

Photo by Yvonne Bonsall, City of Marquette Employee

Marquette Matters

A bimonthly publication produced by the City of Marquette

Marquette Residents Donate \$6,500 to Sister City for Disaster Relief

Reacting to the news of the Great East Japanese Earthquake in the spring of 2011, City officials worked with the Marquette County Community Foundation to collect donations for relief efforts. Marquette's Sister City, Higashiomi is located in the Shiga Prefecture of Japan and was not directly affected by the earthquake. When the 2011 Marquette Delegation visited Higashiomi in October, they presented Hisao Nishizawa, Higashiomi mayor, with a check for \$6,500. Nishizawa recently responded by sending this letter to John Kivela, Marquette's mayor:

"Thank you very much for sending \$6,500 for relief to victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake. We will make good use of your kind donation through the Japanese Red Cross Society.

It has been a year since the great disaster. Our City started helping by providing a drinking water supply and other basic necessities (pictured top right). We have been supporting by sending a public health nurse and other city hall staff, as well as by donating a mobile library (pictured bottom right). It will be a long way to support until those suffering from the disaster regain their normal lives. It will be appreciated if the citizens of Marquette continue to stand by us. I thank you and the people in Marquette."

For more information about Higashiomi, please visit www.mqtcty.org/arts_sister_cities or visit the Sister Cities room in the Peter White Public Library. For information about joining the Sister Cities Advisory Committee, please see page two of this publication.



Bill's Blog...

Bill Vajda, Marquette City Manager (pictured right), shares his comments on the health of our City in "Bill's Blog." The City Manager is the chief administrator for the City government. Vajda welcomes comments from the community at 906-225-8102 or manager@mqtcty.org.



"May You Live In Interesting Times"
– Ancient Chinese Proverb

What does this mean to government in Marquette? At all levels, it means a period of change unlike any in recent memory. Consider that during 2012, in addition to the presidential election cycle, the clock is ticking on the automatic enforcement of the federal Budget Control Act (BCA) – the law Congress passed to cap discretionary funding and achieve additional deficit reductions. The law limits cuts in Medicare to up to 2%, and exempts many mandatory programs for sustenance and income assistance, while allowing for 5% mandatory cuts in most defense and non-defense discretionary programs, including education, housing, and others. Starting on January 1, 2013, the law will automatically create an across-the-board cut of 5% at EXACTLY THE SAME TIME as many Bush Era Tax provisions expire, and much of the remaining funding from ARRA reaches sunset as well. For the Marquette area, the anticipated economic impact will be a reduction of approximately \$10M, not counting any other program decisions (i.e., elimination of USOEC scholarships; fewer post offices, etc.).

At the State level, the federal changes will be felt as a series of eliminations and reductions that will be passed down to local jurisdictions. In addition, changes imposed by the adoption of the Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP), as well as the potential elimination of the Personal Property Tax (PPT), could result in the reduction of revenue sharing/local tax capture by up to \$850K/annum.

At the local level, we must also add in the volatility of a year that may see changes in tax base due to the potential sale or closure of the Presque Isle Power Plant, and the potential sale of Marquette General Hospital to a for-profit corporation. While promising, final outcomes will remain uncertain as the proposals move forward through state and federal bureaucracies for most of the fiscal year.

Lacking any action by federal or state governments, the net result will be that on January 1, 2013, federal and state taxes may significantly rise at exactly the same time as revenue sharing and program spending will significantly fall. Local authorities (city and county governments, school boards, universities, etc.) will be left to figure it all out, and many will suffer from a lack of forward thinking.

In Marquette we've proposed a budget that DOES NOT RAISE TAXES, and continues a two-year trend of lowering long-term debt by 40% per annum, and decreasing the operational budget by 2.6%. We've done so in a manner that doesn't rely on speculative revenue sources or other budget tricks – such as dipping into contingency funds. We're proposing that we "hold our own" until changes at the federal and state levels are understood - and our community considers the limits imposed on local decision making.

Will the City maintain infrastructure investments, high-quality responsive services, and an outstanding quality of place that all residents enjoy? Yes. Will the City seek to expand partnerships and relationships that enhance the wonderful opportunities we enjoy? Yes. Marquette will endure and prosper – in spite of stormy seas.

