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May 29, 2025

Lisa Felice  
Executive Secretary  
Michigan Public Service Commission  
7109 West Saginaw Highway  
3rd Floor  
Lansing, MI 48917

Re: U-21678 - *SEMCO Energy Gas Company EWR Program Year 2024 Annual Reconciliation and Annual Report.*

Dear Ms. Felice:

Attached for electronic filing in this matter are SEMCO Energy Gas Company's Affidavits of Publication of the Notice of Hearing.

This is a paperless filing and is therefore being filed only in pdf.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Dykema Gossett PLLC**

Theresa A. G. Staley

Enclosure

**AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

Semco Energy Gas Company-Axis Creative Grp

1091 Centre RD STE 160  
Auburn Hills MI 48326-2683

STATE OF MICHIGAN, COUNTY OF WAYNE

The below stated newspapers that are generally circulated in the State of Michigan, printed and published and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issues dated on:

DET Detroit Free Press 5/22/2025  
DET Detroit News 5/22/2025

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 5/28/2025

Jeanette Hosner  
Legal Clerk

Jeanette Hosner 5/29/2025  
Notary, State of MI, County of Wayne

9/29/2030

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$4,306.30  
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Order No: 11065590  
Customer No: 1432221  
PO#: MPSC Hearing Notice-  
Case No. U-21678

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**JEANETTE HOSNER**  
My Commission Expires  
September 29, 2030  
County of Wayne  
Acting in the County of Wayne

NATION+WORLD

# Study casts doubt on Mars water theory

Findings point to dry processes creating streaks on slopes

Will Dunham  
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Images taken of Mars from orbit dating back as far as the 1970s have captured curious dark streaks running down the sides of cliffs and crater walls that some scientists have construed as possible evidence of flows of liquid water, suggesting that the planet harbors environments suitable for living organisms.

A new study casts doubt on that interpretation. Examining about 500,000 of these sinewy features spotted in satellite images, the researchers concluded they were created probably through dry processes that left the superficial appearance of liquid flows, underscoring the view of Mars as a desert planet currently inhospitable to life – at least on its surface.

The data indicated that formation of these streaks is driven by the accumulation of fine-grained dust from the Martian atmosphere on sloped terrain that is



Dark finger-like slope streaks extending across the dusty Martian surface have been thought to be a sign of potential water there.

NASA VIA REUTERS

then knocked down the slopes by triggers such as wind gusts, meteorite impacts and marsquakes.

“The tiny dust particles can create flow-like patterns without liquid. This phenomenon occurs because extremely fine dust can behave similarly to a liquid when disturbed – flowing, branching and creating finger-like patterns as it moves downslope,” said Adomas Valantinas, a postdoctoral researcher in planetary sciences at Brown University and co-leader of the study published on May 19 in the journal *Nature Communications*.

“It’s similar to how dry sand can flow like water when poured. But on Mars, the ultra-fine particles and low gravity enhance these fluid-like properties, creating features that might be mistaken for water flows when they’re actually just dry material in motion,” Valantinas added.

The study examined about 87,000 satellite images – including those obtained between 2006 and 2020 by a camera aboard NASA’s Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter – of slope streaks, which form suddenly and fade over a period of years. They average roughly 1,970-2,540 feet, sometimes branching out and go-

ing around obstacles.

The slope streaks were concentrated mostly in the northern hemisphere, particularly in three major clusters: at the plains of Elysium Planitia, the highlands of Arabia Terra and the vast Tharsis volcanic plateau including the Olympus Mons volcano, towering about three times higher than Mount Everest.

The researchers said limitations in the resolution of the satellite images mean they account for only a fraction of slope streaks. They estimated the actual number at up to 2 million. Water is considered an essential ingredient for life. Mars billions of years ago was wetter and warmer than it is today. The question remains whether Mars has any liquid water on its surface.

Given the massive volume of images, the researchers employed an advanced machine-learning method, looking for correlations involving temperature patterns, atmospheric dust deposition, meteorite impacts, the nature of the terrain and other factors. The geostatistical analysis found that slope streaks often appear in the dustiest regions and correlate with wind patterns, while some form near the sites of fresh impacts and quakes.

## Judge rejects bid to cancel IRS workers’ union contract

Daniel Wiessner  
REUTERS

A federal judge has rejected a bid by the Treasury Department to cancel a union contract covering tens of thousands of IRS staff, an early blow to President Donald Trump’s efforts to eliminate collective bargaining rights for many federal workers.

