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A bimonthly publication produced by the City of Marquette



# Marquette Matters

## Winter Maintenance Explained

The goal of the Public Works Department is to remove snow and ice from our roadways and sidewalks as rapidly and efficiently as possible while keeping roads open and essential traffic moving. This does not mean bare, dry pavement should be expected after a snowstorm. The aim of snow and ice control operations is to return road surfaces to safe winter driving conditions as soon as feasible within the limitations of our resources and weather conditions. With proper use of storm forecasts, personnel, equipment, and de-icing materials, the desired result can usually be attained; however, flexibility is needed to adapt to the variety of circumstances and conditions during a snow or ice storm.

Questions regarding snow and ice removal can be directed to the Public Works Department at (906) 228-0444.

## Responsibility for plowing

The City of Marquette is responsible for plowing the major and local streets within the City limits.

The Marquette County Road Commission (MCRC) is responsible for plowing all County roads. Additionally, most townships contract with the MCRC to service their local and major roadways.

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is responsible for maintenance and snow removal on State roadways. Examples include US-41 and M-553. MDOT contracts with other agencies to provide most of their plowing and snow removal services. This includes contracting with the City of Marquette to clear the section of McClellan Avenue between Division Street and the US-41 bypass. The rest of the plowing of local MDOT routes is provided by the MCRC.

## Plowing timeline

When it comes to plowing, City streets are prioritized to ensure major travel routes are cleared first. The prioritization for snow clearing is aimed at providing safe travel for as many people as possible as quickly as possible. This allows public safety vehicles access to most parts of the City. These initial plowing activities also provide most residents a cleared roadway within two-to-three blocks of their home and most destinations in the City. Other factors in the prioritization include locations of schools, hills, hospitals, major commercial centers and other facilities with large public interest. The Public Works Department works with the Police and Fire Departments to make sure that these public safety agencies are able to provide emergency services during winter weather events.

It is the City's goal to plow all streets as soon as possible after a considerable snowfall. The most efficient way to do this is to start with major routes and then move on to residential streets. Cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets usually have lower traffic volumes, and are therefore cleared after heavily traveled roadways.

Once the main routes are complete the cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets are cleared as well. Because of their configuration, cul-de-sacs and dead-ends cannot always be plowed using the more conventional truck-plowing units used on other City streets. Since there are fewer of these units than the large truck plows, short delays in plowing these special areas can be expected.

Weather conditions, including blowing and drifting snow, make predicting or providing an exact timeline for clearing each individual street or address difficult.

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## 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@mqcty.org](mailto:manager@mqcty.org).

Holidays offer time for pensive reflection.

I have a table in my office that I use for maps, blueprints, and other large drawings of "as-is" and "to-be" ideas depicting Marquette's past, present, and possible future. The images are crisp, meticulously calculated, and largely devoid of ambiguity. If there are questions, I merely consult the designer or engineer, or login to a geographic information system, zoom into the proper coordinates, and voilà! No more doubts or speculation, and all that remains are precision plans.

Yes as impressive as these capabilities are, nothing supplants my personal life experiences. No cold set of documents or technologies accurately describes the details stored in these private maps.

A street corner might be easy to describe in terms of infrastructure costs and right-of-way boundaries, and easier still to find on a map. However, I remember the intersection of Ridge Street and Seventh Street used to be the entrance to Park Cemetery, where I used to ride my bike to play with turtles, and later, where I turned to visit my mom.

I remember when the trestle cut through the middle of town, and Dad stopping the car while ore trains passed by to avoid the rain of pellets on the hood. I remember the two-rut path through the oil domes at Founders Landing that led to the small boat launch at Bum's Beach. Everyday my internal map reminds me of places where I was thrilled to be alive, and where I was heart-broken – and everything in between.

Many look back in reflection as a way to dream about the future. Our community creates maps much like my own. My hope this holiday season would be to honor our legacies, revel in our accomplishments, and map out a wonderful future for yet unborn feet to make paths of their own.

On behalf of the City Commission and City staff, best wishes for a safe, healthy, and happy 2014!!!