McClellan Ave. Extension Project Schedule

The City of Marquette continues to make progress with the McClellan Avenue Extension Project, according to the City of Marquette's Director of Planning and Community Development Dennis Stachewicz. "While some activities are slightly ahead of schedule, we still anticipate a September 25, 2012 date for the project's completion," he said. Weather may change the schedule, Stachewicz said, and major revisions will be announced to the media.

Extension Project Activity	Original Schedule	Revised Schedule
Earth Excavation	Through April 18	Complete
Embankment Establishment	Through April 23	Through April 23
Sanitary Sewer Construction	April 12 - 24	Complete
Stream Channel Construction	April 23 - May 1	April 26 - May 4
Installation of Culvert Footings	April 24 - May 1	May 4 - May 11
Water Main Construction	April 25 - May 16	April 18 - May 10
Culvert Construction	May 2 - 8	May 14 - 18
Stream Channel Diversion	May 9 (One Day Only)	May 21 (One Day Only)
Sanitary and Water Services Installation	May 17 - 30	May 10 - 24
Storm Sewer Construction	May 31 - June 18	May 24 - June 12
Road Sub-base Installation	June 19 - July 3	June 12 - 27
Traffic Lighting	July 25 - August 21	July 25 - August 21
Concrete Curb, Sidewalk and Ramp Installation	August 8 - September 11	August 8-September 11
Bituminous Paving	September 12 - 19	September 12 - 19
Road Striping	September 25	September 25

City Announces 2012 Elections

Elections are conducted annually in the City of Marquette for City elective offices (City Commission and the Board of Light and Power), as well as Marquette Area Public Schools.

There are two City Commission seats up for election and there are also two seats open on the Board of Light and Power. Our country will also elect the President of the United States and this is considered an even-year election where federal, state and county officials will also be elected. In addition, there is a strong possibility to have referendums for the public to decide.

The City Charter calls for nominating petitions to be filed for open seats on both the City Commission and the Board of Light and Power. Nominating petitions for these positions are available at the City Clerk's Office. Nominating petitions must be filed with the Clerk's Office by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday May 8, 2012, in City Hall at the City Clerk's Office.

City Budget and Public Hearing

With the City of Marquette's special budget meetings complete, the final phase will take place on Monday, May 14, 2012, when the City Commission will hold a public hearing in Commission Chambers at Marquette City Hall. The hearing is part of the Commission's regular meeting, starting at 7:00 p.m.

"Our staff did an excellent job with this year's budget preparations," City Manager William Vajda said. "The City Commission provided valuable feedback on the process this year, and most importantly, provided high praise for the proposed budget staff accomplished."

Because of uncertain revenue sharing from the state, the City decreased capital outlay expenses by over 60 percent; supplies and services are 8 percent lower; and the City's average annual bond debt over the past two years has decreased by approximately 40 percent.

City Committee Openings

Current open City committee positions are listed below. If interested in becoming involved and filling a position, an application form can be found at www.mqtcty.org/communitynetwork.html. More information can be obtained by contacting Wendy Larson in the City Manager's office via email wlarson@mqtcty.org or by phone 906-225-8104.

Committee Name	Vacancies
Arts & Culture Advisory Committee	One Vacancy
Investment Advisory Board	One Vacancy
Local Officers Compensation Commission	Four Vacancies
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	Three Vacancies
Presque Isle Park Advisory Committee	One Vacancy
Sister City Advisory Committee	Two Vacancies

City Committee Boot Camp

The City has instituted a new training session for the members of our volunteer authorities, boards and committees called "Committee Boot Camp." The City Manager and City Attorney will be presenting a number of topics during the one-hour session: an overview of City operations; ethics; parliamentary procedures; rules of procedure; filing minutes, and finally, questions and answers. The City is asking these individuals to attend at least one of these sessions during their tenure. The Committee Boot Camp will be held on the following dates/times:

Thursday, May 17th, at 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 15th, at 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 4th, at 4:00 p.m.

All sessions will be held in Commission Chambers and are limited to 20 people per session. To reserve your spot (available on a first-come, first-served basis), please contact Wendy Larson in the City Manager's office via email (wlarson@mqtcty.org) or call her at 906-225-8104.

Police Dog Honored, Two New Dogs Need Training

Nero, a member of the City of Marquette's K-9 Unit, was recently recognized by the Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter (UPAWS). Nero, a ten-year-old specially trained Belgian Shepherd, has been instrumental in fighting crimes and the illegal drug trade in and around Marquette.