U.S. District Judge Danny Reeves in Lexington, Kentucky, said in a written opinion late on May 20 that the department lacked legal standing to bring a lawsuit against the National Treasury Employees Union.

After Trump issued an executive order exempting Treasury and other agencies from union bargaining obligations, the agency sued an affiliate of the NTEU that represents Internal Revenue Service employees, to invalidate a bargaining agreement reached in 2022.

Reeves, an appointee of Republican former President George W. Bush, dismissed the case, saying the lawsuit was premature because Treasury had not yet taken any steps to implement Trump’s order.

“This decision says nothing of the merits of the case,” the judge wrote. “Had Treasury filed suit in response to an invasion or threatened invasion of its sovereign right to enforce [Trump’s order], a different result likely would have been reached.”

A U.S. appeals court paused a ruling by a judge in Washington, D.C., that had blocked seven agencies, including Treasury, from implementing Trump’s order in a lawsuit by the NTEU.

The White House, the Treasury Department and the NTEU did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Trump in the executive order excluded from collective bargaining obligations agencies that he said “have as a primary function intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work.”

The order applies to the Justice; State; Defense; Treasury; Veterans Affairs; and Health and Human Services departments, among other agencies. The NTEU has said the order applies to



Federal workers rally across the street from the Internal Revenue Service headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri, on March 15. CHASE CASTOR/REUTERS FILE

about 100,000 of its 160,000 members.

The Treasury Department sued the NTEU affiliate a day after Trump issued the order, seeking a declaration that gave Treasury the authority to end its bargaining relationship with the union.

The department said that federal civil service law empowers the president to exempt agencies from bargaining when he deems it necessary to protect national security, and that courts lack the authority to review and second guess those determinations.

NTEU and other federal worker unions have accused Trump of issuing the order to punish them for bringing legal challenges to a number of his policies.

U.S. District Judge Paul Friedman in Washington, D.C., ruled in the NTEU’s lawsuit in April that Trump had not adequately justified reversing decades of practice and exempting large swaths of the federal workforce from bargaining. But an appeals court panel in blocking that ruling said it was likely to be overturned on appeal.

Eight federal agencies have filed a separate lawsuit against the American Federation of Government Employees, the largest federal worker union, seeking to invalidate existing union contracts covering thousands of workers. The union has moved to dismiss that case, with a hearing scheduled for June.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
\* \* \* \* \*  
**NOTICE OF HEARING FOR THE GAS CUSTOMERS OF**  
**SEMCO ENERGY GAS COMPANY**  
**CASE NO. U-21678**

- SEMCO Energy Gas Company requests Michigan Public Service Commission’s approval of its Energy Waste Reduction plan reconciliation costs and revenues pursuant to 2008 PA 295, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2024.
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write SEMCO Energy Gas Company 1411 3rd St., Suite A, Port Huron, MI 48060, (800) 624-2019, for a free copy of its application. Any person may review the documents at the offices of SEMCO Energy Gas Company or on the Commission’s website at: <https://mi-psc.my.site.com/s/>.
- A pre-hearing will be held:

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 10:00 AM  
**BEFORE:** Administrative Law Judge Katherine E. Talbot  
**LOCATION:** Video/Teleconference  
**PARTICIPATION:** Any interested person may participate. Persons needing any assistance to participate or who are seeking access to the video/teleconference should contact the Administrative Law Judge’s secretary at (517) 284-8130 or by email at [LARA-MOHR-PSC@michigan.gov](mailto:LARA-MOHR-PSC@michigan.gov) in advance of the hearing.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a pre-hearing to consider SEMCO Energy Gas Company’s (SEMCO) April 29, 2025 application requesting the Commission to: 1) approve the Annual Report and Reconciliation of the 2024 Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) payments and revenues, as presented by SEMCO; 2) approve SEMCO’s proposal to collect a Performance Incentive award of \$4,001,853; 3) approve the revised EWR surcharges, as proposed by SEMCO; 4) approve the 2025 EWR Plan adjustments, including the revised energy savings targets and Financial Incentive Mechanism; 5) authorize SEMCO to carry forward its under-recovery of (\$2,556,650) into 2025 on a class basis and used as beginning balances for the 2025 reconciliation; and 6) grant SEMCO other and additional relief as shall be lawful and proper.

