



Enriching our community through access to information and opportunities in a welcoming and inspiring environment.

Inspire. Include. Innovate. Ishpeming

Library Board Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2026
7:00pm-8:00pm (ET)
Ray Leverton Community Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes from August 20, 2026 meeting*
4. Public Participation (*limited to 5 minutes*)
5. Presentation by Zosia Eppensteiner, CFofMC, on Tousignant Endowment
6. Librarian's Report
 - a. Circulation
 - b. Calendar of events
 - c. Budget Report
 - d. Book Bills
 - e. Friends of the Library
 - f. Library Millage (November 2026)
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Sustainability Committee Report
8. Communications
9. Unfinished Business
10. New Business
 - a. Approve requested 2027 budget*
11. Public Participation (*limited to 5 minutes*)
12. Date of next meeting: Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Ray Leverton Community Room
13. Adjournment*

*Requires a vote

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

Board Minutes August 20, 2026

Present: Elyse Bertucci, Darren Boldt, Paul Olson, and Kaylee Reno with Brooke Routhier attending via Zoom as a non-quorum attendee. Jesse Shirtz, Library Director was present. Absent: none. Public: none.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM.

Motion by Paul Olson supported by Kaylee Reno to approve the July 16, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed with Brooke Routhier not voting.

Public Participation: None.

Presentations: None.

Librarian's Report:

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director, presented information, monthly progress report, statistical report and library report for July. It was a very busy month with close to 4,000 attendees. The summer reading programing was popular and well attended. Full summer reading program statistics will be shared soon. School resuming has increased the number of book requests especially for home school families. The library used a grant to purchase a scanner for photos and slides that will be available for check out. Unique Management continues to provide significant value and returns many items to the library. Youth and adult outreach programs and other efforts continued and are increasing library resource access. Beanstack information was provided and showed a continuing increasing reading trend. The microfilm scanner purchased with the Carnegie gift arrived and has already been used by a library patron. The heating system repairs are complete with an added benefit the new, smaller heating equipment providing more useable storage space. One of the AC units was not working and was repaired under warranty thanks to the persistence of city maintenance staff. The City Council has forwarded a millage proposal for Library Services for the November election. The library has a new clerk and appreciates having that position filled.

- Circulation: Attendance in July was close to 4,000. Roughly 12% of the total library material was in circulation. A total of 63 new library cards were issued. The teen program attendance has grown and more programming is being requested by the group.
- Calendar of events: The draft calendar of events for September was provided. September is "Library card sign up" month.
- Budget report: Budget information was provided from the City and is in line for the year.
- Book bills: Book invoices were reviewed and signed by the library board.
- Friends of the Library: Association of Friends of the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library (FOL) has not met since the last Library board meeting. The next FOL meeting is scheduled for September 10 with a book sale to follow in September 11 and 12.

Committee Reports: None.

Communications: None

Unfinished Business:

- Discussed Library Board Secretary's new work schedule and conflict with some in person board meetings. Current guidance suggests that Zoom attendance would be acceptable but may not allow voting or consideration towards the board quorum.
- Policy manual review, revision and updating is ongoing. Waiting on city attorney input on several.

- Tousignant donation: A list of potential projects (enhance and enrich: table lights, e readers, more computers for patrons, picture rail, chairs with chargers, reading pod) is still being developed and should be prioritized in 2026. Annual distributions no later than 2028. An additional project to consider could be digitizing the library's historic newspapers. The library will have a student intern from Westwood this year that could start the project.
- The Children's room redesign (FOL will cover up to \$15,000 for the renovation plan). No update this month.
- Capital Improvement items submitted for consideration to the City: No update this month.
 1. Front steps/pillar deterioration repair
 2. Children's room redesign and renovation. The heating work will allow this to proceed.
 3. Computer replacement – budget annual capital replacement at 3 per year.
 4. Glass floor repairs.
 5. Tile floor repairs and carpeting replacement.
 6. Roof replacement fund allocation in preparation for full replacement in 2034 to 2039. The repairs completed in 2024 should provide 10-15 more years of service.
- Second Reading of the Library Card Policy was held. A motion was made by Darren Boldt and supported by Kaylee Reno to accept the second reading. Motion passed with two yes votes and one no vote with Brooke Routhier not voting.
- The Second Reading of the Circulation Policy was held. A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and supported by Kaylee Reno to accept the second reading with minor edits to have the fines reference the fee schedule. Motion passed with Brooke Routhier not voting.

New Business:

- Schedule overview and Q&A from the Community Fund of Marquette will be scheduled to help prepare for the Tousignant Endowment.
- A request was made to suspend library card charge (\$2.00 per card) for September "Library card sign up" month. A motion was made by Elyse Bertucci and supported by Darren Boldt to allow suspension of the \$2.00 per new library card fee for September. Motion passed with Brooke Routhier not voting.
- Training is available that can be scheduled for the September meeting to help guide the Library staff and board members on how to discuss the upcoming millage as there are restrictions to factual information only. The communication provided from the City was provided.

Public Participation: none.

Next meeting is September 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM in person at the Library.

A motion was made by Paul Olson and seconded by Kaylee Reno at 8:29 PM to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Brooke Routhier and Elyse Bertucci.

AUGUST 2026



Monthly Progress Report

VISIT [HTTPS://ISHPEMINGLIBRARY.INFO](https://ishpeminglibrary.info) FOR PAST ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTS & UPCOMING PROGRAMS

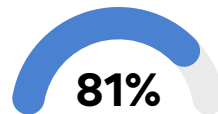
Programming

Number of, and attendance at, programs for adults & youth

6	432
# Kids Programs	Attendance at Kids Programs
1	6
# Teen Programs	Attendance at Teen Programs
20	130
# Adult Programs	Attendance at Adult Programs
27	568
Total # Programs	Total Attendance