UPAWS presented Nero with their Silver Tag Award (pictured below), given to an animal that "over a significant period of time, has performed a service for a person or persons," according to Reva Laituri, chair-person of UPAWS' awards committee. "Nero was nominated because of his service to the citizens of the City of Marquette and other communities in the Upper Peninsula," Laituri said.

"Over the years, Nero and Sgt. Munger have achieved many successes in drug detection and searches," said Chief of Police Mike Angeli. "They've also provided periodic drug checks at area schools, and their services have often been extended to other communities and law enforcement agencies as needs have arisen," Angeli said.



Nero's strenuous work and age have made him ready for retirement, Angeli said, and it will take two young dogs to replace him. Angeli said, "We're grateful for the public support that has made it possible to 'hire' Nero's replacements, but we now need to focus on obtaining the training and equipment we'll need to create a fully-functional unit," said Angeli.

Donations may be made directly to the Marquette City Police Department K9 Fund, 300 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855. Please consider attending the training fund raiser, right.

Marquette City Commission



Mayor
John Kivela
 (c) 869-6672
jkivela@mqtcty.org



Mayor Pro-Tem
John DePetro
 (h) 228-6581
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Commissioner
Robert Niemi
 (h) 226-6208
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Commissioner
Don Ryan
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dryan@mqtcty.org



Commissioner
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Commissioner
Jason Schneider
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jaschneider@mqtcty.org



Commissioner
Frederick Stonehouse
 (h) 226-6014
fstonehouse@mqtcty.org

City Commission Meetings

The Commission usually meets the second and last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, unless noted otherwise. Citizens are invited to attend.

Monday, May 14, 2012, 7:00 p.m.,
Commission Chambers

Tuesday, May 29, 2012, 7:00 p.m.,
Commission Chambers

Monday, June 11, 2012, 7:00 p.m.,
Commission Chambers

Monday, June 25, 2012, 7:00 p.m.,
Commission Chambers

Meetings are televised on the City of Marquette's Channel 21.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to Benefit the City's K-9 Unit
 Monday, May 7th, from 4:00-8:00 p.m.
 at Vango's, 927 N. Third Street, Marquette
 \$7 per person, available at the door only

All proceeds will be used to help train the two newest members of Marquette's K-9 Unit: Frodo and Kai, who will be fighting crime throughout Marquette County.

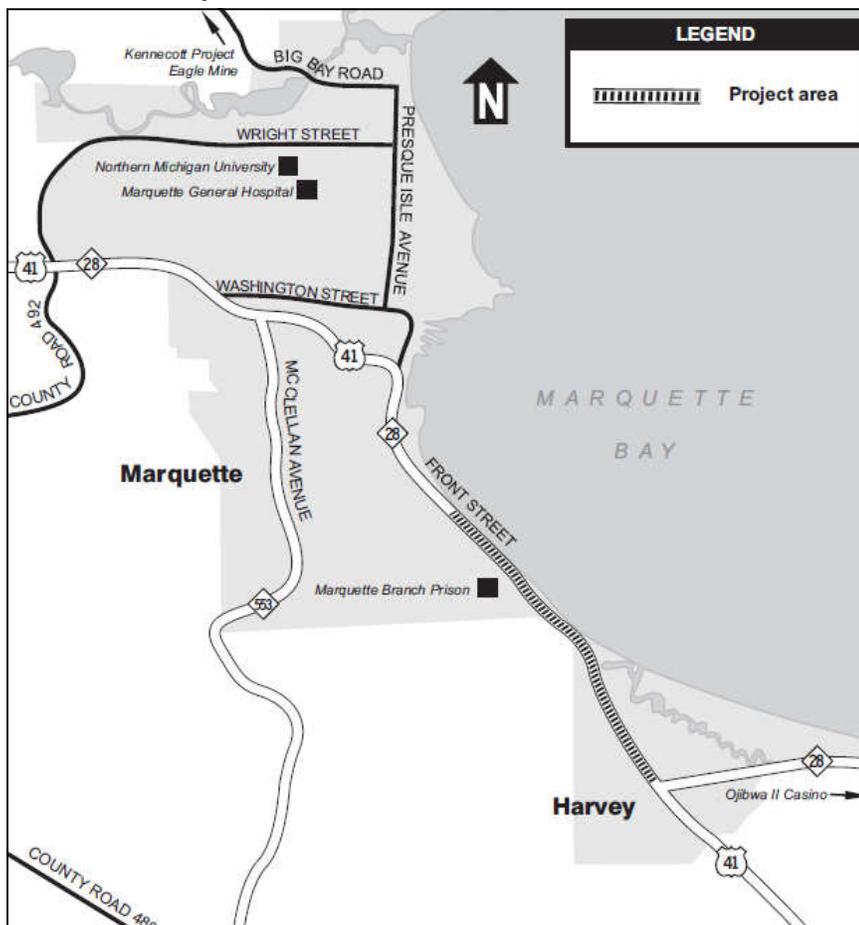
Road Improvements Made to US-41/M-28 South