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission’s E-Dockets website at: <https://mi-psc.my.site.com/s/>. Requirements and instructions for filing can be found in the User Manual on the E-Dockets help page. Documents may also be submitted, in PDF format, as an attachment to an email sent to: [mpscledockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscledockets@michigan.gov). If you require assistance prior to e-filing, contact Commission staff at (517) 284-8090 or by email at: [mpscledockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscledockets@michigan.gov).

Any person wishing to intervene and become a party to the case shall electronically file a petition to intervene with this Commission by May 29, 2025. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon SEMCO Energy Gas Company’s attorney, Theresa A.G. Staley, 201 Townsend St., Ste. 900, Lansing, MI 48933.

The prehearing is scheduled to be held remotely by video conference or teleconference. Persons filing a petition to intervene will be advised of the process for participating in the hearing.

Any person wishing to appear at the hearing to make a statement of position without becoming a party to the case may participate by filing an appearance. To file an appearance, the individual must attend the hearing and advise the presiding administrative law judge of their wish to make a statement of position. Mich Admin Code, R 792.10413 (Rule 413).

Any person wishing to file a public comment may do so by filing a written statement in this docket. The written statement may be mailed or emailed and should reference Case No. U-21678. Statements may be emailed to: [mpscledockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscledockets@michigan.gov). Statements may be mailed to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917.

All information submitted to the Commission in this matter becomes public information, thus available on the Michigan Public Service Commission’s website, and subject to disclosure. Please do not include information you wish to remain private. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Executive Secretary at the above address or by telephone at (517) 284-8090.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules R 792.10422 and R 792.10432. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 284-8130.

Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 300, as amended, MCL 462.2 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.54 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; 2008 PA 295, as amended, MCL 460.1001 et seq., and Parts 1 & 4 of the Administrative Hearing Rules of the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules, Mich. Admin Code, R 792.10106(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7); R 792.10121; and R 792.10401 through R 792.10448.

May 6, 2025  
U-21678



**SELL IT**  
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Place your classified ad today.

**In Search Of**

Looking for coworkers of Daniel “Dan” Shook who worked as a laborer and in maintenance at Detroit Gasket from 1972 to 1974.



Please contact Richard Hicks or Austin Rodriguez at 713-659-5200

## Earmark

Continued from Page 6A

comment.

The state budget prefaced the ballpark grants and others with language indicating they were made for a public purpose. But the intended recipients are clearly local and private entities, and courts can make their own conclusions on the ultimate purpose of those grants, the Mackinac Center lawsuit said.

“The Legislature by merely declaring that a private purpose is a public purpose cannot work around the supermajority voting requirement,” one of the motions in the case said. “The 1961 Constitutional Convention delegates were quite hostile to publicly funded ec-

onomic development and any post-ratification case law contending that economic development is a public purpose is wrongly decided.”

The filing dismisses lawmakers’ efforts to “legitimize” the spending and sidestep constitutional prohibitions on local or private funding by using a population threshold to describe the recipient. The technique is used in most earmarks to avoid naming a specific recipient, though the population descriptors are usually specific enough that only one entity could possibly be the recipient.

Using population and community descriptors to describe a project and sidestep specifically naming a private or local recipient has been a common practice for years. However, the pervasiveness of the process to secure billions in grants

in recent years brought the issue to a head for the Mackinac Center, said Patrick Wright, vice president for legal affairs at the Mackinac Center Legal Foundation.

“They’ve gone after so much money using this process that people have started to notice,” Wright said. “And we decided to do something about it.”

A spokesperson for the state labor department declined to comment, citing the pending litigation.

The Mackinac Center’s lawsuit comes after several years of high-dollar, no-bid pet project spending that was squirreled into the state budget hours before its passage, giving lawmakers little time to review what they’re voting on.

In many cases, the pork barrel spending has been used to win over votes from a certain lawmaker whose district could benefit

from the funding. Often, the grants have gone to political donors, for-profit businesses, nonprofits that hadn’t yet been created and projects whose purpose was anything but clear.

Starting in 2023, the Democratic-led Legislature implemented some earmark transparency requirements. However, some projects have raised eyebrows, such as vetoed line items for a Detroit development with disputed ownership and a shooting range at a private gun club. This year, Republican House Speaker Matt Hall introduced a House rule that requires advance disclosure of earmark requests and bars earmarks from going to for-profit entities.

On Wednesday, the Michigan House Appropriations Committee began discussing legislation that would cement the House earmark

rule into state law.

