

“
**That is one
good thing
about this
world . . .
there are
always sure
to be more
springs.**
”

-L.M. Montgomery

IN THIS ISSUE

Conference Schedule	1–4
Library Floor Plan	5
Young Writers Workshop ..	6–7
Writer’s Symposium	8–9
Writing Events	9
Remembering Lynn Emerick.	10
Contest Opportunity	11
New U.P. Bookstores	11
Member News	12–14
Remembering Dave Lehto ...	13
U.P. Reader #9	15
AI Copyright Seminar	15

The Written Word

NO. 2 • VOL. XXVI • 2ND QUARTER 2025

UPPAA Spring 2025 Conference Schedule

Join us for the 2025 UPPAA Annual Conference at
Peter White Public Library,
117 N. Front Street, Marquette, MI

HURRY, seats are limited to the first 110 attendees to register and fewer than 40 seats remain as of this writing. Admission is free to members, but you must register in advance to save your seat!

Please register online at
www.uppaa.org/meeting-registration/

Friday, May 16th 2025 Pre-Conference Networking & Social Mixer

We will gather from 6:00–9:00 p.m. at The Crib (thecribmqt.com), a cozy and comfortable coffeehouse with lots of seating located at 401 N. 3rd St. just steps from the Peter White Library. Light appetizers will be served, and a cash bar will be available. There will be a \$12 cover charge when you purchase the Friday Night Event when you register for Spring Conference, or \$15 at the door. Please help us plan the event effectively by registering in advance if you can. Members may bring up to 2 additional guests (separate cover charge for each).

The cash bar includes: a wide variety of coffee, tea, and other non-alcoholic drinks as well as white wine and a variety of local and imported beers and ciders.

An Open Mic night will be on the 2nd floor from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Open mics allow poets and storytellers—both seasoned and emerging—to share their work in a safe and welcoming space. Writers may bring something they’ve already published or something they are still working on. We’ll provide a place to stand, a lapel mic and a friendly audience for our members’ best Yooper creativity. You can sign up for a speaking slot at the door.

Saturday, May 17th, 2025 Spring Conference Day Schedule

This year, we're providing both a Marketing track and a Writing track for attendees. You can choose sessions from either track when you register to attend the conference. Even though attendance is free for UPPAA members in good standing, we need to know your session choices in advance to right-size the rooms for each presenter.

- 9:00 – 9:30 – Registration: complimentary coffee, baked goods, fruit
- 9:30 – 9:45 – Opening remarks, **Victor R. Volkman**, UPPAA President
- 9:45 – 10:45 – Keynote, **Michael Carrier**, author of the *Jack Handler Series* (www.greenwichvillageink.com/jack-handler-series), thrillers/mysteries
- 10:45 – 11:00 – Morning Break
- 11:00 – 12:00 – Morning Session (**pick only 1**)
 - ◆ **Sharon Brunner** – “Addressing the Needs of Native Americans in Literature”
 - ◆ **Tyler Tichelaar** – “Self-Publishing 101: Why You Should Self-Publish and How to Do It”
- 12:00 – 1:15 – Lunch/Networking Hour
- 1:15 – 1:45 – UPPAA Town Hall moderated by **Victor R. Volkman**
- 1:45 – 2:45 – Afternoon Session #1 (**pick only 1**)
 - ◆ **Sylvia Hubbard** – “21st Century Goals for Success for Writers”
 - ◆ **Rod Sadler** – “How to Research Your True Crime Nonfiction”
- 2:45 – 3:00 – Afternoon Break
- 3:00 – 4:00 – Afternoon Session #2 (**pick only 1**)
 - ◆ **M. Kelly Peach** – “Successfully Submit Your Poetry for Journals and Publications”
 - ◆ **Sue Harrison** – “Creating Compelling Characters”
- 4:00 – 4:15 – Door Prize Giveaways/Concluding Remarks by **Victor R. Volkman**
- 5:00 – Afterglow at **The Crow's Nest** (marquette-now.com/crows-nest), an informal gathering to take place (top floor of the Landmark Inn, directly across the street)

Session Descriptions

Keynote Speaker – Michael Carrier

MICHAEL CARRIER is the most prolific writer of U.P.-based thrillers. His work has been compared to that of Michael Connelly, James Patterson, and David Baldacci. These novels feature the hard-boiled Jack Handler, a retired Chicago detective, who keeps finding himself in suspenseful situations. These novels include *Murder on Sugar Island*, *Superior Peril*, *Superior Intrigue*, and *Sault*. Michael has at different times in his life driven trucks throughout the US, hustled pool and gambled poker from Texas to Montana, traveled the country hitchhiking, delivered diamonds in New York's diamond district (disguised as a down-and-outer), tended bar at a New York nightclub, and worked for over two decades in private security. Michael holds a Master of Arts degree from NYU and has done an additional two years of postgraduate work at the Dropsie College of Hebrew and Cognate Learning in Philadelphia.