Highest Circulating Collections

Patrons checked out this percentage of the section this month



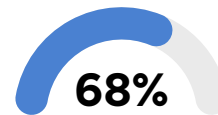
New Vox Books



New Adult Fiction



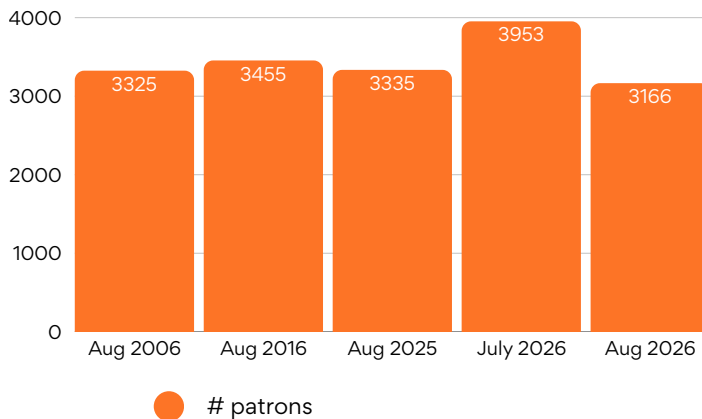
New Kids Graphic Novels



Vox Books

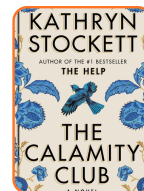
Visits to the Library

Visits to the library compared to last month and previous years



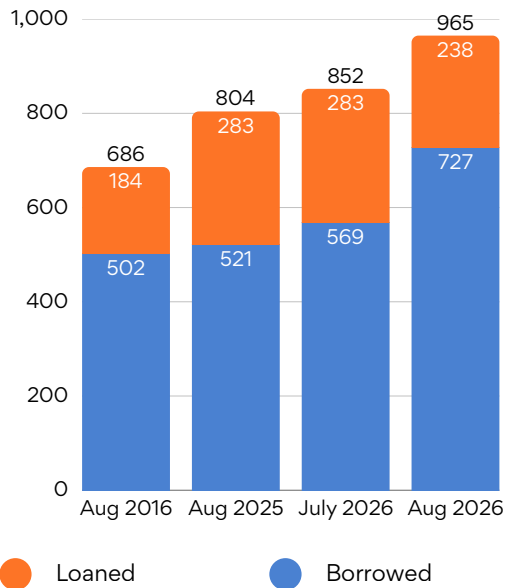
Most Popular Books

The most checked-out books for Adult Fiction & Non-Fiction, YA, and Kids



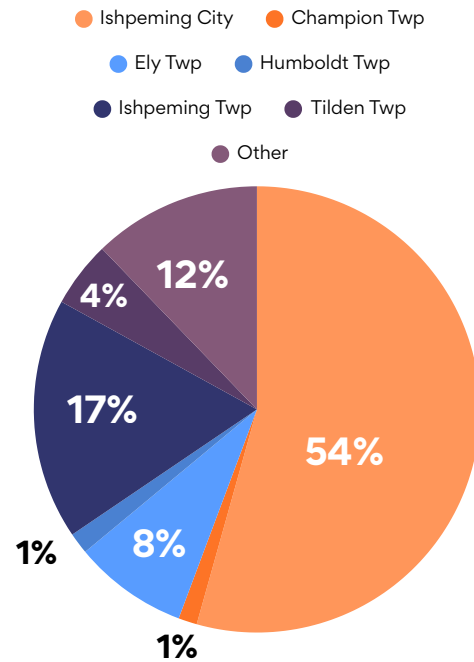
Inter-Library Loan

The number of physical items loaned to and borrowed from other libraries

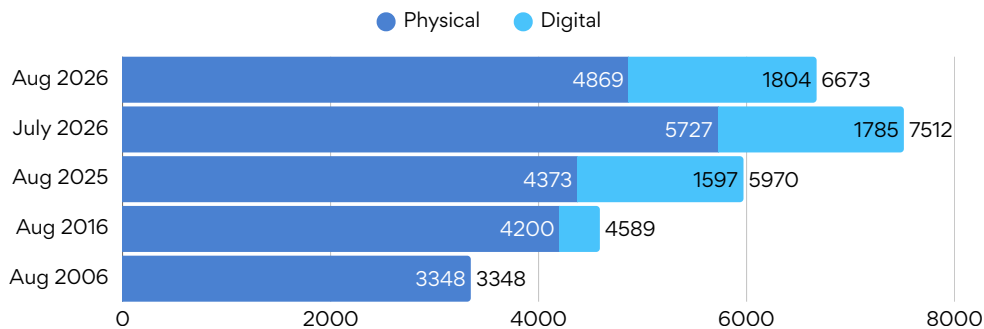


Library Cardholders

Percentage of cardholders by service area



Items Checked Out



The number of physical and digital items checked out by our patrons

Percentage of total physical collection circulated:

10.55%

Upcoming Programs

SEPTEMBER
18



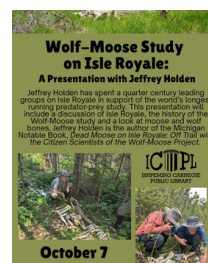
SEPTEMBER
22 & 29



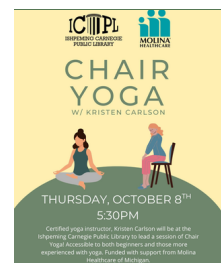
SEPTEMBER
30



OCTOBER
7



OCTOBER
8



August 2026 Statistical Report

August Circulation Stats

We circulated 6,673 items (4,869 physical items; 1,804 ebooks and eaudiobooks) in the month of August! (703 more items than August 2025).

- We had 51 new people register for library cards in the month of August!
- 727 items were borrowed on interlibrary loan.
- Collections that have the highest percentage of circulation:
 - NEWJAUDIO (new Vox books) - 81%
 - NEWFIC (new adult fiction) - 76%
 - NEWJGRAPH (new graphic novels) - 76%
 - JAUDIO (Vox books) - 68%
 - NEWJEASY (new picture books) - 52%

August Programming Stats

27 programs were offered throughout the month of August with 568 attendees.

- 6 programs for kids with 432 attendees
 - 80 people attended Storytime at the Park on August 5th
- 20 programs for adults with 130 attendees
 - 25 adults attended the J.L. Hyde author visit on August 19th
- 1 program for teens with 6 attendees (Graphic Novel Book Club)

Nicole Johnson

Librarian

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

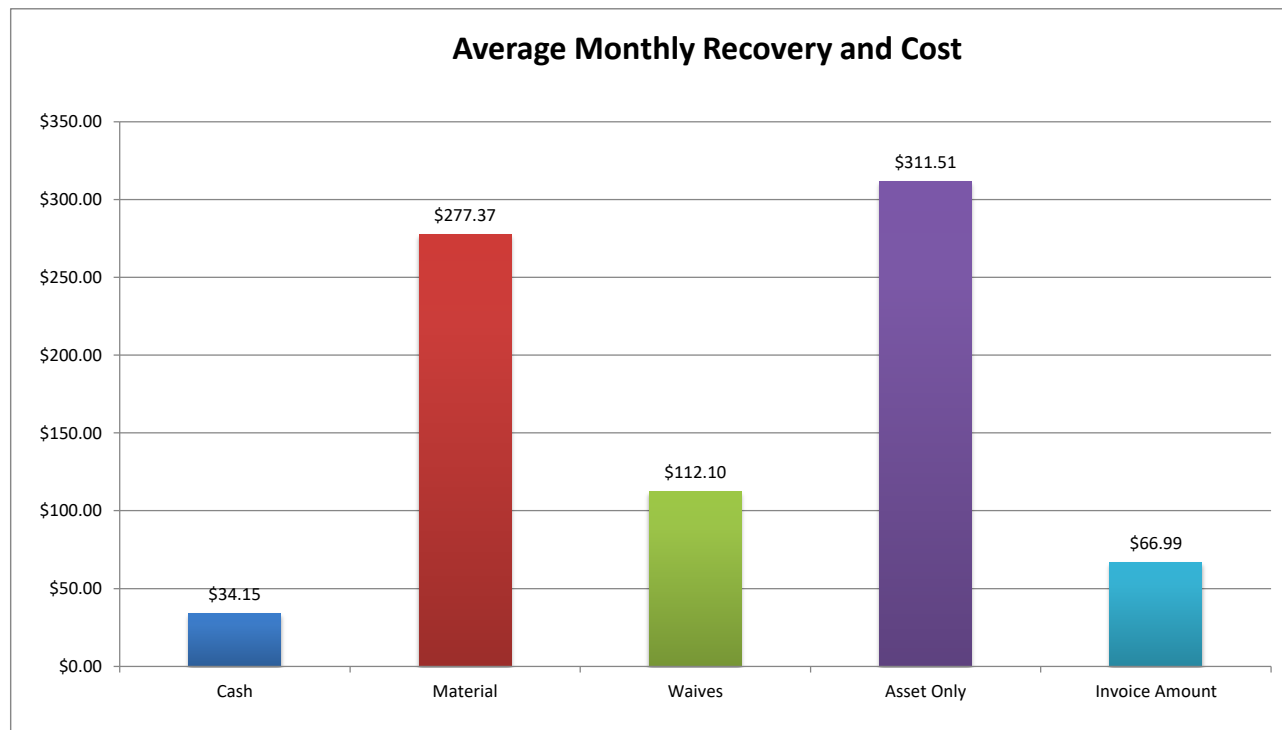
906-486-4381



Monthly Recovery Statistics: Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library

9/2025 Through 8/2026

Month	Cash	Material	Waives	Total	Assets Only	Invoice Amount
August-26	\$0.00	\$124.00	\$0.00	\$124.00	\$124.00	\$69.90
July-26	\$73.90	\$160.00	\$10.30	\$244.20	\$233.90	\$93.20
June-26	\$75.80	\$189.00	\$79.99	\$344.79	\$264.80	\$34.95
May-26	\$58.49	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$100.49	\$100.49	\$81.55
April-26	\$7.40	\$689.77	\$340.83	\$1,038.00	\$697.17	\$81.55
March-26	\$5.00	\$187.95	\$60.00	\$252.95	\$192.95	\$11.65
February-26	\$145.20	\$405.99	\$519.76	\$1,070.95	\$551.19	\$81.55
January-26	\$0.00	\$297.89	\$23.30	\$321.19	\$297.89	\$69.90
December-25	\$19.00	\$210.94	\$54.60	\$284.54	\$229.94	\$81.55
November-25	\$10.00	\$334.99	\$100.40	\$445.39	\$344.99	\$58.25
October-25	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$116.31	\$426.31	\$310.00	\$116.50
September-25	\$15.00	\$375.85	\$39.70	\$430.55	\$390.85	\$23.30
Total	\$409.79	\$3,328.38	\$1,345.19	\$5,083.36	\$3,738.17	\$803.85
Average	\$34.15	\$277.37	\$112.10	\$423.61	\$311.51	\$66.99
						Total ROI: \$6:1



GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 08/31/2026 NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	ACTIVITY FOR MONTH 08/31/2026		AVAILABLE BALANCE NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	% BDGT USED
				INCREASE (DECREASE)			
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND							
Revenues							
101-000-402.000	REAL PROPERTY TAX	1,859,380.62	1,840,686.44	0.00		18,694.18	98.99
101-000-410.000	PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-412.000	DELINQUENT PERSONAL PROPERTY	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-434.000	SPECIFIC ORE TAX	0.00	9,702.76	0.00		(9,702.76)	100.00
101-000-438.000	PRE DENTALS	673.07	1,170.92	0.00		(497.85)	173.97
101-000-439.000	MARIJUANA TAX	60,000.00	0.00	0.00		60,000.00	0.00
101-000-440.000	LOCAL COMM. STABILIZATION TAX	36,000.00	36,873.50	0.00		(873.50)	102.43
101-000-441.000	PILT - HOUSING	39,000.00	41,235.55	0.00		(2,235.55)	105.73
101-000-441.001	PILT - HOUSING - PHELPS/LAKESHORE HEIGHT	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-444.000	SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-445.000	PENALTIES/INTEREST ON TAXES	0.00	51,588.18	0.00		58,411.82	46.90
101-000-447.000	TAX ADMINISTRATION FEE	110,000.00	0.00	28,168.28		0.00	0.00
101-000-451.000	BUSINESS LICENSES/PERMITS	0.00	0.00	1,251.60		50,831.72	35.66
101-000-455.000	CABLE FRANCHISE FEE	79,000.00	1,814.40	1,192.00		562.80	68.98
101-000-455.001	CABLE PEG FEE	1,814.40	50.00	0.00		(393.33)	149.25
101-000-460.000	PARKING PERMITS	798.67	50.00	0.00		16.67	75.00
101-000-462.000	SIDEWALK PERMIT FEE	66.67	800.00	0.00		0.00	100.00
101-000-464.000	EXCAVATION PERMIT FEE	800.00	300.00	0.00		0.00	225.01
101-000-477.000	FOOD TRUCK PERMIT FEE	133.33	0.00	0.00		(166.67)	0.00
101-000-478.000	ANIMAL LICENSE	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-479.000	MERS FOREFEITURES	0.00	24,738.73	7,161.04		(24,738.73)	100.00
101-000-480.000	BURIAL PERMITS	8,666.67	5,200.00	0.00		3,466.67	60.00
101-000-480.001	BURIALS - NON-RES.	23,200.00	7,150.00	1,300.00		16,050.00	30.82
101-000-481.000	CREMAINS	4,666.67	2,250.00	750.00		2,416.67	48.21
101-000-481.001	CREMAINS - NON-RES.	12,666.67	6,000.00	1,500.00		6,666.67	47.37
101-000-483.000	GRAVESIDE & OTHER FEES	12,373.33	5,050.00	700.00		7,323.33	40.81
101-000-485.000	COLUMBARIUM	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-487.000	MARIJUANA PERMIT FEE	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-490.000	MONUMENTS & MARKERS	0.00	6,110.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-495.000	RENTAL CODE INSPECTION FEES	15,100.00	0.00	1,825.00		8,990.00	40.46
101-000-497.000	SPECIAL EVENT FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-528.000	OTHER FEDERAL GRANTS	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-539.301	STATE GRANTS	70,683.33	90,390.69	991.00		(19,707.36)	127.88
101-000-545.000	STATE GRANTS - POLICE	4,000.00	0.00	0.00		4,000.00	0.00
101-000-577.000	ACT 302 POLICE TRAINING	2,316.67	2,319.60	0.00		(2.93)	100.13
101-000-579.000	STATE SHARED REVENUE	1,105,036.80	511,387.70	160,459.00		593,649.10	46.28
101-000-579.000	LIQUOR LICENSES	9,317.33	1,523.50	0.00		7,793.83	16.35
101-000-602.000	ANIMAL IMPOUND FEES	460.00	150.00	40.00		310.00	32.61
101-000-603.000	OUTDOOR LIQUOR APPLICATION FEE	0.00	25.00	0.00		(25.00)	100.00
101-000-607.000	ASSESSOR'S FIELD SHEETS	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-608.000	ZONING APPEALS FEES	33.33	0.00	0.00		33.33	0.00
101-000-610.000	PUBLIC NOTICE OF DISCONNECT	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-612.000	ZONING FEES	7,393.33	3,110.00	840.00		4,283.33	42.06
101-000-613.000	NEZ APPLICATION FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-615.000	SNOW REMOVAL	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-618.000	LOADING ZONE FEE	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-619.000	LIBRARY COPIER FEES	1,679.43	1,322.78	0.00		356.65	78.76
101-000-626.000	BELL HOSP POLICE SERVICES	24,999.96	14,583.31	2,063.33		10,416.65	58.33
101-000-627.000	SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER - IPS	87,500.00	42,734.66	0.00		44,765.34	48.84
101-000-644.000	SALE OF SCRAP IRON	92.82	4,534.31	929.48		(4,441.49)	4,885.06
101-000-645.000	LAND SALES	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00
101-000-646.000	SALE OF USED EQUIPMENT	135,000.00	135,969.00	0.00		(969.00)	100.72
101-000-648.000	CEMETERY LOTS	10,266.67	4,675.00	550.00		5,591.67	45.54
101-000-651.000	AL QUAAI USER FEES	19,746.67	17,833.00	1,888.00		1,913.67	90.31
101-000-651.001	AL QUAAI TUBE SLIDE	9,960.00	24,350.00	0.00		(14,390.00)	244.48
101-000-651.003	AL QUAAI CROSS COUNTRY SKI	1,544.00	1,799.00	0.00		(255.00)	116.52

User: GRANT
DB: Ishpending

PERIOD ENDING 08/31/2026

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026		YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR		AVAILABLE		% EDGT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	08/31/2026	MONTH 08/31/2026	INCREASE (DECREASE)	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	BALANCE		
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND										
Revenues										
101-000-651.004	WINTER CONCESSION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-651.005	LAKE BANCROFT PAVILION RENTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-651.007	CAMPING FEES	18,346.70	16,075.00	4,700.00	2,271.70	489.44	87.62	87.62		
101-000-652.000	TRAIL EVENT FEES	1,675.87	1,186.43	0.00	70.79	866.67	84.71	84.71		
101-000-653.000	BALFIELD USER FEE	5,666.67	4,800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-654.000	HORSESHOE USER FEE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-655.000	LAKE BANCROFT MEMORIAL BRICKS	266.67	280.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-656.000	LIBRARY BOOK FINES	1,777.60	1,014.22	0.00	763.38	73.58	57.06	57.06		
101-000-657.000	PENAL FINES	32,792.76	24,127.30	0.00	8,665.46	44.97	73.58	73.58		
101-000-658.000	ORDINANCE FINES	1,106.32	497.46	0.00	608.86	44.97	103.00	103.00		
101-000-659.000	TOWNSHIP CONT-LIBRARY	9,487.33	9,771.95	0.00	(284.62)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-661.000	POLICE SERVICE FEES - PBT'S	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-661.001	POLICE SERVICE FEES - FINGER P	4,316.00	1,755.00	630.00	2,561.00	40.66	40.66	40.66		
101-000-661.002	POLICE SERVICE FEES - ACCIDENT	776.33	570.00	50.00	206.33	73.42	73.42	73.42		
101-000-661.004	POLICE SERVICE FEES - NSF CHEC	106.67	40.00	0.00	66.67	37.50	37.50	37.50		
101-000-661.006	POLICE SERVICE FEES - LIQUOR I	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-661.007	POLICE SERVICE FEES-PARKING FI	7,026.67	5,735.00	20.00	1,291.67	81.62	81.62	81.62		
101-000-661.008	FORFEITURE FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-662.000	FIRE SERVICE FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-663.000	DDA ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-665.000	INVESTMENT INTEREST	42,077.27	24,908.16	3,529.64	17,169.11	59.20	59.20	59.20		
101-000-667.000	LIBRARY RENTALS INCOME	304.67	163.00	0.00	141.67	53.50	53.50	53.50		
101-000-668.000	MS/LS EQUIPMENT RENTAL REV	551,280.17	566,187.28	45,886.90	(14,907.11)	102.70	102.70	102.70		
101-000-668.590	EQUIPMENT RENT - SEWER FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-668.591	EQUIPMENT RENT - WATER FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-669.000	LEASE INCOME	2,048.99	1,561.84	0.00	487.15	76.22	76.22	76.22		
101-000-669.001	CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS	9,065.36	7,667.91	4,498.00	1,397.45	84.58	84.58	84.58		
101-000-674.000	BALFIELD CONTRIBUTIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-675.000	WELCOME BASKET DONATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-676.000	REIMBURSEMENTS	23,298.27	44,775.76	14,302.00	(21,477.49)	192.18	192.18	192.18		
101-000-680.000	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	3,229.79	2,328.87	2,160.00	900.92	72.11	72.11	72.11		
101-000-694.000	CASH OVER/SHORT	4.61	(5.00)	0.00	9.61	(108.46)	(108.46)	(108.46)		
101-000-698.000	BOND OR INSURANCE RECOVERIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.208	TRANSFER IN - IOHT	33,000.00	0.00	0.00	33,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.226	TRANSFERS IN - GARBAGE/REFUSE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.235	TRANSFERS IN - AL QUAAI TRAILS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.274	TRANSFER IN - REVOLVING LOAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.401	TRANSFER IN - PUBLIC IMPROVEME	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.402	TRANSFER IN - PARTIRIDGE CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.590	TRANSFER IN - SEWER FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.591	TRANSFER IN - WATER FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.661	TRANSFER IN - MOTOR POOL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.711	TRANSFER IN - CEMETERY PERPETU	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-000-699.712	TRANSFER IN - CEMETERY CARE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-704-644.000	SALARIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101-965-696.000	PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF BONDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL REVENUES		4,502,025.16	3,639,665.69	279,518.39	862,359.47	80.85	80.85	80.85		
Expenditures										
000	NON DEPARTMENTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
101	CITY COUNCIL	27,147.54	18,481.82	1,108.77	8,665.72	68.08	68.08	68.08		
172	CITY MANAGER	136,049.14	121,927.73	8,629.39	14,121.41	89.62	89.62	89.62		
215	CITY CLERK	74,444.46	51,768.23	4,436.13	22,676.23	69.54	69.54	69.54		
247	BOARD OF REVIEW	2,353.09	2,127.79	416.00	225.30	90.43	90.43	90.43		

