

Newsmakers  
JANUARY 2020

1-2

Delta County Sheriff Ed Oswald

Talked about the response to News Years. Life Rides continue to be a success. No major problems. Talked about driving conditions, icy conditions Monday.

1-3

Escanaba City Manager Patrick Jordan

The city council will hold its first budget public hearing. Jordan is concerned that few comments are made concerning the city's budget.

1st Lt Gregg Cunningham, Post Commander of the Gladstone State Police Post

Talked about the need to have a gun presence in churches to prevent attacks. Referred to a seminar with area churches that talked about how to be able to do that. Area churches are implementing using firearms for security.

1-6

Aaron Deiter, Delta County Lego Club

Talked about the monthly meetings on Saturday of the lego club. Kids are able to work on projects and win prizes for attending.

Al Ettenhofer, U.P. Whitetails

Talked about chronic wasting disease in the U.P. No new reports this year. Talked about the need to allow baiting to encourage more hunters if no new chronic wasting disease.

1-7

Sue Gartland, Delta Animal Shelter

Talked about the adaption for 2019. They adopted 1,489 animals, the highest number ever. Talked about a new program called Friend of the Shelter. It's a monthly donation program.

1-8

Delta County Administrator Emily DeSalvo

Talked about her new position as administrator. She says she feels the county is in good shape. Likes the different partners that the country deals with. She will chair the 911 Authority. They will be talking about the need for emergency property signs.

Sue Roll, Bonifas Arts Center

Talked about the new fiber arts exhibit at the Bonifas. Talked about how the work has improved over the years. Also talked about upcoming classes and workshops. Flannel Fest will be held in February as a fundraiser for the art center.

1-9

State Rep. Beau LaFave

He introduced legislation that said U.P. legislators could fly on a state plane to Lansing instead of driving. He says it would save \$80,000 a year plus the time they spend driving from the U.P. to Lansing.

Rory Mattson, Holly Moss, Tyler Tenerski, Sara Kalso, Ann Collins, Delta Conservation District

Mattson talked about the roles of Delta Conservation District employees including two new foresters. Talked about how the public can benefit from their programs.

1-10

Doug Leisenring, Delta Schoolcraft ISD

Talked about negotiations with the Escanaba schools on buying the Soo Hill Elementary school building for their Learning Center. Talked about how the building would be used.

State Sen. Ed McBroom

He says road funding continues to dominate the discussions in Lansing. He says changes were made but it takes away for it the show up. He does not support a tax increase without more of the gas tax going to road repairs.

1-13

Sara Deno, Pack 411 Cubmaster

Talked about the winter outdoor event for Cub Scouts in Delta and Schoolcraft Counties. It included a snowshoe relay that they were participating in. Talked about the benefit to the kids.

Julie Mallard, United Way of Delta County

The United Way is close to done with the campaign. They are down for the third year but they have collected \$173,000. The funds will be distributed in February. She talked about the challenges of fundraising.

Bob Peterson, Delta County Gun Owners Association

He is spearheading an effort to make Delta County a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County. The proposal is before the Delta County Board of Commissioners. He feels his rights are being infringed on.

1-14

Brad Mantella, Gladstone City Commissioner and Eric Buckman, Gladstone City Manager

Dave Phalen resigned from the city commission because he moved outside of the city limits. They talked about the process to fill the vacancy. Buckman is the new city manager. Talked about the focus of the city. He says it will be the 9th Street Project and high water levels on the Great Lakes.

1-16

Tony Mancilla, Island Resort and Casino

Talked about a \$30 million expansion project. Adding a wing of hotel rooms to the east of the casino. It will include fine dining and convention space. They will also add a pool. They will be adding about 100 new jobs.

1-17

Ashley Sylvester and Laura Sliva, Escanaba High School Pasty Sale

Taking orders through Jan. 29 and making pasties in February. It will fund Project Graduation 2020. It includes the overnight party. Talked about what they plan to do after school.

Patrick Jordan, Escanaba City Manager

Talked about snow removal efforts in the city. Storm expected during the weekend. Talked about planning for the city budget. He met with department heads to discuss their budget needs. The focus in the

upcoming budget will be on water and wastewater.