Morning / Post-Keynote Speakers

“Addressing the Needs of Native Americans in Literature”

SHARON BRUNNER is an author who has published five books associated with the history of Native Americans. Her employment consisted of working for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians as an Education/Disabilities Coordinator for the tribal Head Start Program and as an Education Coordinator for the Johnson O’Malley Program. Sharon was a professor for the Bay Mills Community College, a tribal college. Sharon has spent a good portion of her life either providing service or writing about Native Americans.

It is her belief that Native Americans cannot be written about unless the writer knows about their history. To begin with, myths need to be debunked. What did they go through and what was the impact of what they have gone through? The topics that will be discussed will be: Indian boarding schools, reservations and treaties. Some Native American artifacts will be on display.

“Self-Publishing 101: Why You Should Self-Publish and How to Do It”

TYLER TICHELAAR is an author and editor. He has a PhD in Literature from Western Michigan University and Bachelor and Master’s Degrees in English from Northern Michigan University. He is the author of twenty-three books, including historical fiction, fantasy, history, and literary criticism. He began Superior Book Productions in 2008 to help other authors get their books edited and published. He is a former president and vice president of UPPAA. You can learn more about his work at www.superiorbookproductions.com

“Self-Publishing 101” will walk authors through the process of self-publishing a book from writing and self-editing to publication. Attendees will learn the basics of . . .

- the pros and cons of self-publishing vs. traditional publishing
- the best writing practices to prepare your book for publication
- how to find and work with an editor
- the layout and cover design process
- how to get your book printed
- basic tips for running your own publishing business

Afternoon Session #1 Speakers

“21st Century Goals for Success for Writers”

SYLVIA HUBBARD, award-winning Detroit author and founder of Motown Writers, has independently published over 60 dark romance and intriguing suspense stories in the over 20 years she’s been in the literary business. As an avid blogger, podcaster, social media manager, and digital strategist, Sylvia has received literary recognition for her literacy work, plus has had nine #1 Bestsellers. She is also a speaker, literary encouragement doula, and busy (continued on page 4)

“How to Research Your True Crime Nonfiction”

ROD SADLER retired after serving in mid-Michigan police forces for three decades. He began researching his first book after discovering the story of a brutal 1897 murder in Williamston, Michigan, a town where he had spent his childhood. His great grandfather served as the sheriff at the time of the murder, and he was an integral part of the investigation. Sadler travels across Michigan frequently speaking about his books. His book titled (continued on page 4)

“21st Century Goals for Success for Writers” (Cont.)

momprenuer expert. Learn more about her work:

www.SylviaHubbard.com
www.MotownWriters.com

The overall goals for this workshop:

- To learn to build up the Search Engine Optimization (SEO) so your work can be found and purchased online.
- To increase your Return on Investment (ROI), and create a way for you to gain more eyes on your writing and more money for your bank account.

The workshop will come with a PDF digital download for participants and a Q&A.

“How to Research Your True Crime Nonfiction” (Cont.)

Killing Women: The True Story of Don Miller’s Reign of Terror was the backdrop for three documentaries after it was published. One of his most recent books, *Grim Paradise: The Cold Case Search for the Mackinac Island Killer*, received the UP Notable Award from UPPAA.

Participants in his presentation will learn about how Rod researches his true crime books. They’ll also learn . . .

- the basics to research
- additional resources available
- other research methods
- advanced methods
- the unexpected

Afternoon Session #2 Speakers

“Successfully Submit Your Poetry for Journals and Publications”

M. KELLY PEACH graduated from Lake Superior State College (now a university) with a B.A. in English Language and Literature and a Secondary Teaching Certificate. He taught a variety of classes in traditional and non-traditional schools including Bay Mills Community College, The Winston School, Oscoda High School, Baylor Parkside Lodge, and Hannahville Schools. He facilitates Ink Society Meetings for a local writing group, and hikes as much as his knees will allow. His work has appeared in fifty-plus venues.

In this presentation, you will learn . . .