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026		YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR		AVAILABLE		% BDCGT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL	08/31/2026	INCREASE (DECREASE)	MONTH 08/31/2026	NORMAL	BALANCE		
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND										
Expenditures										
253	FINANCE DEPARTMENT	121,717.42	86,605.40	10,240.72	35,112.02	71.15				
257	CITY ASSESSOR	39,816.24	12,731.40	28.97	27,084.84	31.98				
262	ELECTIONS	24,260.14	12,500.75	4,640.52	11,759.39	51.53				
265	CITY HALL & GROUNDS	81,581.26	50,766.77	5,955.31	30,814.49	62.23				
266	CITY ATTORNEY	25,319.35	27,336.55	28.97	(2,017.20)	107.97				
299	UNALLOCATED	647,887.04	712,551.74	91,357.49	(64,664.70)	109.98				
301	POLICE	1,138,673.86	750,957.48	80,635.36	387,716.38	65.95				
336	FIRE	157,199.80	110,184.68	9,764.64	47,015.12	70.09				
371	RENTAL INSPECTION	37,908.98	24,663.39	3,002.80	13,245.59	65.06				
441	DPM ADMINISTRATION	50,295.79	22,790.77	891.32	27,505.02	45.31				
442	EQUIP. MAINT.	572,037.60	346,140.47	24,085.48	225,897.13	60.51				
444	ALLEYS & SIDEWALKS	66,411.37	33,072.58	103.41	33,338.79	49.80				
446	STORM SEWER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
447	CITY ENGINEER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
448	STREET LIGHTING	87,226.40	72,903.61	13,535.46	14,322.79	83.58				
510	BRASSWIRE	8,400.00	4,804.26	423.70	3,595.74	57.19				
567	CEMETERY	185,057.00	124,951.53	19,691.51	60,105.47	67.52				
701	PLANNING COMMISSION	1,868.78	2,979.28	1,080.28	(1,110.50)	159.42				
702	ZONING ADMN.	82,405.07	55,993.09	6,535.80	26,411.98	67.95				
703	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	0.00	390.00	0.00	(390.00)	100.00				
704	NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT	0.00	17,350.11	17,350.11	(17,350.11)	100.00				
728	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	32,000.00	10,302.51	0.00	21,697.49	32.20				
729	DDA ADMINISTRATION	2,345.37	5.27	0.00	2,340.10	0.22				
757	AL QUAAI	130,115.66	112,912.49	18,489.38	17,203.17	86.78				
758	AL QUAAI TUBE SLIDE	23,591.06	14,399.88	0.00	9,191.18	61.04				
770	PARK MAINTENANCE	109,361.96	73,760.29	11,724.88	35,601.67	67.45				
790	LIBRARY	326,332.53	220,037.67	25,312.36	106,294.86	67.43				
905	DEBT SERVICE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
965	TRANSFERS OUT	7,815.00	0.00	0.00	7,815.00	0.00				
995	DEBT SERVICES	302,000.00	301,153.25	0.00	846.75	99.72				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		4,501,621.91	3,396,550.79	359,468.76	1,105,071.12	75.45				
Fund 101 - GENERAL FUND:										
TOTAL REVENUES		4,502,025.16	3,639,665.69	279,518.39	862,359.47	80.85				
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		4,501,621.91	3,396,550.79	359,468.76	1,105,071.12	75.45				
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		403.25	243,114.90	(79,950.37)	(242,711.65)	10,288.88				

PERIOD ENDING 08/31/2026

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026		YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR		AVAILABLE		% BDT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL	08/31/2026 (ABNORMAL)	INCREASE (DECREASE)	MONTH 08/31/2026	NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	BALANCE		
Fund 268 - CARNEGIE LIBRARY SPEC FD										
Revenues										
268-000-646.000	SALE OF USED EQUIPMENT	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00
268-000-665.000	INTEREST EARNED	2,029.84		1,507.87		379.03		521.97		74.29
268-000-675.000	CONTRIBUTIONS	5,150.00		23,415.85		0.00		(18,265.85)		454.68
TOTAL REVENUES		7,179.84		24,923.72		379.03		(17,743.88)		347.13
Expenditures										
790	LIBRARY	5,150.00		18,524.54		9,948.75		(13,374.54)		359.70
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		5,150.00		18,524.54		9,948.75		(13,374.54)		359.70
Fund 268 - CARNEGIE LIBRARY SPEC FD:										
TOTAL REVENUES		7,179.84		24,923.72		379.03		(17,743.88)		347.13
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		5,150.00		18,524.54		9,948.75		(13,374.54)		359.70
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		2,029.84		6,399.18		(9,569.72)		(4,369.34)		315.26

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 08/31/2026 NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	ACTIVITY FOR MONTH 08/31/2026 INCREASE (DECREASE)	AVAILABLE BALANCE NORMAL (ABNORMAL)	% BDGT USED
Fund 271 - LIBRARY STATE AID						
Revenues						
271-000-566.000	STATE AID PAYMENTS	11,600.00	14,190.46	0.00	(2,590.46)	122.33
271-000-665.000	INTEREST EARNED	0.00	16.42	1.73	(16.42)	100.00
271-000-699.101	TRANSFER IN - GENERAL FUND	7,815.00	0.00	0.00	7,815.00	0.00
TOTAL REVENUES		19,415.00	14,206.88	1.73	5,208.12	73.17
Expenditures						
790	LIBRARY	19,415.00	14,445.41	5,179.17	4,969.59	74.40
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		19,415.00	14,445.41	5,179.17	4,969.59	74.40
Fund 271 - LIBRARY STATE AID:						
TOTAL REVENUES		19,415.00	14,206.88	1.73	5,208.12	73.17
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		19,415.00	14,445.41	5,179.17	4,969.59	74.40
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		0.00	(238.53)	(5,177.44)	238.53	100.00

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026 AMENDED BUDGET	YTD BALANCE 08/31/2026		ACTIVITY FOR MONTH 08/31/2026		AVAILABLE BALANCE		% BDT USED
			NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	INCREASE (DECREASE)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)		
Fund 401 - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND									
Revenues									
401-000-402.000	REAL PROPERTY TAXES	623,836.28	613,221.22		0.00		10,615.06	98.30	
401-000-410.000	PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-412.000	DELINQUENT PERSONAL PROPERTY	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-434.000	SPECIFIC ORE TAX	3,234.03	3,234.03		0.00		0.00	100.00	
401-000-438.000	PRE DENIALS	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-440.000	LOCAL COMM. STABILIZATION TAX	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-445.000	PENALTIES/INTEREST ON TAX	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-535.000	AFG GRANT	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-545.000	FEDERAL GRANT	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-567.000	STATE GRANT	1,394,192.00	500,000.00		0.00		894,192.00	35.86	
401-000-567.336	STATE GRANTS - FIRE	0.00	894,192.00		0.00		(894,192.00)	100.00	
401-000-646.000	SALE OF USED EQUIPMENT	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-665.000	INTEREST EARNED	15,000.00	11,469.57		2,783.28		3,530.43	76.46	
401-000-672.000	LAND SALE	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-675.000	CONTRIB. FROM PRIVATE SOURCE	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-680.000	MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-682.202	REIMBURSED EQUIP DEPR-MAJOR ST	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-682.203	REIMBURSED EQUIP DEPR-LOCAL ST	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-696.000	PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF BONDS	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-698.000	INSURANCE RECOVERIES	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-699.101	TRANSFER IN - GENERAL FUND	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-699.226	TRANSFER FROM GARBAGE & RUBBIS	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-699.274	TRANS IN-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-699.590	TRANSFER IN-SEWER FUND	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	
401-000-699.591	TRANSFER IN-WATER FUND	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00	0.00	