1-20

Amy Reddinger, Dean of Arts and Sciences at Bay College

She is emceeding a Martin Luther King Jr. Day at by that will focus on how inequality affected women. They will highlight the women's right to vote that was approved 100 years ago.

Dennis Moberg, Marble Plus Knife Club

Talked about the upcoming gun and knife show at the American Legion hall in Rapid River. It features Marble's products but also includes other items. Money raised to contributed to youth and community groups.

Mike Furmanski, Escanaba Electric Superintendent and Glendon Brown, Electric Advisory Committee

Talked about the expansion of the solar project at the Delta County Airport by 40 percent. The current facility, time was ahead but generation was a bit behind. Still, they felt it is a good project for the city.

1-21

Jay Kulbertis, Gladstone and Rapid River School Superintendent

Talked about the start of the second semester. Talked about the need to follow grades to make sure they are on track to graduate. This is the first year for the third grade reading requirements.

Ken Bucholtz and Marty Beonga, National Wild Turkey Federation

Marty won an award the state convention for his efforts as volunteer. He collects items for the NWTF banquet in February. Talked about how the funds from the banquet helps develop habitat. Ken will also be receiving the National NWTF Wheelin' Sportsmen Volunteer of the Year award in Memphis.

1-22

Emily DeSalvo, Delta County Administrator

Talked renewed emphasis of the Superior Trade Zone. She feels it could benefit the county if working to promote the U.P. Talked about Indigent Defense Fund efforts to provide an attorney during arraignments in District Court.

Jerry Maynard, Chocolay Raptor Center

Talked about an eagle they rehabilitated that was affected by lead poisoning. The bird has been treated and now ready for released.

1-23

Laura Coleman, Bay College President

Starting a new semester. Enrollment is above projections for semester. Includes early enrollment numbers. Also talked about student outcomes. It includes improved graduation rates. She says that is because they have programs to assist students who need guidance.

Ron Miaso, Gladstone Downtown Development Authority

They are now getting going with two projects they have been working on for awhile. The 9th Street Project bonding was approved by the city commission. Now determining interest rate. Construction will be able to begin as soon as the snow leaves the ground. Discussed budget priorities as they begin to develop a new budget for April 1.

1-24

Ed Legault, Escanaba Downtown Development Authority

Talked about snow removal with the high amount of snowfall this winter. DDA is responsible for city parking lots in the city. Talked about wanting a three year moratorium on new motel construction in the city of Escanaba to help the project at the former Delta County Jail site.

Laura Sliva and Matt Kavin, Escanaba High School Band Pancake Fundraiser

Talked about why they play trumpet in the school bands and why they like the program. The fundraiser will help fund fine arts programs at the school. It will be held before a high school basketball game.

1-27

Coby Fletcher, Escanaba School Superintendent

Talked about efforts to reconfigure of school buildings with the closure of the Soo Hill Elementary School building next year. The Jr. High will now include 6th grade students. He is already making administrative changes.

Mark Caswell, Relic Riders

Talked about the benefit ride the day before to Perkins. Talked about what is like to ride the older snowmobiles. Talked about the show in Rapid River featuring classic snow machines. He says he loves to collect snowmobiles. He likes the history of the machines.

1-28

State Rep. Beau LaFave

Talked about the petition to shutdown Line 5 at the Straits of Mackinac. The U.P. Energy Task Force is getting ready to submit its report on propane deliveries to the U.P. in April. Talked about need for tunnel to house pipeline. Governor opposes the tunnel. Also talked about the need for a Natural Resources Commission for the Upper Peninsula. The current NRC, he says, does not understand the sporting needs are for the U.P.

Brad Mantella, Gladstone City Commissioner

Talked about the upcoming Card Board Classics at the Gladstone Ski Hill after six years hiatus. Talked about registration. Talked about budget meetings to plan the city budget. It needs to be approved by April 1. Says public input is important to see what services they would like the city to focus on.

1-29

Shelia Kruger, Delta Chamber of Commerce

Talked about the Fire and Ice event at the Terrace Bay. It is annual fundraising event around Valentine's Day. It includes dinner, games, auctions and a dance.