- the basics of submissions: what they are and why you should do them
- where and how to submit
- submission letter
- tracking submissions
- suggestions for submitting individual or batches of poetry
- types of poetry manuscripts and suggestions for submitting them

“Creating Compelling Characters”

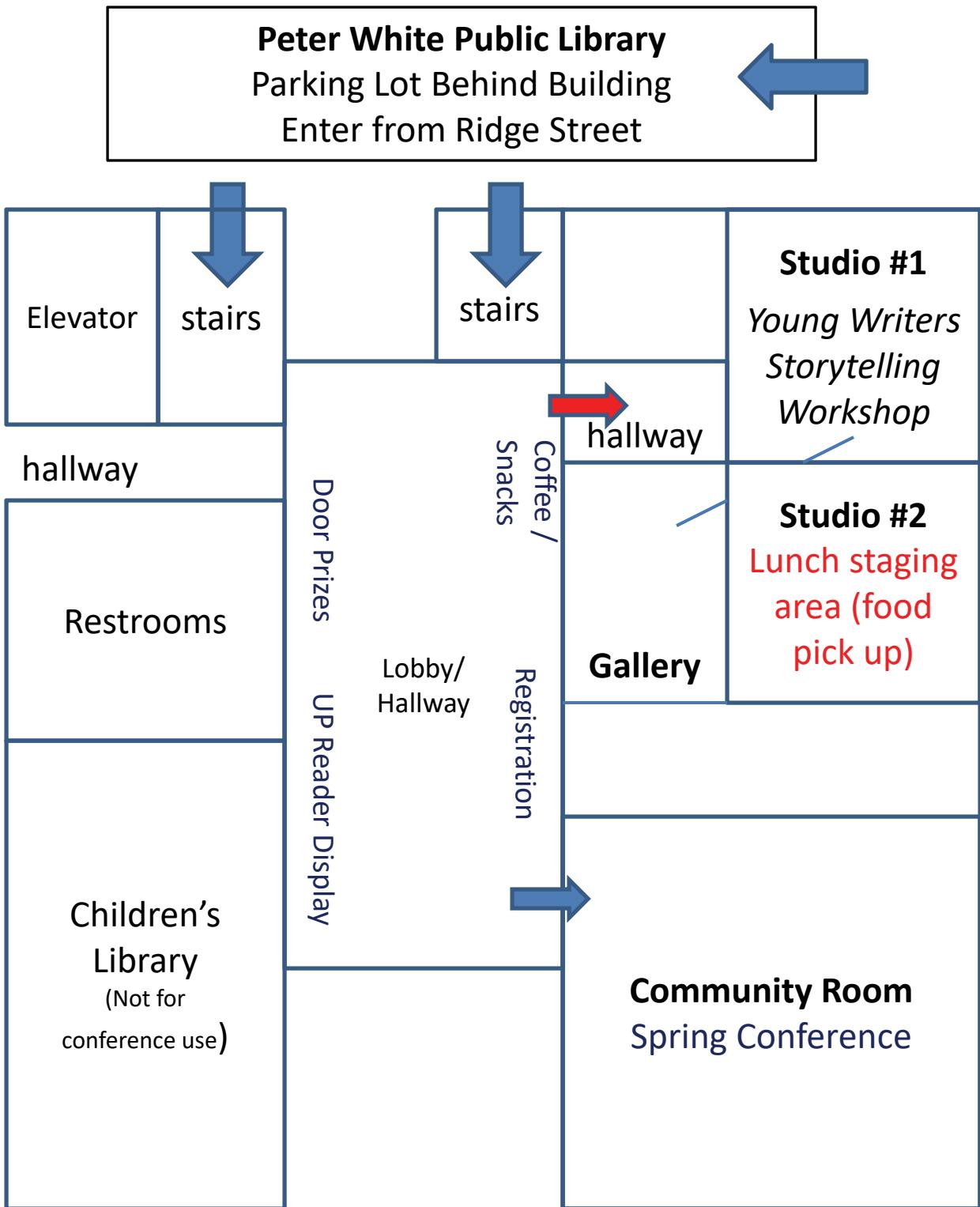
SUE HARRISON was raised in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and lives in Pickford with her husband Neil, a retired high school principal. Harrison has written six critically acclaimed and bestselling novels set in ancient Alaska. The first, *Mother Earth Father Sky*, is a Publishers Weekly national bestseller, an Amazon number one bestseller, and was selected as an American Library Association 1991 Best Book for Young Adults. Harrison’s novels have sold more than two million copies and have been published in more than twenty-five countries and in thirteen languages.

Key takeaways from the workshop include . . .