TOTAL REVENUES		2,036,262.31	2,022,116.82	2,783.28	14,145.49	99.31
Expenditures						
172	CITY MANAGER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
215	CITY CLERK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
253	FINANCE DEPARTMENT	5,000.00	4,430.58	0.00	569.42	88.61
257	CITY ASSESSOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
265	CITY HALL & GROUNDS	32,721.50	27,486.06	0.00	5,235.44	84.00
276	CEMETERY	0.00	722.66	0.00	(722.66)	100.00
301	POLICE	33,152.00	2,071.42	0.00	31,080.58	6.25
336	FIRE	953,200.00	922,422.32	2,374.58	30,777.68	96.77
441	DPW ADMINISTRATION	6,000.00	5,594.00	0.00	406.00	93.23
558	TEAL LAKE WATER TRAIL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
567	CEMETERY	0.00	33,544.00	0.00	(33,544.00)	100.00
704	NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT	60,000.00	13,053.12	2,133.87	46,946.88	21.76
729	DDA ADMINISTRATION	0.00	20,000.00	0.00	(20,000.00)	100.00
757	AL OUAIL	30,000.00	38,849.87	32,754.30	(8,849.87)	129.50
790	LIBRARY	306,989.00	289,345.63	4,011.13	17,643.37	94.25
805	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
965	TRANSFERS OUT	151,000.00	6,000.00	0.00	145,000.00	3.97
995	DEBT SERVICES	85,700.00	45,216.00	1,701.00	40,484.00	52.76
997	DEBT SERVICE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

GL NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	2026		YTD BALANCE		ACTIVITY FOR		AVAILABLE		% BDGT USED
		AMENDED BUDGET	NORMAL	08/31/2026	(ABNORMAL)	MONTH 08/31/2026	INCREASE (DECREASE)	NORMAL	(ABNORMAL)	
Fund 401 - PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND										
TOTAL REVENUES		2,036,262.31		2,022,116.82		2,783.28		14,145.49		99.31
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		1,663,762.50		1,408,735.66		62,974.88		255,026.84		84.67
NET OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES		372,499.81		613,381.16		(60,191.60)		(240,881.35)		164.67

Beanstack - September 2026						
	Beanstack Monthly Registration & Participation Totals					
Month	New Accounts	New Readers	Completed Activities	Completed Activity Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes
August 2026	38	38	1,138	1,312	1,396	60,104
July 2026	5	5	49	41	1,712	251,080
June 2026	32	32	77	74	1,909	71,950
May 2026	3	3	26	12	1,643	28,713
April 2026	1	1	22	16	1,222	32,158
March 2026	1	1	13	10	1,503	34,570
February 2026	6	6	45	39	1,545	52,636
January 2026	16	16	36	31	1,527	60,677
December 2025	4	4	2	1	1,127	31,606
November 2025	3	3	42	28	1,095	32,268
October 2025	0	0	50	47	1,325	36,956
September 2025	13	13	26	19	1,066	31,847
August 2025	46	46	967	663	992	179,807
TOTAL:	168	168	2,493	2,293	18,062	904,372
1000 Books Before Kindergarten: Local Area Participation Totals (since January 2023)						
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes*
City of Ishpeming	52	7		6,518	24,655	0
Champion Township	3	0		212	578	0
Ely Township	14	1		590	4,710	0
Humboldt Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ishpeming Township	20	4		1,782	8,436	0
Tilden Township	8	1		182	1,077	0
Negaunee	21	3		1,319	5,351	0
Other	9	0		151	624	0
No Local Area						
TOTAL:	127	16		10,754	45,431	0
*This challenge only counts books read, not minutes.						
2026 (year-long): Read It Your Way						
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	23	0		10,239	7,402	178,869
Champion Township	1	0		13	0	0
Ely Township	5	0		1,385	116	0
Humboldt Township	1	0		269	11	53,884
Ishpeming Township	4	0		569	117	27,154
Tilden Township	1	0		113	28	0
Negaunee	4	0		541	645	31,248
Other	2	0		758	84	12,842
No Local Area						
TOTAL:	41	0		13,887	8,403	303,997
July - August: America 250 Bingo						
Local Area	Total Readers Enrolled (Challenge)	Total Completions		Total Earned Badges	Logged Books*	Logged Minutes
City of Ishpeming	17	16		10,216	0	63,187
Champion Township	0	0		0	0	0
Ely Township	3	3		1,317	0	26,895
Humboldt Township	1	1		269	0	1,393
Ishpeming Township	1	1		134	0	3,012
Tilden Township	0	0		0	0	0
Negaunee	5	2		664	0	10,717
Other	3	2		809	0	4,131
No Local Area						
TOTAL:	30	25		13,409	0	109,335
*This challenge only counted minutes read, not books.						

Popcorn and a Movie for Adults

Wednesday, September 2 at 5pm

Adults are invited to join us for free popcorn and a movie! We will be showing the 2026 release, "Pressure" (PG-13) in our community room.

Book Club at the Ishpeming Senior Center

Thursday, September 3 at 1pm

The Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library is hosting a monthly book club at the Ishpeming Senior Center (121 Greenwood St., Ishpeming)! This month's selection is "Martyr!" by Kaveh Akbar. Copies are available for checkout at the library. Newcomers are always welcome to attend.

Drop-In and Draw Club:

Paul Olson Instructs

Thursday, September 3 at 3pm

Join us for a drawing class with Paul Olson! For teens and adults. Located in the Ray Leverton Community Room. All supplies are provided and event is free.

Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 4-7)

Thursday, September 3rd at 4pm - discussing

***Marshmallow & Jordan* by Alina Chau**

Thursday, September 17th at 4pm

Join us for discussion and snacks. Copies of the book will be available to checkout at the library ahead of time.

Newcomers are always welcome to attend.

Tot Tuesday Preschool Storytime

Tuesday, September 8 at 11am

Tuesday, September 15 at 11am

Tuesday, September 22 at 11am

Tuesday, September 29 at 11am

Join us for stories, songs, and movement activities followed by an optional craft and playtime. Perfect for toddlers and preschoolers.



VIBE Gentle Groove Dance Exercise with Dr.

Traci Baxendale Ball

Wednesday, September 9 at 1pm

Join us for a welcoming, one-hour gentle dance experience designed for every body and every level. This class is led by an experienced fitness instructor with a medical exercise background, years of leading fun, community-centered classes, and doctoral-level training in body psychotherapy. With a deep understanding of safe movement and the needs of aging bodies, you can expect a supportive, joyful space where you can move at your own pace, feel good in your body, and simply enjoy the rhythm together.

Bingo for Adults

Wednesday, September 9 at 5:30pm

Adults are invited to join us for Bingo at the library! Join us for a few rounds of Bingo fun with the chance to win gift cards. Registration is required. Call the library at 906-486-4381 to register.

Friends of the Library Used Book Sale

Friday, September 11 at 10am-4pm

Saturday, September 12 at 10am-4pm

Shop our Friends of the Library Used Book Sale! Used books available at great prices.

Adult Book Club

Tuesday, September 15 at 2pm

Wednesday, September 16 at 6pm

Join us for adult book club! Copies of the *Cabin: Off the Grid Adventures with a Clueless Craftsman* by Patrick Hutchison are available for check out. Meetings are held at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library.

Pilates Mix with Amber

Tuesday, September 15 at 4pm

Tuesday, September 29 at 4pm

Join us at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library for free Pilates classes! Strengthen, stretch, and move with intention in Pilates Mix, a blend of Pilates with functional movement and a touch of a challenge. Bring your own mat if you would like and ankle weights will be provided. Funded with support from Molina Healthcare of Michigan.

Circulating Digitization Kits - Instruction Session

Wednesday, September 16 at 5pm

Come learn about our new circulating digitization kits! We have new document and photo scanners, in addition to a slide and negative digitizer available for checkout.

This is your chance to learn more about this new equipment and try it out!

Crochet Club

Thursday, September 17 at 2pm

Wednesday, September 30 at 5pm

Gather together with fellow crafters to socialize while you work on a project of your choice. Beginning supplies and instruction will be provided if you'd like to learn how to crochet! This event is for kids, teens, and adults.

Baby Play Day

Friday, September 18 at 10am

A special day for babies to play! Intended for littles under 2, this program will include a brief storytime with lots of cuddles, bounces and songs; then stay for a chance to play with infant-friendly toys and socialize with other babies and caregivers.

Adult Horror Book Club

Wednesday, September 23 at 6pm

Join us for adult horror book club! Copies of *The Haunting of Ashburn House* by Darcy Coates are available for check out. Meetings are held at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library.

LEGO CLUB

Thursday, September 24 at 4:30pm

Build with friends and attempt to complete Lego challenges.

Homeschool Hangout

Friday, September 25 10am-12pm

Special guest presentations begin at 10:30am Homeschooling families are invited to visit the library and hangout with both old and new homeschooling friends.

