



Upcoming Events

August 21 - FOLK steering committee meeting at Catherine Andrews' home.

September 1 - FOLK fundraiser at the Portage Lake United Methodist Church from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (see reverse side for more details.)

September 10 - DEQ public hearings on Kennecott Eagle Project at NMU Don H. Bottum University Center, second floor from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM

September 11 & 12 - DEQ public hearings on Kennecott Eagle Project at the West Branch Community Center, Avenue A Forsyth Township (located on the old K.I. Sawyer AFB app 3.5 miles from County Road 553 just behind the MDEQ UP District Office from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM.

September 13 from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

UPPCO Impoundment Update

The process to decide whether UPPCO's Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) will be approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is apparently grinding forward. UPPCO has been asking public entities to send letters of support to FERC, and at least a couple have done so. If you are concerned about this issue, and have not sent a letter, it isn't too late

The Copper Country Intermediate School District was approached and asked to endorse UPPCO's plans for the Prickett impoundment. Nancy Warren and Ted Soldan attended the board meeting where this was discussed, and spoke to the board requesting they not endorse this proposal. At the next meeting the board voted to endorse UPPCO's Shoreline Management Plan.

State Senator Mike Prusi's office was also contacted by UPPCO, and his office sent a letter of support to FERC. Nancy Warren and Ted Soldan both called Prusi's office and spoke with his aide. It was clear that Senator Prusi did not consult with local residents opposed to this project, and composed his letter to the FERC largely based on information provided by UPPCO and Naterra (the real estate company that has agreed to purchase the land surrounding the impoundments.) Stay tuned for further developments.

Michigan DEQ Approves Kennecott Mining Application (Again)

Thanks in part to the efforts of many dedicated folks in the environmental movement, the permitting process for the Kennecott Eagle Project mine on the Yellowdog Plains was put on indefinite hold due to concerns about the stability of the crown pillar. The crown pillar will hold up the ceiling of the mine after the ore is removed, thereby avoiding the subsidence that could cause (among other things) serious pollution of the Salmon Trout Creek River.

During this intervening time, the DEQ commissioned the Itasca Consulting Company to review Kennecott's plans. Itasca felt the concerns about the crown pillar were justified, and recommended that further geotechnical and hydrological work be conducted. This work caused Kennecott to modify their plans to establish a new upper mining limit that would "allow for mining to be carried out below and not have any effect on the surface."

Public hearings have again been scheduled, and FOLK intends to send representatives to as many as possible. (see sidebar)

More information on this topic (pro and con) is available at the following web pages:

- http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3311_4111_18442-130551--00.html
http://www.savethewildup.org/
http://www.eagle-project.com/overview.php
http://www.citizensforresponsiblemining.org/article2.php

Hancock Proposes Selling Swedetown River Mouth

The City of Hancock is considering a proposal to sell the river mouth of the Swedetown Creek for residential development. According to local birders, this area is an outstanding natural area and one of the few good birding areas for migrants (especially warblers) located within the Hancock City limits. If the loss of this public property concerns you, please consider writing to the Hancock Planning Commission before their next meeting on August 27. It is entirely possible that a modest amount of citizen involvement on this issue could protect this wild area for future generations.



FOLK

FOLK, formed in 1989, was established to oppose the siting of any paper/pulp mill in Keweenaw Bay. FOLK continues to promote a healthy environment in the Keweenaw Peninsula and the Lake Superior Watershed. By joining FOLK, you support this goal.

(Please Print)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ Date _____

- Individual (Annual Membership) - \$10 \$ _____
Senior Citizen, Unemployed, Student (Annual) - \$5 \$ _____
Organization (Annual) - \$35 \$ _____
Check here if you want an acknowledgement
I would like to contribute to FOLK's Educational Fund. \$ _____
Additional Contributions: \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

FOLK Fundraiser Rummage Sale

Saturday Sept 1, 2007
9 AM – 1:00 PM Half-price at noon
Portage Lake United Methodist Church
(across from MTU Admin. Bldg.)

We need your help with rummage donations. Items must be in NEW or GOOD condition, absolutely NO clothing, shoes or junky things. Popular sale pieces include dishes, kitchen tools, knick-knacks, books, small furniture items, children's toys, sports equipment, tools, collectibles and antiques.

FOLK hasn't had a fundraiser for 3 years. We already have antique and collectible items given for this important sale, so please go through your goods and be generous with your donations. This is our only fundraiser and all profits will go toward publishing our educational newsletters.

Drop Off Sites:
Portage Lake United Methodist Church
in the choir room (side doors, first door on right)
Mon through Fri. Aug. 27-31st 9:00 AM to Noon.
We will be setting up on Fri. 6-8 PM. if you wish to leave items then.
Frostie Freeze in L'Anse – during open hours

If you can help on Saturday, contact either Rosemary Grier 334-2660
or Connie Sherry 482-2006