- creating compelling characters
- the novelist who writes the 3rd dimension
- Stephen King’s secret weapon
- pride goeth before a fall
- lazy is your worst enemy
- “I just couldn’t put that novel down.” – how to get there from here

All attendees will receive a notebook with hints and examples about making their characters come alive.

UPPAA Spring Conference 2025 +
Young Writers Storytelling Workshop
Basement Combined Floor Plan
NOT TO SCALE



Front Street – No access to basement level!

Saturday, May 17th, 2025

Young Writers Storytelling Workshop

When: May 17th, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Peter White Public Library, 217 N. Front St, Marquette, MI

How to Register: storytellingworkshop.org

The Upper Peninsula Publishers and Author's Association (UPPAA) is excited to announce that the Young Writers Storytelling Workshop returns for a second year and has grown since its debut in 2024.

This year, the workshop will have additional break-out sessions for the students to choose from. It will run in parallel to the main conference.

"The workshop will run in parallel to UPPAA's main conference, but the sessions will be aimed at a youthful audience who are beginning their writing journeys," said Rehema Clarken (Hancock, MI), who is the workshop chair.

Last year, four award-winning authors taught the basics of storytelling, but this year, participants will have more to choose from with breakout sessions in the afternoon.

The additional sessions are designed especially for returning participants to help them further develop their writing skills. These sessions, led by published authors and industry professionals, will cover topics such as creating vivid characters, dynamic plots, and engaging settings, as well as writing for journalism and editing.

Like the UPPAA spring conference, participants in the Young Writers Storytelling Workshop will sign up for the tracks they wish to participate in, have additional writing time in each breakout, and a Q&A session with a panel of authors during the lunch break.

Enrollment for the workshop is now open and fewer than a dozen seats remain! The workshop fee is \$25 per student for the general public. Children of UPPAA members with family membership packages can attend for free (limit 2 please). A limited number of need-based scholarships are available, please contact storytelling@uppaa.org for details.



Young Writers Storytelling Workshop Schedule

- 9:45 – 10:45 – Morning Session #1
 - **Cyndi Perkins** – “Getting to Know You—why do you write?”
A journalist and professional editor who lives in the Keweenaw, Cyndi will lead warm-up activities to get participants comfortable and enthusiastic about writing and sharing their ideas.
- 11:00 – 12:00 – Morning Session #2
 - **John Hagen** – “Identifying the Main Problem—conflict builds stories”
An author from St. Ignace, John will guide participants through an investigation of conflict—the essential element of story—to encourage them to create a compelling plot that makes a page-turner. Additional time for writing will also be provided during this time.
- 12:00 – 1:45 – Lunch and Q&A session with authors
 - Assorted pizzas and salad from Vango’s will be provided.
- 1:45 – 2:45 – Afternoon Breakout Session #1 (**pick only 1**)
 - **Nikki Mitchell** – “Crafting Vibrant Characters—the importance of a strong hero”
A middle-grade writer from Ishpeming, Nikki will lead a fast-paced character-building activity where participants will create vibrant heroes, villains, and sidekicks that will jump off the page, followed by individual writing time to create their own characters.
 - **Ann Dallman** – “Writing for the Real World—the art of non-fiction writing”
Ann is a journalist and middle-grade author from Menominee. She will share how to craft compelling narratives as well as how to write with clarity and impact. Participants will review essential writing techniques, including strong voice, vivid imagery, and effective organization. An emphasis will be given on the real-world applications of non-fiction writing skills.
- 3:00 – 4:00 – Afternoon Breakout Session #2 (**pick only 1**)
 - **Rehema Clarken** – “Using the Five Senses—the art of descriptive writing”
Rehema is a Young Adult author who grew up in Marquette and now lives in the Keweenaw. Her session will explore how to write descriptive characters and settings using the five senses of touch, taste, smell, sight, and sound.
 - **Brandy Thomas** – “Editing to Excellence—the importance of a polished manuscript”
Brandy, an editor and author from Marquette will guide students through one of the most important and misunderstood steps of writing. During the session, she will talk about the editing process, introduce helpful tools, and show that editing involves more than just correcting punctuation and grammar.

2nd Annual Upper Peninsula Writers Symposium Set for June 21, 2025

Writers, authors, and literary enthusiasts, mark your calendars! The 2nd Annual Upper Peninsula Writers Symposium is set to take place on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at the historic Hessel School House – Avery Arts & Nature Learning Center. This full-day event will bring together seasoned and aspiring writers for an inspiring and educational experience filled with thought-provoking discussions, hands-on workshops, and networking opportunities.