Sue Roll, Bonifas Arts Center

Talked about the Brown Bag events each Wednesday at the Bonifas. They are having fiber artists each noon. Talked about the award winners at the fiber arts gallery exhibit. The culinary arts class will feature raw vegan recipes. Talked about classes and workshops that people can sign up for online.

Nicole Sanderson, Gladstone Recreation Department

Talked about the cardboard classic event that will be held at the Gladstone Ski Hill. Held Feb. 8. The city is working on different types of events

including an outdoor bar-b-que party and a waterfront party with a floating bar.

1-30

1st Lt Gregg Cunningham, Gladstone State Police Post Commander  
Talked about driving on icy roads. Icy conditions caused rollovers and major crashes. There has been an increase in the number of fatal crashes. Talked about an increase of dealing with mental health and severe depression.

Rick Elrod, Delta County Non-Motorized Trails

Free youth cross country ski clinic covers five weeks. He says it is important to get kids out and expose them to a new sport. Equipment is offered through the local ski shops. Talked about how to choose equipment and what the instruction will cover.

1-31

Roy Dahlgren, U.P. Trappers Association

Talked about the annual Trappers Winter Workshop that will be held in Hermansville. It is aimed at kids who want to learn about trapping but finds that adults are also interested in learning. Demonstrations are given. All kids will leave with a starter kit and lessons on how to do it right.

Dorothy Kollman, Adoray Berg and Scott Bartley, Special Olympics Basketball

Scott talked about the importance of Special Olympics for him. Talks about practice and playing with basketball with the team. Dorothy talked about the changes of the event this year. The number of participants is falling because of cost of housing during the event.

FEBRUARY 2020

2-3

Steve Beniot, United Steelworkers Union

Talked about the negotiation issues at Bishop Noa Nursing Home. They have been ongoing for two years with no agreement. Talked about some of the issues stalling talks.

2-4

Sue Gartland and Tonya Gartland, Delta Animal Shelter

They are having a Valentine's Day open house at the animal shelter. It includes paw art, microchipping, nail trimming and photos.

Ed Legault, Escanaba Downtown Development Authority

Ed has resigned from the DDA to take a job with the Delta County Economic Development Alliance. Wants to concentrate more on economic development. Talked about the positives of the county and how he is leaving the DDA. Says there is positive momentum in the area. Talked about the need to find workers for employers.

State Sen. Ed McBroom

Talked about the effort to get a Natural Resources Commission for the Upper Peninsula to control wildlife issues in the U.P. He is not sure that they have support. The administration does not support it. Talked about the Governor wanting to fund roads by borrowing money to pay for it. He says it takes away money for local roads besides creating a tremendous amount of debt for the state.

2-5

Emily DeSalvo, Delta County Administrator

Talked about the revision of the remonumentation of property markings in the county. Been an ongoing process. Talked about the graduation of the Delta County Drug Court. Says it is important to have a recognition for those leaving the program. Talked about 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County hearing at the county board meeting.

Paula Waeghe and Marsha Short, U.P. Honor Flight

Talked about need for donations to support their portion of the exhibit at the new U.P. Veterans Museum at the Delta Chamber building. Talked about the legacy of the Honor Flight. Explained what the exhibit might be like.

2-6

Ed Oswald, Delta County Sheriff

Talked about the county's support of the 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County proposal. Talked about the drug issues of inmates at the county jail. It was part of the state report for prison reform. He is not in favor of some of the aspects of jail. Feels jail has to be used as a deterrent.



2-7

Adam Erickson

Talked about an outdoorsmen retreat at Lake Ellen Camp in Iron County. It is a Christian camp. This event includes hunting and fishing activities while talking about faith. It includes trapping shooting, archery, tomahawk throwing, snowshoeing and barbecue brisket.

Dan Sampson, Auctioneer

Talked about his career as an auctioneer, how he got started and evolved of the years. Talked about the competitions he has been involved in and the community events he helps support.

2-10

Julie Mallard, United Way of Delta County and Tonya Ettenhofer, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bay Area

Julie talked about the awarding of funds collected during the past few months. A committee will meet at the end of the month. They collected \$177,000. Tonya talked about 40 years of service to the area. They depend on United Way to operate. The agency's programs are doing well. They serve about 130 kids in Delta County.