This summer the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be reconstructing US-41/M-28 from the Carp River in Marquette to Bayou Street in Harvey, as well as resurfacing the highway from Bayou Street to the US-41/M-28 intersection in Harvey. The project will also include construction of a multi-use pathway along Lake Superior.

The project will require lane closures with traffic shifts. However, one lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction. Temporary turn lanes will be maintained at driveways and roadway approaches. A temporary traffic signal is in use at the Marquette Branch Prison entrance. Access to businesses will be maintained at all times.

MDOT reports that this work will improve safety, ride quality and convenience for motorists and extend the pavement service life by seven to twenty years. MDOT's 2012 road and bridge program supports the creation of jobs, growth of the economy, preservation of the environment and the safety and security of the transportation system. For more information about this initiative, please contact the Ishpeming Transportation Service Center at 888-920-6368 or visit MDOT's website at www.michigan.gov/mdot.

The map, right, details exactly which areas of U.S. 41/M-28 will be improved. The project is planned to be complete by October 31, 2012. MDOT reminds motorists: "Don't Barrel Through Work Zones! - Drive Smart to Stay Alive."



Presque Isle Park Opens in May

Beginning May 7th, Presque Isle Park will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The road on Presque Isle will remain open until 10:00 p.m. nightly during the summer months. Restricted hours for walkers/bikers are: Saturday and Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday and Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please remember that dogs are not allowed on the island other than in an enclosed vehicle. The Presque Isle Park will remain open to pedestrians through November 30, unless closed early due to accumulation of snow on the road. For more information, please contact the Parks and Recreation department at 906-228-0460.

Parks and Recreation Summer Schedule:

Marinas: Open - May 1, 2012
Close - October 31, 2012

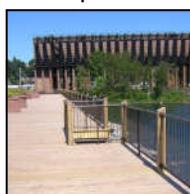
Tourist Park Campground:
Open - May 16, 2012
Close - October 21, 2012

Beaches: Open - June 8, 2012
Close - Labor Day Weekend

Other summer location openings:

The Mount Marquette road is now open.

The Founders Landing Boardwalk and rest area are now open. Hours are 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.



Organic Material Collection Site Open

Organic household materials are now accepted at the Dow Compost Site. The Department of Public Works will be using this site to gauge the need for this service as part of their collection program. The Dow Compost Site will be closed May 26th and May 28th for the Memorial Day holiday. All items must be dropped off in paper bags. Collection includes:

- Fruits and vegetables, scraps or whole
- Bread, pasta and grains
- Bakery items and ingredients
- Eggs, eggshells, nutshells and paper egg cartons
- Milk, juices and cartons
- Plants, cut flowers, potting soil
- Coffee grounds, filters, tea bags
- Paper products (napkins, paper towels, plates and food packaging)
- Pizza boxes
- Junk mail and magazines
- Cardboard boxes
- Any paper
- Animal waste
- Plants
- Cloth
- Leather



Open Burning Prohibited

The City of Marquette Fire Department would like to remind residents that open burning in the City of Marquette is prohibited by City Ordinance #530. This prohibition is in compliance with parts 55, 115 and 515 of the State of Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act 451 of 1994, as amended (Act 451), and associated administrative rules, including the following:

- Fires in fire rings and fire pits, or any open burning of materials
- Burning material in outdoor incinerators or burning barrels
- Installing and operating furnaces designed to provide heat in a separate structure
- Fires in raised outdoor fireplaces that are not directly associated with cooking food or fire of long duration.