Keynote Speaker: Sue Harrison

Headlining the symposium is internationally acclaimed author Sue Harrison, best known for her captivating novels *The Midwife's Touch*, *Mother Earth Father Sky*, and many others. Sue will share her expertise and insights, offering valuable guidance to writers at all stages of their creative journey.

Engaging Breakout Sessions & Panels

In addition to the keynote address, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of breakout sessions designed to enhance writing skills and publishing knowledge. Highlights include:

Breakout Sessions Include:

- AI for Authors: Writing Smarter, Not Harder**

Presented by: A.R. Vagnetti

Discover how AI-powered tools can streamline the writing and editing process while enhancing book marketing strategies. Learn how AI can assist with brainstorming, drafting, and automating time-consuming tasks such as crafting social media posts and email newsletters.

- The Power of Less: Crafting Concise, Authentic Poetry**

Presented by: Ellen Lord

Explore the art of writing concise yet impactful poetry through forms such as free verse, haibun, and haiku.

8 This session will focus on distilling emotions and ideas into their most

resonant forms to build a portfolio of poetry.

- Self-Publishing 101: From Manuscript to Marketplace**

Presented by: Debbie Frontiera

Gain insight into the self-publishing process from start to finish. Learn about self-editing, cover design, formatting, and marketing strategies to successfully publish and distribute your book.

- Getting Started With Audiobooks: Bringing Your Story to Life in Audio**

Presented by: Brandy Thomas

Learn how to create and distribute a professional-quality audiobook, from selecting a narrator to navigating production costs and distribution platforms.

- The Power of Setting: Building Worlds Readers Want to Live In**

Presented by: Joseph D. Haske

Discover techniques for crafting immersive settings that enhance storytelling, evoke emotion, and engage readers across all genres.

- How to Shoot, Write, and Self-Publish Your Photo Book**

Presented by: Wayne Pope

Explore the process of creating and publishing a photo book, from capturing compelling images to designing a visually stunning and marketable final product.

Lunchtime Panel Discussion:
AI & the Future of Writing: Friend, Foe, or Co-Author?

Panelists: Joseph D. Haske, A.R. Vagnetti, Brandy Thomas

This thought-provoking discussion will explore how AI is reshaping the writing industry. Panelists will discuss the benefits and challenges of AI in storytelling, editing, and book marketing, helping writers navigate the evolving digital landscape.



A Growing Literary Tradition

Following the resounding success of last year's sold-out symposium, organizers anticipate even greater enthusiasm for this year's event. This event provides an opportunity to connect with fellow writers, gain insights from industry professionals, and sharpen writing and publishing skills in a supportive, creative environment.

Registration Now Open!

Registration is now open and filling up quickly. The price for this event is \$65 per person, which includes lunch and refreshments. To register, call 906-484-1333 or sign up online at

www.hesselschoolhouse.org/calendar



Writing Events

Saturation: A Poetry Workshop

Register for this poetry workshop with the theme of "saturation" led by Diego Báez. Diego will explore topics of inundation, boundaries, and abundance through brief reading selections, generative writing prompts, and shared discussion. The first twenty people to register will receive a free copy of Diego's book.

Cost: FREE

Date: April 22nd, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

Location: Community Room A, Charlevoix Public Library,
220 Clinton St, Charlevoix, MI 49720

To Register: <https://data.charlevoixlibrary.org/event/poetry-workshop-diego-baez-10131>

The Bards of Northern Michigan

The Charlevoix Public Library is hosting a celebration of spoken word with keynote and emcee Diego Báez. Some talented regional poets will also read from their published works. There will be light refreshments to enjoy. Poets will be available after the event to chat, sell, and sign books. No registration required to attend.

Cost: FREE

Date: April 22nd, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Location: Community Room A+B, Charlevoix Public Library
220 Clinton St, Charlevoix, MI 49720

Remembering Lynn Emerick (1936–2025)

By Victor R. Volkman

Lynn (McGlothlin) Emerick of West Branch Township died on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at her home, while under the care of Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice. Lynn was one of the founders of UPPAA in 1998. She and her husband Lon were anchors of the organization in its earliest years. I truly enjoyed working with Lynn and her sister Ann on the restoration of *Lumberjack*, a book that her grandfather wrote.

Born in Knoxville, Tennessee, to Helen Elizabeth Crowe and William Joseph McGlothlin II, she was also the granddaughter of Manistique, Michigan, pioneers Bertha Mae Orr and William Scott Crowe. She graduated from Manistique High School and Michigan State University with additional coursework for a master's degree in Special Education. She worked as a Speech Pathologist in the rural schools of Ingham County, Michigan, and western Minnesota.