2-11

Brad Mantilla, Gladstone City Commissioner

The commission chose Judy Akala to fill a position on the commission. She once served as Marquette City Manager. Talked about voting in the Presidential primary in the city. Includes registering to vote at city hall even if voting at ski hill. The bond rating for the 9th Street Project is expected to be settled by Thursday.

Eric Drink, Delta County Historical Society

He is putting on a winter series presentation at Bay College on Native American logging operations near Nahma. He is talking about the historical perspective of those logging operations on their families, the community and the logging company.

2-12

Brett Gardiner, Delta County Prosecutor

Talked about court numbers. He says they have increased because they are putting more cases through the courts. Reviewed how they handle court cases. Says he focuses on pleas that can help the community.

Ravi Patel, Proxima Management Group

Talked about his proposal to build a motel and retail complex at the former Delta County Jail site. Talked about need to limit new motel construction for three years in order to make the project viable. The city council will consider the issue.

2-13

Coltier Lubben, DNR Wildlife Technician

Talked about the deer camp survey that is held during the deer season in November. It covers 143 camps during the firearms season. It found that less than 30 percent said it was a good season. They also saw an increase in wolf and coyote sightings.

Dr. Mary Whitmer

She will be present the "Gift of Years" at the Gary Abramson Memory Care Center. She is telling people to embrace aging rather than living in fear or denial. Every day is a gift and a purpose of death.

2-14

Doug Leisenring, Delta Schoolcraft ISD

Talked about conditions that are needed for a cold day to cancel classrooms. He explained why they cancel classes. Schools were also dealing with sickness. A school needs 75 percent attendance for it to be considered a school day.

2-17

Lisa Valentine, Matt Kavin, Riley Lamb, and TJ Nault, Strive for a Safer Drive

The students talked about their participation in putting on the program. Lisa says the goal is to get students to slow down. They will have incentives on how to take care of their vehicles in the snow including clearing windows.

State Rep. Beau LaFave

Talked about the rejection of a Governor's appointment to the Natural

Resources Commission by the Senate and concern over another appointment to the NRC due to position on gun rights. Talked about Lake Superior State University student arrested for posting his gun online with a joke that some found threatening.

2-18

Coby Fletcher, Escanaba School Superintendent

Held an inspection of the Soo Hill Elementary School building in preparation of selling it to the Delta Schoolcraft Intermediate School District. The school board will meet in a special meeting next week to finalize the sale. Talked about realignment of school building uses following the sale.

Rob LaMarche, Escanaba Public Safety Director

Talked about removing traffic lights at 5th Street and 11th Street on Ludington Street. He reviewed the crash numbers with the city's traffic advisory committee. He recommends taking those light out.

2-19

Emily DeSalvo, Delta County Administrator

They are getting ready for the auditors. Talked about the county's finances. Talked about bathroom changes at the county service building. They are widening and making ADA compliant as non-gender restrooms. They are having problems finding a new court attorney for arraignments.

Ron Miaso, Gladstone Downtown Development Authority

The DDA is getting ready to ask for proposals for the North Shore Development Project. It is based on a vision that was developed with MSU. It is a housing and commercial complex. Also getting ready to move forward on 9th Street Project.

2-20

Tom Casperson, former state Senator

Talked about his health. He was diagnosed with stage four cancer. New treatment helped for quite a few months. Cancer is returning. Talked about Senate rejection of Natural Resources Commission appointment and the DNR Director's response to Senator Ed McBroom's position against her.

Brett Gardiner and Kelly Chanldier, Delta Regional Child Advocacy Center  
Talked about the reopening of the Child Advocacy Center. They presented to the County Board of Commissioners about the upgrades and how the facility is being used. The county owns the property.

2-21

Patrick Jordan, Escanaba City Manager

Talked about the new logo and website that the city unveiled at last night's council meeting. Talked about the process of developing the websites.

Talked about a low to mid income housing project near Walmart. There is concern about the location of the housing unit.

2-25

Peggy O'Connell, Escanaba City Council

Talked about her objections to the low to mid income housing unit proposed near Walmart. She, instead, would like to see high end senior housing.