Zamboni Training Completed

Doug Smith (left) recognized Mayor John Kivela (right) for successfully completing Zamboni training. The Mayor, Mayor Pro-tem DePetro and City Manager Vajda spent many hours this winter learning to successfully drive a Zamboni prior to their guest appearance at this year's Pigs 'n Heat fund raiser at Lakeview Arena.



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Marquette Matters, published bimonthly by the City of Marquette, is available to all residents and businesses online at www.mqtcty.org. Article ideas are always welcomed. To sign up for our e-mail list or for story ideas please email marquettematters@mqtcty.org or call Lea at 906-228-0472. Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Marquette Matters newsletter at marquettematters@mqtcty.org, or the Arts and Culture Center at 906-228-0472.

News from the Downtown Development Authority (DDA)



Downtown Marquette Farmers Market Season to Open

The Downtown Marquette Farmers Market's Grand Opening will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2012. This year's Grand Opening will feature music by Jeff Nelson from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There may not be tomatoes and sweet corn yet, but the market will still have plenty of delicious food to offer, as well as a great selection of vegetable and flower garden starts. In celebration of the local food that is available early in the growing season, the Marquette Food Co-op is sponsoring two food demonstrations that will use produce available at market that day. Cooking demonstrations will be held at 11:00 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m. by Abbey Palmer, who volunteers with one of the vendors, Rock River Farm. The Co-op and the Downtown Development Authority are also sponsoring a children's activity, and will supply soil and seeds for children to start seeds of their own to take home.

The market has a lot to celebrate this year. Two grants were awarded which will increase the community's access to fresh, healthy food. The USDA Farmers Market Promotion award of \$46,000 will be used to purchase tents for vendors, to purchase better facilities for the market information booth, and to provide funds for various types of market promotion. The second grant award was from the Fair Food Network, "a national non-profit that works at the intersection of food systems, sustainability, and social equity to guarantee access to healthy, fresh, and sustainably grown food, especially in underserved communities." The Downtown Farmers Market grant award is through the Double Up Food Bucks project. Under Double Up Food Bucks (DUFEB), families who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are given the means to purchase more Michigan-grown fruits and vegetables at farmers markets while supporting local food growers and the local food economy. "Everyone deserves access to nutritious food," says market administrator Sarah Monte, "and Double Up Food Bucks helps make that access a reality for everyone in our community, regardless of income. Produce at the farmers market is already comparable to grocery store prices across Marquette, but this program makes shopping at the market even more appealing and directly supports our farming and artisan food community."

The market will be held every Saturday, rain or shine, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. until the end of October at the Marquette Commons, 112 South Third Street. Bridge Card, Market FRESH, Project FRESH, credit, and debit cards are all accepted. Bookings for music performers are currently underway at the market, and interested parties may call Sarah at 906-225-0671, ext. 23.

Blueberry Fest Vendor Registration Open

The Marquette Downtown Development Authority is pleased to announce that plans are underway for the annual Downtown Marquette Blueberry Festival, slated for Friday, July 27, 2012. Food vendors, artists and crafters, and non-profit organizations are invited to register for a booth space during the festival, which will run from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is a \$35.00 registration fee to participate. Registration forms are available at the Downtown Development Authority office, 203 South Front Street, Suite 1-B, Marquette, or online at www.downtownmarquette.org. The deadline for registration is Thursday, June 28, 2012.

Once again, the Blueberry Festival will feature a combination of traditional sidewalk sales, artists and crafters, food vendors, family activities, and live musical acts set in the streets of Downtown Marquette. The popular Blueberry Festival Youth Talent Show, sponsored this year by the Lake Superior Youth Theatre, will also return to complement the festivities.

For more information, please contact the DDA office at 906-228-9475 or email Becky Salmon at Becky@downtownmarquette.org.

DDA Coordinates Public Art Project to Welcome MAFCA National Convention

To welcome the Model A Ford Club of America's (MAFCA) upcoming national convention in Marquette, businesses, organizations, families and residents will have the opportunity to restore their own Model A by adopting and decorating a wooden rendition of the classic vehicle. A sample is pictured below. The public art project, featuring embellished silhouettes of Model A cars and trucks, will be displayed on the light poles in Marquette's downtown district from June 15 to 25, 2012. For more information about the convention, please visit www.superiorclub.com.