While at MSU, she met Lon Emerick. They were married in Manistique in 1958; his work in Speech Pathology and Audiology later took them to universities and colleges in West Virginia, Western Minnesota, Marquette, and later temporarily to Northern Arizona. While in Arizona, she volunteered with the Volunteer in Parks (VIP) program in Sunset Crater-Wupatki and Walnut Canyon National Monuments.

Raising twin daughters meant that traveling to schools as an itinerant speech pathologist was out; it was a special time at home with them. Later, she was an Associate Director of the U.P. Health Systems Agency, managed U.P. wide Emergency Medical System grants for equipment and training programs and obtained funding for the UP-EMS agency, which is still active today. She was the Executive Director of the Marquette County Commission on Aging from 1980–1994. She helped to establish the Retired Senior & Volunteer Program in the county, as well as a Home Care Specialist training program, Care Management services, and a volunteer respite program. She later set up Emerick Consulting, doing special projects for hospitals, youth agencies, universities, and other non-profit agencies.

She and her husband established North County Publishing and released nine books related to the Upper Peninsula. She later volunteered with The New Free Store, the Peter White Public Library, Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly, and the UP Land Conservancy. With her husband, Lon, she adopted several North Country Trail sections and twice, with Lon as support crew, completed the 100-mile hiking challenge. She served in a volunteer community organization which protected Little Presque Isle from industrial development in the late 1960s and later on a DNR committee which protected the area from a drive-in vehicle campground on fragile soils. It was one of her very favorite places in the peninsula.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 64 years, Lon Emerick, an infant son Andrew Scott Emerick, and brother-in-law Herb Weller.

If donations are desired, some of her favorite places were WNMU- PR 90, The Emerick Book Fund of the NMU Foundation, and the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve.



Contest Opportunity for Young Authors

The Global Youth Advancement Network (GYAN), part of the **Center for Global Learning and Innovation**, has selected a “Community” theme for the 7th edition of the Global Voices Essay Contest. “We’re turning the spotlight closer to home—to our own state of Michigan. We believe that global awareness begins with a deep understanding of our local communities. We invite young Michiganders to share their stories, reflections, and visions of community. Together, we hope to uncover the rich tapestry of experiences and ideas that shape our state and explore how those local realities connect to global challenges and opportunities. Let your voice be heard and join us in celebrating the stories that make Michigan a vital part of the global conversation!”

- **Sponsors:** MSU Extension, Center for Global Learning and Innovation
- **Theme:** Community
- **Eligibility:**
 - **High School Track:** open to all 9th–12th grade students who go to school in Michigan
 - **Young Adult Track:** open to 18–24 year olds who live in Michigan
- **Submission Due Date:** May 2, 2025
- **Length:** 600–900 words
- **Essay Language:** English
- **Awards:** There are two sets of awards. For both the 9th–12th grade track and the 18+ track, the following awards are available:
 - **1st Prize:** \$500
 - **2nd Prize:** \$200
 - **3rd Prize:** \$100

<https://globalyouth.isp.msu.edu/programs-projects/global-voices/essay-contest/>



New U.P. Bookstores

Read My Lips is a Romance bookstore that opened in Marquette last summer:

<https://readmylipsbookshop.com/>

Bromley's Books is opening at the end of April. Up to now it's been a mobile bookstore

<https://www.bromleysbooks.com/>

Member News

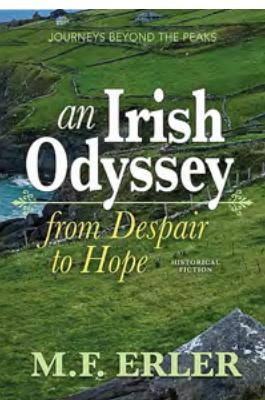
Kathleen Carlton Johnson will have a poem published in *Artemis Literary Journal 2025*, a poetry reading on April 23rd at the Calumet Public Library, and a National Poetry Month presentation at Copper Country Community Arts Center in Hancock MI.

Ann Dallman was interviewed for The Mitten, an online publication of the Michigan chapter of the Society of Children's Bookwriters and Illustrators, which will run on April 30th.

Adam Dompierre's mystery novel *Paint an Inch Thick* recently received a five-star review from Readers' Favorite:

<https://tinyurl.com/AdamDompierre>

M.F. Erler's new book, *An Irish Odyssey: From Despair to Hope*, is coming out on April 11th.