2-26

Paula Jordan, Bonifas Arts Center

Talked about the Flannel Fest fundraiser at the Bonifas. Talked about classes and workshops upcoming at the Bonifas. The culinary arts class is full. Players de Noc is getting ready with Momma Mia. The gallery is getting read for Youth in Art in March.

2-27

Laura Coleman, Bay College President

Talked about the Achieving the Dream conference in Washington DC. The college received an award for their program. It has helped to double graduation rates. It focuses on staff programing that concentrates on student needs.

1st Lt Gregg Cunningham, Gladstone State Police Post Commander

Talked about the increase in suicides. Says it is an ongoing problem that law enforcement is responding to. No decrease yet. Talked about need to help Troopers who deal with those issues when they respond.

2-28

Dan Bender, Escanaba Downtown Development Authority Chair

Talked about the need to find a new director for the DDA. They have 15 applicants so far. He is looking someone who has knowledge of getting grant money. They have developed goals and objectives for the new director such as facade program.

Sara Carter, Peyton Stromberg and Brooklyn Beauchamp, Holy Name 5th grade students

They are part of the play Princess and the Goblin. They all play goblins. Talked about the play and why they tried out for the play. They like the experience being on stage.

Jamie Peterson, Social Security Administration

Talked about the need to be aware of tax forms that social security recipients need to file. Talked about why how the process works and how to obtain forms.

Lynn Soderberg, Players de Noc

Lynn is directing the play Momma Mia. The music is based on ABBA music. There are 36 actors on stage singing and dancing. Talked about how to direct the cast and pull the best out of the actors.

## MARCH 2020

### 3-2

Renee Richer, State Representative candidate

She is a university professor and owns a bed and breakfast. Feels her experience as a scientist and biology will be important as a representative in Lansing. Credits her high school teacher for her interest in biology.

Warren Schauer, Bay de Noc Master Gardners

Talked about the Bay de Noc Gardening Conference in April. Registrations need to be sent in early. People like to learn different things about gardening. Went through all of the classes available.

### 3-3

Tonya Gartland, Sue Gartland, Delta Animal Shelter

Talked about cat, Jinks, that needed emergency surgery on the eye.

Looking for help to pay for surgery. Jinks will be part of an open house that

people can meet him. The animal shelter also needs more foster homes for kittens that are born at the shelter. Talked about what is expected and how to volunteer.

State Sen. Ed McBroom

Talked about reaction to his position on rejecting two appointments to the Natural Resources Commission. Talked about what he is looking for in NRC members. Talked about several meth bills he pushed through the Senate. He says it finishes the process begun by State Rep. John Kivela who passed away.

3-4

Marty Fittane, InvestUP

Talked about his new position with the regional economic development organization. It looks at prosperity of the U.P. Feels U.P. has challenges and opportunities. Talked about timber, mining and tourism in the U.P.

3-6

Patrick Jordan, Escanaba City Manager

Talked about full council meeting. It included a public hearing on a four story building for low to mid income housing. Also addressed changing the zoning of the property. Talked about a planning commission 5-year plan to have property owners install sidewalks on all properties.

Delta County Sheriff Ed Oswald

Talked about a new officer needed for the correctional facility. Need to find funding for the positions. Talked about holding GED classes in the jail for inmates. Says there are rules they have to follow. Says it's exciting to seeing classrooms full. It is encouraging to other inmates.

3-9

Julie Mallard, United Way of Delta County and Tonya Gartland and Sue Gartland, Delta Animal Shelter

The United Way supported nine agencies this year. They put more money towards Dolly Parton Imagination Library that offers free books to pre-schoolers. The Delta Animal Shelter received money for the reading program on Saturdays. It brings in kids to hear a book being read and interacting with the animals. The other program takes pets into nursing

homes for seniors. The interaction is needed by both residents and animals.

3-10

Fred Anderson, U.P. Luge Association

A natural luge track on Lucy Hill in Neguanee trains athletes for competition in Europe. They open the lower part of the track to the public. He says he loves working with the young kids.

Gary Nash, Northern Lights YMCA

They announced the expansion of the YMCA facility in Escanaba. It includes an additional gym, new workout area and family changing areas. They are asking now for large contributions. They have just completed an upgrade at Iron Mountain.