Produced by the NMU Constructors, the wooden vehicles measure approximately 22" wide by 38" high. Those interested in decorating a vehicle for themselves or to advertise an organization or business can purchase one or multiple silhouettes for \$10 each by contacting the Marquette Downtown Development Authority at 906-228-9475.

Vehicles must be decorated on both sides with exterior grade paint or other embellishments and cannot exceed nine pounds in weight. Guidelines prohibit political slogans or statements, alcohol or tobacco references, and obscene language.



DDA Seeks Blueberry Fest Poster Contest Entries

Residents of all ages and skill levels are invited to submit original artwork for the 2012 Blueberry Festival Poster Contest. The selected design will be reproduced as a full-color, limited edition 10 x 13 inch poster. Original artwork in any medium is welcome but should not be larger than 11 x 17 inches and must not have been previously reproduced.

The winning entry will be determined by an online vote open to the public. Voting will take place Monday, May 14, 2012 through Wednesday, May 30, 2012 by visiting www.downtownmarquette.org or by voting in person at Marquette City Hall, where the artwork will be on display throughout the voting period. In exchange for the rights to the selected artwork, the winner will receive \$150 in gift certificates from downtown district businesses and 10 posters. The winning poster will debut prior to the festival, which is scheduled for Friday, July 27.

The entry deadline is Monday, April 30, 2012. Entry forms are available online at www.downtownmarquette.org, by e-mailing Becky@downtownmarquette.org, or by calling the DDA office at 906-228-9475. Entries may be delivered or mailed to the Marquette Downtown Development Authority, 203 South Front Street, Suite 1-B, Marquette, MI 49855.

Looking Forward to Tourist Season

Summer is a long awaited season in Marquette, Michigan. The grass starts to turn green after the winter snow melts, flowers pop up downtown and throughout historic neighborhoods, and the streets begin to fill with visitors from all over the country. Marquette continues to be a popular destination for vacationers who seek to get up close and personal with nature in a location with big city amenities and small town charm. Attractions downtown include a lovely shopping district and enticing dining options.

Big draws to the area in the summer months are the many festivals and events, including the International Food Festival, Art on the Rocks, Blueberry Festival, Seafood Fest and many more. This summer Marquette will be home to the historic Isle Royale Queen III, offering harbor cruises in Lake Superior. Visitors also enjoy gathering at Presque Isle Park to view traveling freighters and have the opportunity to walk the island and see deer and beautiful Lake Superior lookouts. Also, with the development of the Noquemanon Trail Network and other trails, Marquette has become a premier destination for hikers, bikers, and runners alike. For more information, please visit www.marquettecountry.org.

Summer Event Calendars:

Visit for the most complete information about events happening in the City, County, and surrounding areas!

www.mqtcty.org

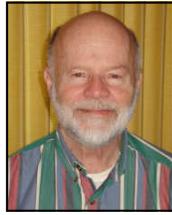
www.downtownmarquette.org/events

www.mqtshappening.com

City of Marquette Honors Community Members with Arts Awards

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center, a division of the Community Services Department, is proud to announce the winners of the sixteenth annual City of Marquette Arts Awards. These awards recognize individuals, organizations and members of the community who have contributed to the quality, awareness and opportunity for arts and culture in Marquette. 2012 winners are pictured at right. The City of Marquette invites the community to celebrate these individuals' outstanding achievements during the 16th Annual Arts Awards ceremony, Friday, May 18, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peter White Public Library Community Room. Come meet the winners at the pre-awards reception from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Arts and Culture Center located in the Lower Level Gallery of the library. This special reception is shared with Lake Superior Art Association's Annual Members' Exhibition. For more information, please contact the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center at 906-228-0472 or arts-culture@mqctcy.org.

Award categories and winners are:



Volunteer - Robert Railey



Arts Activist - Nikke Nason



Arts Educator - Lantz Whitfield



Writers - Lon and Lynn Emerick



Special Recognition Organization - Marquette Symphony Orchestra



Special Recognition - Beth Millner



Performance Artist - Jeff Krebs, aka "Papa Crow"



Visual Artist - Catherine Brunet



Youth Award - Jill Vermeulen



Skate Plaza Dream Soon to Become Reality

The Skate Plaza project is soon to be a reality! After seven years of planning, planning and more planning, the Marquette County Community Foundation and the Skate Plaza Committee is about to break ground in the triangular piece of land located in front of the YMCA at the corner of Pine and Fair.