Thomas Ford Conlan is working with Larry Alexander at Superior Book Productions on his new multi-media poetry collection *Secret Conversations - Reflections in Nature*. (Expected publication: May/June). He will be participating in a poetry reading with "The Bards of Northern Michigan" on April 22nd at the Charlevoix Public Library and a book sale at the "Boozy Book Fair" at the Castle in Charlevoix on May 10th.

J. L. Hagen's poem "Unto This World" was published in March 2025 in the *Walloon Writers Review*. In May, he will be a presenter at UPPAA's Young Writers Storytelling Workshop. "I'm really excited to participate again this year. It's a great event."

Sue Harrison has several upcoming appearances:

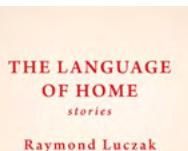
- Book Signing at Island Books and Crafts in the Soo: April 26th
- Presenter at the UPPAA Conference: May 17th
- Keynote Speaker at the Annual U.P.Writers Symposium: June 21st
- Participant at the Negaunee Public Library Pioneer Days: July 8th



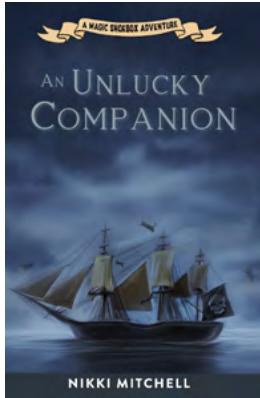
Emilie Lancour just released her book *Letters to & from My Soul* and will be doing a book signing at Sunflower Books and Coffee in Hancock on April 10th from 5–7pm.

"I encourage you to read through my letters and poetry and then write your letters. What does your soul want you to know about yourself?"

Raymond Luczak has a new book of fiction coming out in May 2025. According to the publisher (Gallaudet University Press), "What is the language of home? This short story collection offers readers many possible answers that reveal the Deaf experience in all its complexities. This collection of 18 stories paints a vivid panorama of Deaf lives."



Cris Mazza will be presenting from and taking questions about her new book, *The Decade of Letting Things Go*, at the Calumet Public Library on June 4 at 6:30.



Nikki Mitchell has a new book coming out on June 13th, *An Unlucky Companion*. Her book launch/signing event for it is at Pirates Hideaway in Eagle River, WI, on June 13th.

“For as long as he can remember, Ichabod has always wanted to be a pirate. But he’s quickly disappointed when he learns that this crew would rather stay at port and play cards than risk the high seas for an elusive treasure, all because they’re afraid of a little bad luck.”

M. Kelly Peach had a poetry chapbook, *Please, Do Not Tap on the Glass*, published by Alien Buddha Press in February 2025, a visual poem “Simple Question” published by *Sonic Boom*, and “Last Day of School,” a short story, appeared in *Soul Poetry, Prose & Arts*. A short story, “An Azure Infinity for a Timeless Season,” is appearing in the anthology *Our Dust Earth* and a poem, “The Mosaic,” has been accepted by *Alien Buddha Zine*. He will be presenting on How to Submit Poetry at the Business of Being an Artist event on July 14th for the Sault

Area Arts Council and he participated in the Open Mic Poetry Event at the Escanaba Public Library on April 2nd.

Carrie Pearson invites children’s book writers and illustrators to attend the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) Spring Conference at Washtenaw Community College on May 17th. Information can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/Scbwis>. Carrie will present a 75-minute working session on Finding Your Agent Fit. She is grateful that her authored book, *Virginia Wouldn’t Slow Down!* continues to speed ahead with a Great Lakes, Great Books Award honor (2–3rd Grade) and a Japanese edition that is now available.



Pat Winton’s book, *Farmed Out in Ontonagon County*, was featured in the *MI Chronicles magazine*, Volume 47, #4 (“Winter 2025”). The publication features only 4 MI books per month so it is indeed an honor to appear there.

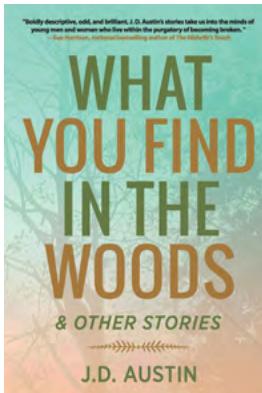
Remembering Dave Lehto

We are sad to announce the passing of Dave Lehto (67) in early April 2025. Dave was a UPPAA member, Spring Conference attendee, and regular contributor to UP Reader. His stories in UP Reader included “Best Trout I Never Ate, The” and “Coyote Pups” in volumes 3 and 4.