3-11

Brett Gardiner, Delta County Prosecutor

The first meeting of the board for the Child Advocacy Center will be held. He says it is a milestone. Unfortunately, there is a need for the facility. They are adding another interviewer. Talked about what he hopes the facility will achieve.

3-12

Gabe Kluka, Robomos Robotics Mentor

Talked about the postponement of the FIRST Robotics competition at Escanaba. The Governor is shutting down schools due to a threat of Coronavirus. Talked about last week's competition in Kingsford and how the cancellation might affect the state and national competitions.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer

Talked about problems with COVID-19. She limited large gathering of 100 or more. Encouraged schools to protect students. Says she is going to have to make tough decisions in coming days.

3-13

State Rep. Beau LaFave

The governor just closed schools. LaFave talks the legislature's response to COVID-19. He opposes the ban on assemblages including churches.

Says it is against the constitution.

Dave Lorenz, Travel Michigan

The state legislature just restored Pure Michigan funds that were vetoed by the governor in October. Dave talked about the importance and effectiveness of the funds and why tourism is important to Michigan. He also attended a showing of Under the Radar at the Island Resort and Casino last night.

3-17

Coby Fletcher, Escanaba School Superintendent

Schools closed quickly with little time to respond. They had a school day to do it. They had to make decisions on how to educate and feed students. Students were caught by surprise.

Jay Kulbertis, Superintendent of Rapid River and Gladstone schools

There are questions they are trying to find answers to. They are trying to reassure students without knowing what the future holds.

Vickie Micheau, Delta Chamber

Actions are starting to affect businesses due to COVID-19. Says business owners have high anxiety. Concerned about flexibility in the workplace especially with employees with children home from school. Restaurant and bars given only a few hours to close. Affects the events at the fairgrounds as well.

Becky Moody, Hereford and Hopes Restaurant and Brewpub

Becky has decided not to serve carryout. They are not equipped to do so. They will carryout beer. She is concerned about her employees. They are taking home perishable food. They are also planning maintenance during closure.

3-18

Lacey Crabb, OSF Healthcare

Talked about order that restricts visitors at the hospital. She outlined measures the hospital is taking during the COVID-19 pandemic. Addressed readiness to be able to handle positive cases.



Paul Geyer, Delta County Emergency Management Coordinator  
Talked about the county declaring a state of emergency due to COVID-19. Talked about what it means and how the county can help the county respond. Talked about his ability to assist including requesting material needed by medical, law enforcement like personal protection equipment (PPEs).

Ron Miaso, Gladstone Downtown Development Authority  
Talked about city offices closing to walk-in traffic. Contact needs to be by phone or online. Public meetings are being cancelled. Having a hard time talking with business owner because they are closed. Dew Drop Restaurant is partnering with Main Street Pizza to deliver meals.

3-19

Rod Stende, Elmer's County Market  
Other than toilet paper and cleaning materials, the grocery store is in pretty good shape. They are limited on some supplies. Trucking is a problem. Causing them to be creative in the products they order.

Laura Coleman, Bay College President  
Talked about they are going to function with closure. They are meeting daily to address the situation. Says it could go into July. They have moved online. It was a big move but says staff has been working to offer online classes before COVID-19 pandemic.

Ed Legault, Delta County Economic Development Alliance  
Talked business assistance for area businesses. Talked about reaction from business community on reaction to COVID-19. The state will have some money for a grant program. Federal programs are not yet defined.

3-20

Ken Bucholtz, Wheelin' Sportsmen  
Received an award from National Wild Turkey Association for his efforts with the Wheelin' Sportsmen program. He talked about how he got started in the program and how they progressed to provide equipment for paraplegic to be able to hunt.

Patrick Jordan, Escanaba City Manager

Talked about getting the public used to quarantine and social distancing. The city is shifting workers to make sure that if the virus spreads they have workers at public safety, water, electric and wastewater.

3-23

Tim Bishop

Tim and his wife were unable to get out of Honduras while doing mission work there. The government shutdown the country over COVID-19. He talked about what happened. He is concerned that they are taking food and resources away from families they are staying with. They need to get out of the country.