In 2007 a group of community youth asked for help after being asked to leave the various City locations they skated at. They asked for a safe, legal place to practice their sport.

A group of concerned and interested citizens then gathered and the process of designing a park began. About 25 youth participated in a design process, sharing their dreams and thinking through safety and skating issues. The design the youth came up with was a skate plaza, which is essentially a concrete park with benches and features that can be skated on. A skate plaza takes the urban features most popular for skating and places them in one location. The park will be attractive to the public viewing it from the road of bike path; it will include green space and even skate-able art features.

Spohn Ranch, a company specializing skate plazas, was contracted to take the youth design and make it into a workable plaza. Hays Hitzing from Spohn Ranch says, "The plaza design created for Marquette will please every skater from the novice to the expert with a cutting edge plan." The diagram below details the park's design.

Several years of fund raising ensued and the Marquette County Community Foundation, with the Skate Plaza Committee, has nearly reached its goal. Thanks goes out to the Phyllis and Max Reynolds Foundation, the Tony Hawk Foundation and the City of Marquette, three of its major donors among a host of other donors large and small. Strong partnerships with Rio Tinto, Bacco, the UP Construction Council, Operating Engineers Local 324 and Barry Polzin Architects will provide many of the needs in-kind.

If any member of the community would like to donate to the project fund, they can still do so through the Marquette County Community Foundation. The opportunity to 'name' skate-able features is available; please call Nheena Weyer Ittner at the U.P. Children's Museum at 906-226-3911 for details.



First Thursday Concert Line-up Features Favorites

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center's First Thursday Concert Series will feature performances by local favorites for the months of May and June. Both concerts will be held in the Peter White Public Library Community Room at 7:00 p.m. A \$5.00 donation at the door goes directly to the band. For more information, please visit www.mqctcy.org/arts or call 906-228-0472.

Derrell Syria will perform on May 3, 2012. Derrell's laid-back original songs are great for all ages and feature musical styles from across the globe. His many collaborations and bands have headlined several U.P. music festivals.



On June 7, 2012, the series hosts The Truckey Boys. Dan and Drew Truckey, pictured below, are graduates of Munising High School and are also brothers. They began playing music together as college roommates at Northern Michigan University. Dan lives in Marquette and has performed as a songwriter and guitarist for the past 20 years and has recorded three solo CDs. Drew lives in Duluth, Minnesota; he is a songwriter and guitarist who has performed as part of the duo The Lunkers with Jay Krueger and is also a member of Duluth's lo-fi rock legends Abner's Kravitz.



City of Marquette Flagship Named to National Register of Historic Places

An administrative change by the keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, DC, is cause for excitement in Michigan as the historic designation of what has become Marquette's flagship, *Coaster II* (pictured below), is transferred from the state of Washington to Michigan.

The two-masted schooner is a New England product, designed by master boat and yacht designer Murray Peterson of Marblehead, MA, and built in 1933. *Coaster II* was designed as a scaled-down replica of New England nineteenth-century coasting schooners but with modifications so that, as Peterson stated, "she could sail with the best of the yachts that



we were seeing near Boston." The schooner was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1989 when it was docked in Everett, Washington. By 2007, *Coaster II* had been relocated to Maine and was deteriorating. It was then that carpenter Niko Economides purchased the vessel. He and his son set about restoring *Coaster II*, and they eventually sailed it down the Atlantic seaboard, up the Hudson River, through the Erie Canal, and into the Great Lakes to a new home port in Marquette Harbor in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In 2009 Economides and his family began offering charters through their business, Superior Odyssey.

"We've known for years that Marquette is filled with many treasures, and the *Coaster II*'s selection for this historic designation shows that our gems can be found on land and water," Marquette Mayor John Kivela said. "This designation makes Marquette the home port for the only National Historic Sailing Vessel on the Great Lakes. We're delighted that our 'traveling ambassador' has been recognized at the nation level."



To celebrate the designation, Superior Odyssey will host several on deck tours on *Coaster II* this summer for city residents and friends to walk aboard.. Dates and times will be posted on the Superior Odyssey Facebook page. Call 906-361-3668 or visit www.superiorodyssey.com for more information.