New from Modern History Press

What You Find in the Woods by J. D. Austin:

Synopsis: A young drunk and an old ex-drunk console each other on the city bus. An aging woman recounts the story of her sixty-year marriage as she goes to her deathbed. A distraught young man remembers his dead friends and calls on their spirits for the strength to go on living. Seasonal workers, washed-up athletes, lovers, brothers, friends, and enemies all fight for their identities and their sanity as the modern world seeks to tear them to pieces. In these ten stories, J. D. Austin explores the nuances, pitfalls, failures, and redemptions of men and their families in the Upper Midwest.



Cady and the Search for Family by Ann Dallman:

Synopsis: Book #3 in the award-winning *Cady Whirlwind Thunder Mysteries*. Cady's mother disappeared when Cady was only six. Now about to turn fourteen, Cady aches for her mother to be with her. In an attempt to



curb her granddaughter's angry outbursts, Grandma Winnie takes Cady on a road trip throughout Wisconsin and Michigan. "We'll repeat the trip your mother took when she was your age and maybe you'll learn more about her," Grandma tells Cady. Adding to Cady's stress is the deadline for her essay entry in Barnesville's centennial celebration.

Rescuing Crash, the Good Dog by Sue Harrison:

Synopsis: Britta, an eleven-year-old girl has lived in soul-deep sorrow since her mother left their family. When Britta's father forgets her birthday, he decides to give her a dog (although Britta asked for a cell phone!). They adopt Crash, an Australian shepherd from their local animal shelter in Sault Ste. Marie, a small city in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and the adventures begin.

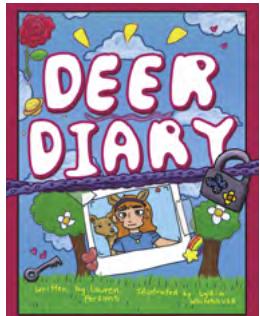


New from Lobing Healing Press

Deer Diary by Lauren Persons:

Synopsis: What happens when an unexpected guest comes to visit? What if that guest moves in for a while? What do you feed 'em? How do you entertain 'em? And just suppose that the

visitor is not a person but a white-tailed Deer named Maxi? Read Ruby's diary to find out all the answers!



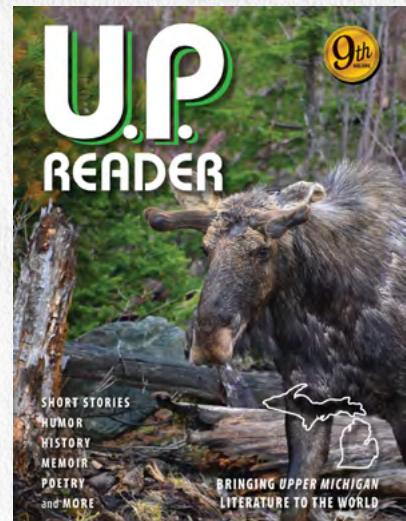
UP Reader #9

Michigan's Upper Peninsula is blessed with a treasure trove of storytellers, poets, and historians, all seeking to capture a sense of Yooper Life from settler's days to the far-flung future. Since 2017, the *U.P. Reader* has offered a rich collection of their voices that embraces the U.P.'s natural beauty and way of life, along with a few surprises.

The sixty-plus short works in this 9th annual volume take readers on U.P. road and boat trips from the Keweenaw to the Soo and from Detour to Escanaba. Every page is rich with descriptions of the characters and culture that make the Upper Peninsula worth living in and writing about. U.P. writers span genres from humor to history and from science fiction to poetry. This issue also includes imaginative fiction from the Dandelion Cottage Short Story Award winners, honoring the amazing young writers enrolled in school throughout the U.P.

You can experience the *U.P. Reader* exactly how you like to read: paperback, hardcover, eBooks, or audiobooks are available for all nine volumes of the series.

You can order online directly from UPReader.org. Contributors to Volume 9 can use the Coupon Code “**UPCONTRIB**” to save 50% off Suggested List Price on the shopping cart when they check out!



Copyright in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

In a world increasingly shaped by AI-driven innovation, how do we navigate the complexities of copyright law? This presentation explores the intersection of artificial intelligence and intellectual property, addressing pressing questions about authorship, ownership, and accountability. Through real-world case studies, legal insights, and ethical perspectives, we will examine the challenges and opportunities AI brings to creative industries. Join us as we discuss strategies for creators, businesses, and policymakers to adapt to this rapidly evolving landscape, fostering a fair and innovative future for all.

(Disclaimer: This description was created using an AI platform.)

For a Zoom invitation to this seminar (September 18th 7pm EST), please contact
Dr. C. Daniel Miller at cdmiller@thecopyrightdetective.com





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