Toby Kuivinen, Mr. Tire

Talked about ways that business can help keep COVID-19 out of the U.P. including not accepting deliveries. Staff has been thinking about ways to be proactive. They are cleaning, pay with credit cards and picking up vehicles.

State Sen. Ed McBroom

Responded to a stay at home order for everyone for three weeks. He remains optimistic that they will be back to normal by May. Felt that something should have been done in February. Struck that governor says no plans then shut everything down. Feels ideas are sound.

Bonnie-Wenick-Kutz, Friends of Honduras

Talked about the Tim Bishop and his wife being stranded in Honduras. Others, including her and her husband, were able to get out before the border was closed. Talked about the mission and what they were working on.

3-24

Laura Coleman, Bay College President

Says everyone exceeded expectations in moving classes online. Only a few labs left. Issued computers to employees and students and setup WIFI in the parking lot for those without Internet. They are meeting online with staff and students.

Jim Kirby, Saykly's Confectionary & Gifts

Talked about problems selling candy with Easter approaching including

chocolate covered eggs that are very popular. Can still be ordered online. Talked about how the business responded to state shutdown.

Rory Mattson, Delta Conservation District

Talking about the annual Tree Sale that is a fundraiser for the conservation district. Can only ordered online or by phone because of stay home order. The brochure is online. The trees will be picked up later at U.P. State Fairgrounds. He went over the various types of trees available and how they would be used.

John Stapleton, Delta Area Transit Authority

DATA is considered an essential service that is required to operate yet the number of drivers dropped dramatically. They are cleaning and setting up social distancing for those still riding. They are also doing pickup and deliveries for those not going out. They did layoff some staff because work is down. Their state funds are based on how much business they have.

3-25

Nick Nolde

No baseball on the opening day of baseball. Nick was an umpire league in the minor leagues. He says it is a sad day for baseball.

Sue Parker, Nyman Jewelers

Talked about stress with shutdown. She was going to close for construction but can't because they are prohibited from working. Talked about her plans and what the closure means for her business.

Sue Roll, Bonifas Arts Center

The Bonifas is closed after hoping to provide programming for students home from school closures. Youth in Art awards were cancelled. The awards were presented online instead. Talked about classes and workshops and their status with stay home order.

3-26

1st Lt. Gregg Cunningham, Gladstone State Police Post Commander

Talked about working from home with stay home order. The biggest issue is communication and access to files. Says crime is way down. Talked about what Troopers are expected to do.

Escanaba Mayor Marc Tall and City Manager Patrick Jordan  
Talked about response to COVID-19 and stay home order. Talked about keeping utilities up and running. City hall is now closed. Urged the community to follow orders.

3-27

Congressman Jack Bergman

He is getting ready to vote on stimulus package. Talked about the relief package and how it can help during Coronavirus. It is meant to keep people employed and that businesses not go out of business.

Jamie Peterson, Players de Noc

Players held auditions for the Cemetary Club, the final pay of the season. However, with the stay home order, the dates of the play have been postponed until May. They were able to get continuance from publisher.

Renee Richer, State Representative Candidate

Talked about the pandemic and offered dire consequences ahead. Is predicting more than 70-thousand deaths in U.P. from COVID-19. Talked about why it is important to follow stay home order and social distancing.

3-30

Paul Geyer, Delta County Emergency Management Coordinator

Talked about status of COVID-19 in Delta County and the effort underway to get ready for a possible outbreak. He is requesting PPE material for medical and law enforcement use.

Ed Legault, Delta County Economic Development Alliance

Talked about state and federal programs available to help businesses. Talked about how businesses can apply for state grant and federal loan programs. Business owners are trying to figure out what they are facing.

3-31

Jim Kirby, Saykly's Confectionary & Gifts

They are able to partner with the Delta Area Transit Authority to deliver Easter chocolate fudge eggs and candy to homes in the area. Talked about how to order and how it will work.

Jake Kobasics, Kobasics Creations

He and his wife are making intubation units for hospitals to use with COVID-19 patients. He is starting to get orders across the country. Told the story how it all happened and the reaction to the units by medial personnel.

Brad Mantella, Gladstone City Commissioner

Talked about their virtual meeting to pass a budget. It needed to be done by April 1. Budget was completed. No public called to comment on the budget or other items on the agenda.