Last week, Attorney General Dana Nessel charged former House aide David Coker Jr. with seven counts related to his involvement in a pet project on allegations that Coker set up the nonprofit Complete Health Park to receive earmark money and then invoiced the nonprofit for up to \$820,000 in bogus work conducted by his for-profit IW Consulting.

Two other earmarks remain under investigation by Nessel’s office: a \$20 million grant to businesswoman Fay Beydoun’s nonprofit Global Link and millions given to the Michigan Aerospace Manufacturers Association to create a low-orbit satellite launch site and command center.

eleblanc@detroitnews.com

## Death

Continued from Page 6A

closer, so they can get closure, so they can find some justice for their mother,” Flood said.

Dale’s criminal attorney, Mary Chartier, said though she cannot comment on the civil case, she is getting ready for the upcoming criminal trial in September. She is arguing several motions next week involving discovery, the admissibility of evidence obtained with search warrants and a request for a change of venue.

“Mr. Warner has a right to go to trial. He has maintained his innocence since day one

and we stand ready to go to trial,” Chartier said.

Dee and Dale Warner married in August 2006, and Dale allegedly displayed a pattern of controlling behavior and domestic violence throughout the marriage, according to the lawsuit.

Dale allegedly asked a farm employee to buy a GPS tracker to put on Dee’s car and to install surveillance cameras around their property, according to the lawsuit. Dale allegedly asked another employee to clone the contents of Dee’s phone.

Dee told several family members and friends about her intent to ask Dale for a divorce, but Dale allegedly had told Dee he had already been through one divorce and did not want to go through another one.

Dee told a friend she tried to leave in December 2020 and Dale had allegedly called her a “c--- and threw me into the dresser,” according to the lawsuit. She told the friend Dale had “turned into the devil” and that Dale would not allow her to take their daughter, noting that “I literally thought he could kill me.”

Dee allegedly told multiple people, including her adult children, April 24, 2021, that she was done with her marriage and planned to initiate a divorce. She told Rikkell: “I watch Dateline like every night and [Defendant] could do something like that to me,” according to the lawsuit.

A friend picked her daughter up from the home April 24 and was the last person to see Dee alive.

When Rikkell arrived the next morning for their weekly Sunday breakfast, Dee was nowhere to be found, according to the lawsuit. Dale allegedly approached Rikkell holding Dee’s wedding ring, claiming she left it on his desk before she disappeared.

Dale told police he’d seen Dee sleeping on the couch around 6 a.m. April 25 when he’d left for work, and said he wasn’t alarmed because her makeup bag and hair dryer were gone. He told police he figured she’d cool off and come back home, according to the lawsuit.

Dale’s son, Jaron Warner, was charged with tampering with evidence and accesso-



Crime Stoppers of Lenawee County / Facebook

Dee Ann Warner’s body was found in 2024.

ry after the fact in connection with Dee’s death, but the charges were dismissed last week.

“I’m confident those charges will probably come back,” Flood said.

kberg@detroitnews.com

### STATE OF MICHIGAN BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION \*\*\*\*\* NOTICE OF HEARING FOR THE GAS CUSTOMERS OF SEMCO ENERGY GAS COMPANY CASE NO. U-21678

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• A pre-hearing will be held:

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 10:00 AM

**BEFORE:** Administrative Law Judge Katherine E. Talbot

**LOCATION:** Video/Teleconference

**PARTICIPATION:** Any interested person may participate. Persons needing any assistance to participate or who are seeking access to the video/teleconference should contact the Administrative Law Judge’s secretary at (517) 284-8130 or by email at [LARA-MOHR-PSC@michigan.gov](mailto:LARA-MOHR-PSC@michigan.gov) in advance of the hearing.

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May 6, 2025  
U-21678



## Selfridge

Continued from Page 6A

structions to protect both people and property on the ground from air traffic.

“We are focused on this. We’re not throwing a whole bunch of things up against the wall. We’re telling the committee specifically that this is within President Trump’s intent. This is what’s best for the entire nation,” said James, who is running for the GOP nomination for governor in 2026.

“Within 500 miles of Selfridge, we have 20% of Canada and U.S. population. It allows us to react quickly, as we did during our most recent terror attack on 9/11, and we have two years to do (the runway). So we’re asking for the full \$90 million.

“Based upon our track record in the past, I’m very confident that that we have a good chance to get it, especially with the local support.”