YMCA of Marquette County Selected to Offer LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA for Cancer Survivors



The YMCA of Marquette County has been selected to offer the **LIVESTRONG** at the YMCA physical activity and well-being program to support people affected by cancer reach their holistic health goals. The program offers those living with, through or beyond cancer a safe environment where they can participate in physical and social activities that address the special wants, needs and interests of cancer survivors.

"Research shows exercise is the simplest way for cancer survivors to reduce fatigue, improve their mood and bounce back from the debilitating effects of cancer treatment more quickly," said Andy Miller, **LIVESTRONG** Executive Vice President. "But there weren't enough programs to help people affected by cancer reach their health and well-being goals, so **LIVESTRONG** and YMCA of the USA joined forces to create **LIVESTRONG** at the YMCA. The YMCA is the perfect collaborator because of its national reach, commitment to meeting the needs of all community members, and history of program innovation in support of health and wellness."

As a **LIVESTRONG** at the YMCA participant, the YMCA of Marquette County will engage cancer survivors through an approach that focuses on the whole person. Participants work with trained YMCA staff to build muscle mass and strength, increase flexibility and endurance, and improve functional ability. In addition to physical benefits, the program also focuses on the emotional well-being of survivors and their families by providing a supportive community environment where people affected by cancer can connect during treatment and beyond. Each twelve-week session is comprised of exercise classes that meet for 90 minutes, two times per week. There is no cost to participate but advanced registration is required. Class sizes are limited to ten participants. Sessions take place at the Marquette and Negaunee facilities. For more information or to register, please call 906-227-9622 or e-mail livestrong@ymcamqt.org.

Peter White Public Library Announces Reading Program

The 2012 Peter White Public Library Summer Reading and Listening Program runs from June 11th to July 31st. Reading logs are due August 3rd. Regularly scheduled programs include monthly Book Babies Lap-Sit Storytime, Storytime for two and three year-olds, Story and Craft Hour for four and five year-olds, Summer Art Adventures for kindergarten to fourth graders, and Dog Nights at when children read to certified therapy dogs.

Special summer programs include the Opening Night Kick-Off; family concerts by Corinne Rockow, Gemini's Laz Slomovits, and Papa Crow; Walk-A-Mile Storytellers' Group Bedtime Stories in front of the fire; "Babar" presented by the Bergonzi Opera followed by elephant crafts; a summer film series premiering recently released movies; Animal Magic, a program with live animals; and the annual Ice Cream Social.

In addition, this year the library is collaborating with the Marquette Regional History Center with a Dandelion Cottage Month celebration. Activities include a community read of *Dandelion Cottage* by Carroll Watson Rankin; a community art contest and exhibition titled; a Dandelion Cottage Scavenger Hunt; a one-woman play, "Behind the Dandelions," about Carroll Watson Rankin featuring Monica Nordeen and Carrie Biolo, at Kaufman Auditorium; Walking Tours and Tombstone Detectives program; a wildflower walk-about; and Dandelion Cottage Day Crafts and Fun. Jack Deo will present "Marquette: The Early Years: Historic Photographs" emphasizing Marquette at the time of *Dandelion Cottage*. Ron Riecki has adapted the book into a play which will be produced at Lake Superior Theatre this season.

The U.P. Book Tour returns this summer. A special presentation by Donald Hall, author and fourteenth U.S. Poet Laureate, and Ellen Airgood, author of the award winning 2011 novel, *South of Superior*, will take place on Thursday June 21st.

For more information about library offerings, call the library's Children's Room at 906-226-4323 or the adult programming office at 906-226-4318, or visit www.pwpl.info. The History Center also has information about the Dandelion Cottage Month at 906-226-3571.

Downtown District Coloring Books Available

"Color Me Local" downtown district coloring books are currently available for sale. Featuring hand-drawn renderings by Pat Frenn, the books highlight landmark buildings and popular community events throughout Downtown and Third Street. Call the DDA office at 906-228-9475 or e-mail Becky@downtownmarquette.org to order one today!



Free Safe Driving Class Offered

During the Month of May, in honor of Better Hearing and Speech Month, the Marquette Senior Center is pleased to offer the AARP Senior Safe Driving Class at no charge to participants. The class will be held on Thursday and Friday, May 17th and 18th, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (with a break for lunch). Once completed, many insurance companies will offer a discount on auto insurance.

The class will be taking place in the Citizens Forum Room, located at Marquette's Lakeview Arena. Pre-registration is required; please contact the Marquette Senior Center at 906-228-0456.