Silent Book Club at Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming

Saturday, September 26 at Noon

Join us for silent book club at Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming hosted by the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library! Bring your own book of choice to read silently for 1 hour with fellow bookworms, followed by time to socialize and talk about books!



Library cards for the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library are available for free to residents living within the City of Ishpeming and surrounding townships including: Champion, Ely, Humboldt, Ishpeming, and Tilden. Also, if you are a Negaunee resident with a Negaunee Library Card, you are eligible to sign up for an Ishpeming card as well.

September Book Club Selections



Senior Center
Book Club



Adult
Book Club



Adult Horror
Book Club



Graphic Novel Book Club

Friends of the Library Newsletter

Fall 2026

Volume 47, Number 2

FROM THE FRONT DESK by Jesse Shirtz

The Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library balances on a precipice. This November will determine the future trajectory of the library in our community.

On November 3, 2026, Ishpeming city residents will vote on a millage proposal that will, if passed, dedicate 2.5 mills to the library to maintain current staffing levels, open hours, programming, and the purchasing of materials. The passing of the millage will also stabilize funding and provide additional funds to address building issues, such as an aging front entrance, and new projects such as the renovation of the Children's Room.

If the proposal fails it will result in significant cuts to staffing levels, open hours, programming, and the purchasing of materials. Building issues will not be addressed and planning for the future will be limited. The potential closure of the library has been suggested as an option.

Library staff are restricted in how they speak on this subject by the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, so we may only share factual information.

The townships who currently contract for library service with the city of Ishpeming are also approaching a moment of change. The city will soon open communication with all five townships (Champion, Ely, Humboldt, Ishpeming, Tilden) to request an increase in funding to support library operations. The request is for each township to increase their contribution to at least 3/10 mill over the next five years. The alternative is to decline the change and end the contract. Should the contract end, the library will no longer receive the contract fee, nor penal fines and state aid on behalf of the township residents, and that township's residents will need to purchase a non-resident library card for their household for \$90 a year to receive library service.

For more information on the millage and township contracts, including contact information

for the Ishpeming City Manager and Supervisors of all five townships, please visit: <https://www.ishpeminglibrary.info/millage>.

Please contact me with questions at jshirtz@ishpeminglibrary.info or 906-486-4381.

Check your voter registration status, find your polling place, and see a sample ballot at <https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/>.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

by Heather Lander

Our 2026 Summer Reading Program ended in August with some remarkable results! This year we had 528 children and teens register (birth-17) with 182 participants reading at least 10 hours (with more than a handful of very ambitious readers that read 100+ hours). From June-August we hosted 40 programs for children with 2,969 attendees! Our highest attended children's event this summer was our Preschool Dinosaur Day which saw a staggering 178 attendees over 1.5 hours.

Congratulations to all of the children and families that worked so hard towards accomplishing their summer reading goals. Thank you to our community for reading, visiting the library, and attending programs throughout the summer. Finally, a HUGE thank you to all of our donors that make it possible for us to host such wonderful events and offer such awesome prizes to the community! We look forward to planning for SRP's 2027 theme, "Mysteries Await at Your Library."

Our Fall programming line-up begins in September and includes many favorites such as the beloved **Tot Tuesday Storytime**, **Baby Play Day**, **Graphic Novel Book Club**, **Homeschool Hangout**, **Lego Club**, and more. While the schedule for many of these programs stays consistent, please visit the calendar on our website or Facebook to stay up to date on our programming schedule and program descriptions. Expect to see special seasonal events later this year!

School is back in session for older children, but what about your littlest ones?! I'd like to take the time to highlight a very special program at our library – **1000 Books Before Kindergarten**. This program is especially for children that have not yet entered kindergarten (typically newborn-age 5) but helps them build a literacy foundation that will give them a jumpstart when they do. The program is both passive and simple- there are no timelines that must be followed and the program can be done at your comfort level. 1000 might seem like a huge number but reading just 3 books to your child per day will see you surpass the goal in less than one year. Enrollment is very easy – just stop into the library (or visit our Beanstack app) to sign-up and pick up your keepsake “Badge Book.” The Badge Book is a sticker chart, but also a memory journal of your time spent reading with your little one.

Once a participant reaches 500 books they can stop into the library to pick up their “halfway” prize! This prize includes a library book bag filled with fun surprises. Finally, when a participant completes their 1000th book they receive an adorable t-shirt which proudly proclaims, “I Read 1000 Books.” To date, 36 children have “graduated” from the program with 137 families currently working towards completion. This program (and all library programs) is free to join and is generously sponsored by the Association of the Friends of the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library.

Thank you again to our library community for an amazing summer – we can't wait to see you this fall!

FALL PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

by Nicole Johnson, Librarian

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month! An initiative of the American Library Association, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September since 1987, and libraries across the country celebrate each year. Library cards for the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library are available for free to residents living within the **City of Ishpeming and surrounding townships, including Champion, Ely, Humboldt, Ishpeming, and Tilden townships.** Also, if you are a

Negaunee resident with a Negaunee Library card, you are eligible to sign up for an Ishpeming card as well.

The library has a collection of 45,876 items available to cardholders. Materials that can be borrowed from the library include books, audiobooks, large print books, VOX books (books for kids that read the story aloud), DVDs, and board games. **In 2025, 54,502 physical items were checked out by our patrons!**

We just wrapped up our busy Summer Reading Program with record program attendance! **85 events were offered for all ages during the eight-week long program with 3,820 attendees. This is 1,567 more attendees than our 2025 Summer Reading Program!**

Programming at the library continues all year round, and we have already been busy planning our fall event lineup! On **Wednesday, September 16th at 5 p.m.** adults are invited to come learn about our **new circulating digitization kits**. We have new document and photo scanners, in addition to a slide and negative digitizer available for checkout. This is your chance to learn more about this new equipment and try it out! Funding for these kits is provided in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library of Michigan.

Silent Book Club returns this fall with our first meeting on **Saturday, September 26th at 12 p.m.-1:30 p.m. at Velodrome Coffee in Ishpeming.** This is a time where readers can gather together to read silently for one hour followed by time to socialize and chat about books!

On **Saturday, October 3rd at 1 p.m.** Emily Cummings from the Dickinson County Library will be giving a presentation on “**How to Research Your House**” with key resources and information to look for. On **Wednesday, October 7th at 5:30 p.m., Jeffrey Holden, author of *Dead Moose on Isle Royale: Off the Trail with the Citizen Scientists of the Wolf-Moose Project*,** will be here to give a presentation about the Wolf-Moose Study on Isle Royale, which is the world's longest running predator-prey study.

These are just a few of the events happening at the library this fall! For more information, be sure

to find us on Facebook and visit our website at ishpeminglibrary.info. See you at the library!

ADULT HORROR BOOK CLUB

by Heidi Silverstone

Fall is right around the corner and with it comes my favorite time of year: Halloween! As many people know, we do have an Adult Horror Book Club here at the library and in celebration of the season, I thought this would be a wonderful opportunity to discuss the upcoming books for the next few months. Books are generally picked out a few months at a time; that way it's easier for people to schedule them into their already busy lives. Titles are currently picked out through the month of February 2027. Ready to read something scary? Here are our upcoming titles:

***The Haunting of Ashburn House* by Darcy Coates on September 23rd**

A twist on a haunted house story, Ashburn House has stood for a long time. A crumbly old mansion with strange messages etched into the walls, Adrienne has inherited it from an aunt that she doesn't remember. As strange things happen in the home, Adrienne has to find out what's happening and how she can escape the dark thing haunting her on Ashburn's property.

***The Exorcist* by William Peter Blatty on October 28th**

For the month of October, it seemed only fitting to go with a classic!

Inspired by a case of demonic possession in the 1940's, *The Exorcist* tells the tale of Regan, the daughter of an actress, and the group of people who try to rescue her from the terrible situation she's found herself in. When Regan's behavior turns violent and she starts exhibiting strange behavior, the doctors and psychiatrists fail to find a cause so the family turns to the church in desperation. Two priests are then tasked with performing an exorcism to save Regan, risking their lives and souls in the process.

***A Head Full of Ghosts* by Paul Tremblay on November 25th**

The Barretts live a normal life in New England when their daughter begins showing signs of schizophrenia. When the doctors are unable to help, the family reluctantly turns to a local priest for help. When the priest suggests an exorcism, he also contacts a production company that wants to document the Barretts' situation. The family agrees to the filming and soon find themselves the stars of a hit reality tv show. Fifteen years later, the younger daughter, Merry, recalls the events that took place when she was just a child, uncovering long-buried secrets and painful memories that clash with what was broadcasted on the show.

***Morbidly Curious: A Scientist Explains Why We Can't Look Away* by Coltan Scrivner on December 23rd**

A nonfiction book that discusses why humanity often can't look away from accidents or why we binge-watch true crime shows. This book delves into the psychology behind our morbid curiosity, from serial killers to paranormal stories, Scrivner discusses the psychological aspects that compel us to explore these darkest fears.