James asked bipartisan members of Michigan’s delegation to sign on this week in support of his Selfridge earmark request. A delegation letter to the House Appropriations subcommittee that oversees military construction touts the 4,000 jobs that Selfridge supports, plus its \$850 million annual impact on the regional economy.

“The current infrastructure is insufficient to support the safe accommodation, maintenance and deployment of next-generation aircraft,” James wrote. “The proposed runway extension is essential to fulfill these advanced requirements and to maintain Selfridge’s operational readiness in support of national defense.”

James also submitted letters of support from Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and former U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Township, who is Selfridge’s honorary base commander and Macomb’s public works commissioner.

James said state and local funds are expected to pay for the rest of the \$124 million runway project, though accommodating the bed-down of 21 F-15EXs at Selfridge will incur additional costs. Officials said larger hangars, specialized maintenance needs, and possibly a new flight simulator building are also under discussion.

James said he is “laser-focused” on the runway reconfiguration because it has the longest lead time.

“These fighters take off in two years, right? In addition to this, I also have appropriations and authorization requests in for the additional fighters,” James said. “We’re prioritizing this because this isn’t a done deal yet. I’m doing everything I can to get the biggest piece of the puzzle solved. This is the critical piece that we’ll need to do now.”

In testimony before the Senate on Tuesday, the new secretary of the U.S. Air Force said future Pentagon spending will support Trump’s decision last month to send F-15EX fighters to Selfridge, pledging that they would arrive on time in 2028 as Trump announced.

Based on the president’s decision, the Air Force is planning to execute the placement of F-15EXs at Selfridge,” Air Force Secretary

Troy E. Meink said in response to a question from Sen. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township, during testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Peters has said he expects to see a budget request by the Pentagon for additional procurement of F-15EXs when the Trump administration releases its budget proposal later this month. The 21 warplanes would cost at least \$2 billion, as each F-15EX costs about \$99 million.

Peters’ office said he is working closely with the Michigan National Guard to determine and request the funding needed to meet Selfridge’s military construction needs.

On Tuesday, the senator urged Air Force officials to prioritize bases with near-term military construction needs to support flying missions that are “imminent,” like at Selfridge.

Gen. David W. Allvin, chief of staff of the Air Force, told Peters that the goal is to ensure that aircraft platforms aren’t sent to their assigned bases without supporting infrastructure.

“That timing may adjust the timing of the platforms or the infrastructure, one of the two,” Allvin said. “Our target is to make sure that when the platforms get there, they’re able to be used as soon as possible.”

The Air Force will be sending a team to visit Selfridge in early June to develop a plan for the addition of the new F15-EX fighter aircraft and for the KC-46A refueling aircraft that coming to the base in 2028 and 2030, respectively, said Michael Kroll, a spokesperson for the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Kroll said part of that plan will include a comprehensive list of construction projects needed to support both flying missions.

The state in collaboration with the National Guard Bureau previously awarded contracts for the design and environmental assessment required for the project at Selfridge that proposes relocating the primary runway northward to shift the southern clear zone away from residential areas.

The relocation will require adjustments to a major county road, drainage systems and some base infrastructure at the runway’s northern end but will preserve existing housing along the Clinton River, Kroll said.

Construction for the non-airfield portion of the project that is subject to state funding is expected to begin in the summer of 2026.

State officials have suspected that the safety zone conflict is part of the reason the Air Force passed over Selfridge after competing for an international training center for the F-35 fighter aircraft.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer previously pledged \$100 million in state money toward runway and other infrastructure improvements at Selfridge to try to attract another fighter mission to the base.

The state Legislature has allocated approximately \$28 million in funding for upgrades, including the runway project at the base. A panel of the state Senate approved an additional \$26 million last month.

mburke@detroitnews.com

# The Mining Journal

Upper Michigan's Largest Daily Newspaper  
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## AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MICHIGAN

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

For the County of: **MARQUETTE**

In the matter of: Notice of Hearing  
SEMCO Energy Gas Company  
Case No. U-21678  
June 5, 2025

Size: 3 x 14.25

State of **MICHIGAN**, County of Marquette ss.

**ANN TROUTMAN**

being duly sworn, says that she is

**PUBLISHER**

of **THE MINING JOURNAL**

a newspaper published and circulated in said county and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; that annexed hereto is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date, or dates, to-wit

May 24, 2025



**ANN TROUTMAN**

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of May, 2025.



