northern Michigan has seen nothing but snow over the past few days, the fluffy snow is not ideal for riding. Also, groomers cannot start tending to the trails until there is about 8 inches of thick snow. Sno Trac Village says its bittersweet to see the snow this time of year and are hoping to get the snowmobile season rolling really soon.

12/12/13

Weather:

Ice roads and horrible weather conditions resulted in the close of U.S. 131 near Petoskey today.

12/13/13

Weather:

The constant snow fall is keeping tow truck companies busy.

12/14/13

Weather:

The cold weather Northern Michigan is experiencing has the U.S. Coast Guard beginning their ice-breaking operations on the St. Mary's River in the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

12/15/13

Weather:

Police were forced to close down a stretch of I-75 for a few hours today due to extreme weather conditions, which in turn, caused several accidents.

12/16/13

Weather:

First responders in Leelanau County used today's really cold temperatures to practice saving lives. They met with the Coast Guard this morning on Lake Leelanau for training in ice rescue situations.

12/17/13

Holiday Travel:

Triple A says nearly 3 million Michiganders will travel during the upcoming holiday, with 92% traveling by car, truck or van, with the rest by plane, bus or train.

12/17/13

Economy:

Wolverine Power Supply is nixing plans for a Rogers City plant, which would have brought many new jobs to Presque Isle and other surrounding counties.

12/19/13

Weather:

Freezing rain and sleet are likely with ice accumulations of 1/10" possible.

12/19/13

Economy:

A Tokyo based company is expanding its business in Northern Michigan, building a facility in Emmet County. 36 new jobs will be created.

12/23/13

Weather/Economy:

The snow is great for local businesses. Caberfae Peaks Ski Resort is packed, while the Cadillac Area Visitors Bureau reports that more than half of the hotels in the area are full between Christmas and New Years. The Bureau reports that every occupied hotel room generates about \$200 to \$300 each day for the local economy.

12/23/13

Holiday Travel

Cherry Capital states that the best time to fly during the holidays is in the morning. That way there's more time to accommodate you on later flights if needed.

12/24/13

Holiday Travel/Weather:

Many traveling on last minute flights out of T.C. could face weather related delays, due to a system moving into the region tonight.

12/24/13

Economy:

In the land of cherries and apples, Northern Michigan is quietly becoming a leader in the Chestnut industry.

12/26/13

Weather/Economy/Winter Tourism

Families have the holiday week off and the slopes will be swamped. Boyne and Nub's say the amount of snowfall this season is really helping business.

12/26/13

Economy:

Many shops in downtown Traverse City report a spike in sales over the Christmas holiday. Many stores state that the 'Buy Local' movement is helping business.

12/27/13

Weather:

The Grand Traverse County Road Commission says they've seen more than 75" of snow so far this season across their county.

12/29/13

Economy:

McGuire's Resort have stated that business is up 10-15% this New Year's Eve compared to last years.

12/29/13

Affordable Care Act:

Not only has issues affected the entire country with the new federal health care law but local rural counties as well. These areas are concerned with doctor shortages and lack of transportation.

12/30/13

Weather:

Parts of the U.P. were below -10 while most of the L.P. started off in the low teens to single digits.

12/31/13

Weather:

Many people in Emmet County woke up to an enormous amount of snow this morning, with some areas reporting they received over a foot of new snow.