***Headlights* by CJ Leeds on January 27th**

Special Agent Daniel Stansfield is burnt out by his job at the FBI; before he can turn in his badge, though, he's summoned to Denver, a city he fled four years ago.

It's happening again, innocent people with no memory are waking wearing the skin of victims they've never met and each one has a strand of a stranger's hair tied around their tongue. Daniel gets pulled back into this gruesome case and must delve deeper into his own past and confront the ghosts of his past before he and his loved ones become the next victims.

***The Ritual* by Adam L.G. Nevill on February 24th**

Taking place in the Scandinavian wilderness, four old university friends are on a hiking trip. With little in common and having grown apart, these old friends struggle to connect and tensions rise. Hoping to make the trip easier, they take a shortcut that does the opposite. Lost and surrounded by forest that's been untouched for centuries, they stumble across an old house that

holds the remains of old rituals and ancient artefacts. This forest and this house are home to something old, something ancient, something that wants them. As these friends struggle to escape the confines of the forest, they discover that death doesn't always come easily.

The books will be available for checkout at the library.

NEW LIBRARY CLERK by Samantha Gray

Thirty-five years ago, a journalist for TV6, approached a shy five-year-old in the children's room at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library. He thrust the microphone toward my face and asked, "What do you like the most about the library?" "Well, I started reading books at home and I just couldn't stop." My mother recorded this clip when it debuted on the local news that night and we would often revisit it throughout the years for a good chuckle.

Many years later, I finished my BS in English Literature at Northern Michigan University with intentions to pursue my MLIS. My life path diverged multiple times, however, and rather than a second degree, I found a passion for motherhood, careers at both NMU and MSU, an incredible partner who teaches history at NMU, and, inevitably, I found the place where I spent much of my childhood, the library.

Though I have been an Ishpeming resident for the majority of my life, this truly feels like a homecoming. The girl who spent years alone in her bedroom reading book after book, the college student who temporarily lost her love of reading during intense analytical sessions with weighty texts, the mother who frequented the upstairs non-fiction section looking for help on how to treat her baby's colic, has never been more thrilled to accept a position as the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library's new clerk.

Though my intentions are still to pursue my MLIS, I feel confident that I will be able to achieve this goal in the coming years while working here. Please feel free to stop and say "hello!" and introduce yourself if you see me behind the desk or shelving books. I look forward to meeting you and talking lit.

BOOK REVIEW by Kelsey Boldt

The Left and the Lucky by Willy Vlautin, c2026, Harper

Every now and then, I am compelled to buy a book from a bookstore based on the little staff recommendation placards you sometimes see at local shops. This method has had varying degrees of success for me, but the risk is more often worth the reward.

Recently, I was at Bromley's in Marquette, and I went with *The Left and the Lucky* by Willy Vlautin based on one of those staff recommendations. Success! What a beautiful little book. Much like the main character, it is not a loud or fussy novel. It is quiet, funny, beautiful, and heartbreaking in its own unassuming way.

Eddie Wilkens is a house painter who works hard and rarely gets his feathers ruffled by all that life throws at him. Though he is kind and exceedingly patient, he possesses a great deal of grief and guilt that he has carried with him for most of his adult life.

After a woman and her two sons move in next door, Eddie takes the younger of the boys, eight-year-old Russell, under his wing. Russell is a nervous, quiet young boy who is terrified of his older brother, 15-year-old Curtis. His brother harbors deep resentment and hostility towards Russell, and so he seeks refuge with Eddie.

At first, Eddie just lets Russell wash out his paintbrushes at the end of the day and take care of his old hound, Early. He can see that Russell is looking for an escape. But as it becomes clearer to Eddie and Russell's mother that Curtis is downright dangerous for the boy to be around, he moves in with Eddie for safety.

Though his situation is heartbreaking, Russell experiences stability and kindness through his relationship with Eddie. And Eddie, with his never-ending patience, finds purpose in looking after Russell. There are funny moments – there is a lot of comic relief from the ragtag team of painters Eddie employs. And then there are heartbreaking and downright horrific moments. The prose is simple, but the details paint such three-dimensional, complicated characters that you can easily connect

with and imagine as real people. They might even be like people you know.

Willy Vlautin is an author I will seek out again. If you start with *The Left and the Lucky*, you might become a fan too. Happy reading!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thanks to the following friends for their recent donations.

Michael Crothers

Warren Heikkila

Mary Laine

In memory of Eugene Bilkey

Jim & Karen Ombrello

In memory of Nan Kline

Karen Ruona

In memory of Colleen Sundblad

Marilyn Andrew

Henrietta Nardi

MY NEXT ADVENTURE by Arwen Hamel

Bula! (Hello!) My name is Arwen, and I am a former library clerk at the Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library. For those who know me, I am a passionate traveler, always looking for my next adventure.

In March, I applied for the Peace Corps Community Economic Developer position in Fiji. I was drawn mainly to the position because it would allow me to directly interact with the Fijian community to help build sustainable, income-driven projects. This was one of the many paths I had been passionately exploring.

So, I applied to this position... and I waited... and waited... and waited. I was supposed to know by May 1st whether I would be conditionally accepted. Finally, on Monday, April 27th, I received an email detailing that staff was reviewing my application. By the end of the week, I had my interview and was conditionally accepted. My next steps were to get medically and legally cleared. Legal clearance was a breeze. Medical clearance, on the other hand, was an entirely different situation.

For medical clearance, a volunteer must provide documentation for everything. If you talk to

any of the librarians about my stories regarding medical clearance, they will tell you that each day I came in, there was always a new hurdle to cross.

After months of back and forth and many tests, I was finally medically cleared in August. I could finally start to relax and actually enjoy summer knowing that I was indeed cleared for service.

As the time came closer, volunteers were invited to attend several Zoom calls with local staff and current volunteers. During these calls, I learned more about what to expect from my service and the logistics of the first couple of months.

So now that the boring stuff is out of the way, let's get to the fun part of what Fiji and Peace Corps will look like for me. First off, while absolutely stunning, I will not be beaching it all day and living the dream. More than likely, I will be placed in a remote village with limited access to electricity and internet. I'm honestly excited by this aspect. I'm ready to live more simply and less connected.

Fiji is an archipelago of islands in the South Pacific. It has over 300 islands, but only 100 are inhabited. The population is less than a million and is spread out across different islands. The climate is warm year-round, with only two seasons: winter, the dry, cooler season, and summer, the hot, rainy season. Fiji is below the equator, so during winter in the UP, it will be summer in Fiji.

Fijians are known to be among the nicest people you can meet. They are very welcoming to strangers. In Fiji, both women and men wear long Sulus, a wrap-around skirt. The preferred drink is Kava, which is the ground root of a pepper plant. It is a traditional drink served at ceremonies and nightly functions, with a slight numbing sensation on the tongue and the mouth, and it induces tranquility in drinkers.

During my Peace Corps experience, my time will be broken up into several blocks. The first week will be an orientation held in the capital, Suva, where we will learn about and adjust to local customs. By the end of that week, volunteers will be transferred to local villages, where we will stay with host families for nine weeks for training. This includes learning the Fijian language, medical training, and cultural immersion. By the end of the

training, we go back to Suva to be officially sworn in as volunteers. For the remaining two years, we will be placed in various villages where we will all have unique assignments. This could be anything from setting up a library, building a bridge, beekeeping, or helping with sustainable tourism.

As I write this article, I am sharing only a brief bit of what I know about service. I have yet to depart, but will continue to update my stories on my blog and social media pages. If you would like to follow my stories, you can find me on Substack at @arwenluttentonhamel or on Facebook and Instagram at Arwen Luttenton-Hamel.

Vinaka vakalevu! (Thank You!)

FROM BELOW THE BRIDGE by Cindy Mack

It has been 15 years since I left my position at the Ishpeming Carnegie Library. In that time, I have been fortunate to serve as the director of two amazing libraries, but there will always be a piece of my heart that remains at ICPL.

I am extremely fortunate to now work within a larger library system in Metro Detroit, where I have the opportunity to lead a district library with stable funding and the resources to offer a wide range of programs and services to our community. I recognize how fortunate I am to have those resources and opportunities.

That being said, it never ceases to amaze me when I return to Ishpeming, or even watch from a distance through social media, to see the growth in programs, services, and resources at ICPL over the past decade. Perhaps it shouldn't surprise me, though. The Ishpeming community, like so many of the smaller communities across the Upper Peninsula, has always found ways to accomplish so much with so little.

That spirit of resourcefulness, creativity, and community is one of the many things that made my time at ICPL so special, and one of the reasons a piece of my heart will always remain there.