**HOLLY GASMAN**

Notary Public for MARQUETTE County, Michigan  
Acting in the County of Marquette  
My commission expires: May 25, 2031

## FEEDING

## Cont. from A1

ty=147>Marquette County Negaunee Public Library•319 W. Case St., Negaunee, MI 49866 Monday and Thursday Noon – 1:30 p.m. Peter White Public Library•217 N. Front St., Marquette, MI 49855 Tuesday and Friday•11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

## Alger County

Munising School Public Library 810 M-28 W., Suite A Munising, MI 49862 Monday – Friday

## STAR

## Cont. from A1

brought him and his partner Mariel Morton back to compete this year, had a short and sweet answer. “They asked her and she asked me and I said, ‘Yes and why not?’” The couple had won the 2024 Mirror Ball Trophy during last year’s “Barbie and Ken” edition, coming back this year to defend their title.

“There’s a lot of fun, and I can’t pass up a chance to dance,” explained Morton, who works alongside Cappoferri at Congress Pizzas in Ishpeming. The couple were the only participants originally from Marquette County’s west end competing this year.

“She’s got all the talent. I have zero,” Cappoferri included. However, their performance of samba to a glow-in-the-dark party theme may have suggested otherwise, and in judge Doug Garrison’s words, Cappoferri is still the best bartender west of the Carp River.

At 6:30 p.m. on May 21, doors opened to the Forest Roberts Theatre on Northern Michigan University’s campus, ushering in an audience excited to watch the opening night of performances that began at 7 p.m. The show was book-ended by two group performances, and special guest dances from 2024 Congeniality winners Sam and Chris Durley and 2024 competitors Corey and Wendy Hanycz added even more magic to an already-spectacular evening.

Hosted alongside commentary from Faye Elder and Rob Shirlin, who have been hosting since the fundraiser’s first event in 2013, the night was full of performances themed after different parties and styles of dance. Unique routines and styles including the Kovacs’ Mardi-Gras-themed hip hop routine, the Alexanders’ slumber party Paso Doble, and the Haugheys’ tailgate party-style Argentine Tango set the stage on fire. A panel of judges consisting of local celebrities Doug Garrison, Maureen McFadden, and Don Ryan gave their initial comments after each couple’s performance. Each couple was scored on various elements of their dances, such as presentation, use of the dance floor, audience engagement, dance ability and technique, and couples chemistry. Two awards were handed out on

Noon – 1 p.m.

## Chippewa County

Bayliss Public Library 541 Library Drive Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Wednesday – Friday•11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. DeTour School & Public Library•202 S. Division St DeTour Village, MI 49725 •Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Drummond Island Library•29934 E Court St, Drummond, MI 49726 Monday and Wednesday•11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Pickford Community Library•137 E. Main Street Pickford, MI 49774 Wednesday and Friday 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Wednesday night as well. Julie and Ty Hartung were the winners of this year’s Congeniality Trophy, described as the couple who was the most supportive to their competition and showed exceptional character. Stacy and Jared Haughey also won an award for being the first couple to rake in \$10,000 in donations.

Audiences were able to cast their post-show votes following Wednesday night’s performances. Votes from May 21, alongside online votes and judges’ scores were added together on May 22 for the grand finale.

The Thursday night finale carried over the same vibrant energy that encapsulated Wednesday’s opener, preceded by a Red Carpet event with hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar in the Hedgcock building prior to the finale performances. Audience members were able to witness the dancers grace the stage second time, with the Owsley’s jazzy toga party number and the Hartungs’ pool party Lindy Hop once again lighting up the Forest Roberts Theatre.

Taylor and Kaylee Birmann’s Studio 54-themed Viennese Waltz, choreographed by their dance pro Lauren Culpepper, won them the coveted Mirror Ball Trophy this year and made the Birmanns the 2025 Dancing with our Stars champions. Pat and Alyssa Digneit, who danced the salsa to a

## Mackinac County

Brevort Township Library•1941 W. Church Rd., Moran, MI 49760 Wednesday•11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Les Cheneaux Community Library•75 E. Hodeck St., Cedarville MI 49719•Wednesday•11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Engadine Library W13920 Melville St., Engadine, MI 49827 Tuesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Mollie R. Kahl Community Library•11185 W. 2nd Street, Rudyard, MI 49780•Wednesday and Friday•11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Bud Sargent can be reached at 906-228-2500. His email address is bsargent@miningjournal.net

murder mystery party theme, won this year’s Fan Favorite Award for collecting the most online votes since voting opened back on January 21.

The finale also took the time to recognize those who had put so much hard work into organizing the event, such as Jill Grundstrom, Director of Dance; Dave Aro, the UPHF Executive Director; and Lindsay Hemmila, the Event Coordinator. Additionally, it was acknowledged that the money raised for hospice care wouldn’t have been possible without the support of the community and the dedication put in by the cast and crew.

“It’s just so exciting, but what is interesting (and) it’s also so humbling because I’m only one of so many people that put their time and energy and their talents to making this a successful fundraiser,” said Kori Bjorne, Director of Community Services at U.P. Home Health & Hospice, who was one of the event’s main organizers. “(The work has included) learning how to dance for some people who have never learned how to dance before, to doing their own fundraiser, (and) just helping spread the message that hospice is around and available for anybody who might need it. It’s just so great to be part of something so big.”

Abby LaForest can be reached at 906-228-2500, ext. 548. Her email address is [alaforest@miningjournal.net](mailto:alaforest@miningjournal.net).

## VETERANS

## Cont. from A1

but it’s the members who live there who call it home, and the people who commit their lives and their passions to take care of those veterans and the heroes of our community,” said Major General Paul Rogers, adjutant general and director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

“So, we are here not only to break ground, but we’re here to thank all of you, celebrate you, and really celebrate that bond between the community and their veterans.”

While the home itself is getting a major update, the name will remain the same — Michigan Veterans Home D. J. Jacobetti — in honor of Dominic J. Jacobetti, who was born in Negaunee and holds the title for the longest serving member of the Michigan House of Representatives.

“This is a chance for me to tell my friends

back in D.C. that Michigan has done the right thing as a next step for their veterans so that other states can see what we’re doing here in creating a living environment for our veterans that they are going to enjoy during the rest of their time on Earth,” said Representative Jack Bergman of the Veterans Affairs Committee in a rare public appearance in his district.

“I guarantee you, this model will be copied in other states as they see what they’ve done here.”

“It’s about fulfilling the sacred promise that we make to all of those who fight for our freedom. Here in Michigan, we will always treat our veterans with the care and respect that they deserve,” said Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer. “They put their lives on the line to keep us safe and we get to hold up our end of the bargain by ensuring that they can live their lives in peace and dignity.”

“We stand on the ground that will soon be transformed into a

place of refuge, a place of healing, a place of dignity and community.”

The new Michigan Veterans Home D.J. Jacobetti site received 33 million dollars in state investment.

In addition to remarks made by Zerbe, Oja, Rogers, Bergman, Whitmer, David Henry of MI Veterans’ Facility Authority and Lyn Durant of Marquette Township, the event included a ceremonial groundbreaking of the future site, as well as a posting of the colors by the Michigan Army National Guard Military Funeral Honors Upper Peninsula Team and a performance of the national anthem performed by MVHDJJ veterans Glenn Garrett and Tom Codd, with guitar accompaniment by Marshall Codd.

Annie Lippert can be reached at 906-228-2500, ext. 542. Her email address is [alippert@miningjournal.net](mailto:alippert@miningjournal.net).

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

## BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

\* \* \* \* \*

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR THE GAS CUSTOMERS OF  
SEMCO ENERGY GAS COMPANY  
CASE NO. U-21678

- SEMCO Energy Gas Company requests Michigan Public Service Commission’s approval of its Energy Waste Reduction plan reconciliation costs and revenues pursuant to 2008 PA 295, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2024.
- The information below describes how a person may participate in this case.
- You may call or write SEMCO Energy Gas Company 1411 3rd St., Suite A, Port Huron, MI 48060, (800) 624-2019, for a free copy of its application. Any person may review the documents at the offices of SEMCO Energy Gas Company or on the Commission’s website at: <https://mi-psc.my.site.com/s/>.
- A pre-hearing will be held:

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 10:00 AM  
**BEFORE:** Administrative Law Judge Katherine E. Talbot  
**LOCATION:** Video/Teleconference  
**PARTICIPATION:** Any interested person may participate. Persons needing any assistance to participate or who are seeking access to the video/teleconference should contact the Administrative Law Judge’s secretary at (517) 284-8130 or by email at [LARA-MOHR-PSC@michigan.gov](mailto:LARA-MOHR-PSC@michigan.gov) in advance of the hearing.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (Commission) will hold a pre-hearing to consider SEMCO Energy Gas Company’s (SEMCO) April 29, 2025 application requesting the Commission to: 1) approve the Annual Report and Reconciliation of the 2024 Energy Waste Reduction (EWR) payments and revenues, as presented by SEMCO; 2) approve SEMCO’s proposal to collect a Performance Incentive award of \$4,001,853; 3) approve the revised EWR surcharges, as proposed by SEMCO; 4) approve the 2025 EWR Plan adjustments, including the revised energy savings targets and Financial Incentive Mechanism; 5) authorize SEMCO to carry forward its under-recovery of (\$2,556,650) into 2025 on a class basis and used as beginning balances for the 2025 reconciliation; and 6) grant SEMCO other and additional relief as shall be lawful and proper.

All documents filed in this case shall be submitted electronically through the Commission’s E-Dockets website at: <https://mi-psc.my.site.com/s/>. Requirements and instructions for filing can be found in the User Manual on the E-Dockets help page. Documents may also be submitted, in PDF format, as an attachment to an email sent to: [mpscdockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscdockets@michigan.gov). If you require assistance prior to e-filing, contact Commission staff at (517) 284-8090 or by email at: [mpscdockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscdockets@michigan.gov).

Any person wishing to intervene and become a party to the case shall electronically file a petition to intervene with this Commission by May 29, 2025. (Interested persons may elect to file using the traditional paper format.) The proof of service shall indicate service upon SEMCO Energy Gas Company’s attorney, Theresa A.G. Staley, 201 Townsend St., Ste. 900, Lansing, MI 48933.

The prehearing is scheduled to be held remotely by video conference or teleconference. Persons filing a petition to intervene will be advised of the process for participating in the hearing.

Any person wishing to appear at the hearing to make a statement of position without becoming a party to the case may participate by filing an appearance. To file an appearance, the individual must attend the hearing and advise the presiding administrative law judge of their wish to make a statement of position. Mich Admin Code, R 792.10413 (Rule 413).

Any person wishing to file a public comment may do so by filing a written statement in this docket. The written statement may be mailed or emailed and should reference Case No. U-21678. Statements may be emailed to: [mpscdockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscdockets@michigan.gov). Statements may be mailed to: Executive Secretary, Michigan Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, MI 48917.

All information submitted to the Commission in this matter becomes public information, thus available on the Michigan Public Service Commission’s website, and subject to disclosure. Please do not include information you wish to remain private. For more information on how to participate in a case, you may contact the Executive Secretary at the above address or by telephone at (517) 284-8090.

Requests for adjournment must be made pursuant to Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules R 792.10422 and R 792.10432. Requests for further information on adjournment should be directed to (517) 284-8130.

Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 300, as amended, MCL 462.2 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.54 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; 2008 PA 295, as amended, MCL 460.1001 et seq., and Parts 1 & 4 of the Administrative Hearing Rules of the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules, Mich. Admin Code, R 792.10106(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7); R 792.10121; and R 792.10401 through R 792.10448.

May 6, 2025  
U-21678

 SEMCO ENERGY  
GAS COMPANY

DOWNTOWN MARQUETTE  
WAYFINDING PROGRAM – PHASE 1

The Marquette Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is seeking proposals from qualified firms to lead Phase 1 of a comprehensive Downtown Wayfinding Program. The selected firm will assess existing signage, identify system gaps, and develop a cohesive wayfinding design strategy aligned with the DDA’s branding and community goals.

This first phase includes analysis, stakeholder engagement, preliminary design, and preparation for fabrication and installation. Proposals must be submitted in PDF format by June 4, 2025 at 12 pm.

Full RFP details are available at: [downtownmarquette.org/wafindingrfp](http://downtownmarquette.org/wafindingrfp)

For more information, contact:  
Tara Laase-McKinney, Executive Director  
[tara@downtownmarquette.org](mailto:tara@downtownmarquette.org)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
STATE PLAN

Submitted for review and approval to U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services is holding a public hearing on the selection of the Local Weatherization Operators who will implement the Program Year 2025 DOE Formula Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons.

A public hearing is scheduled to receive comments from interested people on: June 10, 2025, 11-11:30.

The hearing is being held virtually. Attendees should register using the link/URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1793342394443404629>

This public hearing will include a summary of the results of the MDHHS-BCAEO Grant Funding Opportunity. This was a competitive bid process to select the organizations to implement the program. This public hearing will update the Michigan State Plan with any changes to the Subgrantee network based on the determination from the Grant Funding Opportunity.