After all my years working in public libraries, one thing is certain: a thriving community has a thriving public library at its heart. From the laughter of young children discovering the newest title in a favorite series or attending a library program, to the person who needs a place to print a

document or access the internet, to the senior waiting eagerly for the newest popular title and enjoying a little conversation with a staff member, the public library is a place that welcomes everyone.

As technology advances and the needs of communities change, one thing remains constant: public libraries evolve alongside the people they serve. They adapt, grow, and continue to find new ways to connect people with information, resources, and one another.

One of my proudest professional experiences was working alongside Ray Leverton to design and fundraise for making ICPL accessible to people with disabilities at a time when so many people said it couldn't be done. We believed it could, and together, the community made it happen.

I can only imagine what else can be accomplished at ICPL in the years ahead. If its history is any indication, the possibilities are pretty remarkable. And while I may now be 15 years removed from working there, I will always be proud to have been a small part of the story of the Ishpeming Carnegie Library.

WRITTEN IN THE PAST by Liz Powelson

Autumn 1926. National Broadcasting Company (NBC) was founded by the Radio Corporation of America (RCA). The Aloha Tower is dedicated in Honolulu, Hawaii. The Belgian crown prince Leopold and Swedish Princess Astrid get engaged. Dennis Murphy, American sports entrepreneur (co-founder American Basketball Ass'n, World Hockey Ass'n, original World Team Tennis, Roller Hockey International), was born in Shanghai, China (d. 2021). Harry Houdini, famous magician and escape artist, dies at 52 in Detroit of gangrene and peritonitis that developed after his appendix ruptured on Halloween. On November 11th U.S. Route 66 is established from Chicago, Illinois, to Santa Monica, California, spanning 2,448 miles (3,940 km). Here are some news events from our own Ishpeming Iron Ore.

September 1926

Adopt New Type of Snow Fence – Frank F. Rogers, state highway commissioner, was

authorized to expend \$100,000 for snow fences as a preliminary part of the snow removal program from the state roads at Tuesday's session of the state administrative board. Mr. Rogers explained that the fence would more than pay for its cost the first year by keeping the snow from getting onto the roads. The fence is a combination of slats and wire, which is more efficient than the panel formerly used, Mr. Rogers told the board. It will be placed in fields along the roads where drifts bother traffic, and can be rolled up and stored at the end of the snow season.

Another Check Writer Caught – Following the passing of worthless checks on several Ishpeming business men, police officers started out to apprehend the forger and he was caught at Marquette by Chief of Police Aron Johnson. He is William E. Ritchie, a stranger in this district. Ritchie appeared in the county several weeks ago and cashed a few checks in Marquette. He obtained sufficient funds to go to Chicago, but it was not many days later that he put in an appearance in Ishpeming. He states that he was broke when he landed here, so he figured the easiest way to obtain money was to write a few checks. One Ishpeming man who was defrauded lost no time in getting on Ritchie's trail after he ascertained at one of the banks that the check which he had cashed was worthless. He learned that the forger had boarded a train for Sault Ste. Marie, and the Marquette police were notified. Ritchie was taken from the train there by Chief Johnson. In all, Ritchie cashed eight checks in the county, each one being for \$10, and he probably will have to appear at the next term of the Marquette County court to answer to a charge of forgery.

A Wonderful Panorama – We are about to present our annual picture of autumnal foliage, the finest Nature, the world's greatest artist, paints. It will be worth coming many miles to see.

The Beneficial Winds – Some quite powerful breezes during the week, just what the potato diggers needed for drying their crop. Things do work out splendidly climatically here?

A Rhyme of the Miner's Crew

by Edward Thompson

Did you ever stand at the mouth of a shaft,
At the close of a miner's day,
When the shift comes off and the dripping cage
Slides up the guides to stay
'Til the night men's turn? The miner's job
Demands an exacting toll.
It asks for work of a he-man kind,
That scoffs at a laggard's goal.

Do you know of the life that the miner leads
As he toils in his chamber deep?
It's a job that calls for both brain and brawn,
If one hopes to earn his keep.
His heart must be strong with a will to drive,
And his eye is trained and true,
He plans each task and he knows each move –
The game of the miner's crew.

Do you know of the drive of the tempered steel,
As it bites in the stubborn rock?
Have you felt the pulse of the clicking valve?
'Tis the drill-god's tattoo knock.
To the miner's ear must be known each sound,
He must feel each throbbing plunge
Of his drill machine, as every blow
Is struck with a telling lunge.

Did you ever stand at the station below,
When the time for the blasting's near,
Then count each shot as its sullen thud
Sounds through the stillness clear?
The miner must know as he sludges out
Each hole, how the shot will break,
That the powder's right and the tamping too,
And how much fuse 'twill take.

Would you join in the work of the miner's crew,
Would you toil in the drift or stope?
Have you strength and grit when the job is tough?
Have you something more than hope?
Though the task is hard, it's well worth while
To know how the miner's plan.
But nothing short of "playing the game"
Will make you a miner man.

No Forest Fires – There are no forest fires in this region this fall. Usually, at this time of year, there are many that cause much damage.

Hallowe'en Approaches – This is the season of the year when the small boy delights in gaining possession of a cake of soap or a tallow candle in order to smear up as many windows as possible, and he generally does very thorough work. This is but one of the Hallowe'en pranks, the others being too numerous to mention. The local police officers have given warning that no destruction of property will be permitted on Hallowe'en, which probably will be observed on Saturday night. The youngsters will be permitted to enjoy themselves so long as they keep within the bounds of the law, but rowdyism will not be tolerated.

And that's the way it was written in the past.

2027 CALENDARS NOW ON SALE

The 2027 Friends of the Library calendars have been available for some time and are selling well. There are photos of the Ishpeming area dating from 1900 to 2011, featuring buildings, people, businesses, and events. From the beginning of the twentieth century there is a photo of the Cliffs Mather Cottage along with several associated homes. Another, from a postcard, shows the Newett Cottage on Lake Michigamme. There is an interior view of Olson News in 1929 as well as an Ishpeming Store float from July 5, 1926.

The depression era is represented with a picture of the Ishpeming Theatre as well as the Sellwood Block Fire in 1935. Post World War II there is a gathering of Trinity Lutheran Church Sunday School young people, all named, in 1946.

The second half of the twentieth century features a courtroom scene from "Anatomy of a Murder." There are several months with photos from the 1967 Ishpeming High School annual, showing local businesses and the high school Christmas play. An interesting photo, complete with names, is of Brownstone workers.

The most recent photos are of the demolition of the J. C. Penney Store in 2011. The color cover has "Greetings from Ishpeming," with a scene of a very busy Main Street.

LIFE QUOTES

Quotes about Authenticity

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."—Oscar Wilde

"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Quotes about Attitude

"Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it." - Charles R. Swindoll

"A person can change their future by merely changing their attitude." - Oprah Winfrey

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine—and shadows will fall behind you." - Walt Whitman

Quotes about Perseverance

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain." – Dolly Parton

"Don't say you can't until you prove you can't." – Les Paul

"The world is not yours for the taking, but for the trying. Try hard." – Scott Galloway

Quotes about Life

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why." – Mark Twain

"Life is what happens to us while we are making other plans." – Alan Saunders

Practical Life Quotes

"The best bridge between despair and hope is a good night's sleep." – Harry Ruby

"A party without a cake is really just a meeting." – Julia Child

"Intelligence is when you spot the flaw in your boss's reasoning. Wisdom is when you refrain from pointing it out." – James Dent

Ishpeming Carnegie Public Library:

In the last 3 years (#s rounded):

97,000 people visited the library.

165,000 physical items were checked out.

25,000 people attended programs.

34% of users signed up for a library card in the last 3 years.



Written Report for the September 17, 2026 Meeting

Jesse Shirtz, Library Director

Library Millage

- City Council voted to place a 2.5 mill proposal on the November 2026 ballot for library operations & capital expenditures. Ballot language is:

For continuing to provide current Library services, shall the City of Ishpeming, Marquette County, Michigan be authorized to levy up to an additional 2.1 mills (\$2.10 per \$1,000.00 taxable value) for Library operations and, concurrently, up to .4 mills (\$.40 per \$1,000 taxable value) for Library capital expenditures on all property assessed for taxes within the City of Ishpeming for a period of six (6) years (2026 – 2031, inclusive)? The combined new 2.5 mills will raise approximately \$399,527.30 in the first year.

Township Library Service

- Township statistical reports were recalculated with corrected patron residences. All letters, reports, etc. are with the city's attorney for approval before they can be sent to Township Supervisors.

Outreach

- Senior Center Book Club continues to meet at the Ishpeming Multi-Purpose Senior Center once per month.

Spending Freeze Fall 2026

- We have been directed to cease all spending unless it is necessary for the operation of the library, including all circulating material purchases. We are very grateful that a combination of donations from our Friends of the Library, an anonymous donation from a patron, and several others have made it possible for us to continue purchasing books through 2026. Without donations that would not be possible.