## Annual City Open House

Community members are invited to the City of Marquette's annual open house to be held on Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2014, from 4-7 p.m. at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library.

Meet City Commission, partners and staff, including police officers and firefighters, the City Manager, canine unit and more. There will also be interactive displays by City departments, the Downtown Development Authority, Board of Light and Power, and other City partners.

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## Winter Tax Collection

2013 winter taxes are due at the City Treasurer's office by Feb.14 without penalty. A 3 percent penalty will be applied for payments received between Feb. 15 – 28, 2014. Payments received after March 1, 2014 will be considered delinquent.

Taxpayers having a deferment with the City will have until Feb. 14, 2014, to pay both their summer and winter taxes without interest.

## Credit Card Payments

Effective Dec. 1, 2013, the City changed its third-party payer from Official Payments Corporation (OPC) to Point and Pay. This means that customers and taxpayers can now use their credit cards to make over-the-counter payments at City Hall for taxes, utility payments, parking tickets, etc. There is a 3 percent service charge when using a credit card. For the past eight years, the City has provided for credit card payments through OPC via the Internet and phone. However, OPC's over-the-counter service was limited to specific credit cards and did not include VISA. With Point and Pay, all major credit cards are accepted with the 3 percent service charge remaining unchanged.

## Water Meter Winter Access

Please take an extra few minutes to clear a path to your touchpad (shown below) as you snowblow, shovel, or plow your home or business. The meter readers must physically "touch" the center of the touchpad with their electronic equipment to properly read the meter. Otherwise, the reading must be "estimated" for the billing until an actual reading can be obtained. If your meter is located behind a gate that is normally kept locked or becomes snowed-in during the winter, please call the Billing Clerk at (906) 228-0420 to have your touchpad relocated.



## Meet Your New City Commissioners

### Commissioner Dave Campana

Dave Campana was elected to the City Commission in November 2013. He is a native of Crystal Falls, Mich., and has been a resident of Marquette since 1981. He has a biology degree from Northern Michigan University, served two years in the U.S. Army in the Military Police, returned to school at Ferris State University and obtained a pharmacy degree.

After living and working in the Lansing area for five years, and in Denver, Colo. for one year, Dave returned to the Upper Peninsula (Marquette County) to work for Snyder Drugs. In 1991 he purchased Campus Pharmacy in Marquette, and operated it until 2009 when he sold the business and retired.

Mr. Campana has been active in the Upper Peninsula and Michigan Pharmacy Associations including five terms as president and nine years as treasurer of the U.P. Association, and three years on the Board of the Michigan Pharmacists Association. He is an active Marquette General Hospital volunteer, and was a member of the Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Dave and his wife, Sally Davis, have two children: a daughter, Katey, and a son, Michael. They welcomed their granddaughter, Cecelia, in September 2013.



Back Row (left to right): Campana, Coyne, Stonehouse, Ryan  
Front Row (left to right): Reynolds, Niemi, Cambensy

### Commissioner Sarah Reynolds

Sarah Reynolds was elected to the Marquette City Commission in November 2013. Sarah moved to Marquette in 2003 to attend Northern Michigan University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Political Science/Pre Law in 2007. Sarah graduated magna cum laude with her Master's in Public Administration in 2011, concentrating her studies in state and local government.

Since Sarah was a young child, she knew she wanted to be involved in politics, and when she moved to Marquette in 2003 that only solidified the idea of being involved in politics. Marquette is at the forefront of Sarah's heart and she would like to become a political leader of the City of Marquette and help it grow in a positive manner.

## Marquette City Commission



**Mayor**  
**Robert Niemi**  
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**Mayor Pro Tem**  
**Frederick Stonehouse**  
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**Commissioner**  
**Sara Cambensy**  
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**Commissioner**  
**Dave Campana**  
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**Commissioner**  
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**Commissioner**  
**Sarah Reynolds**  
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**Commissioner**  
**Don Ryan**  
(h) 228-2091  
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## City Commission Meetings

The Commission usually meets the second and last Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Commission Chambers at 300 West Baraga Avenue, unless noted otherwise. Citizens are invited to attend.

### Regular Meetings:

**Monday, January 13, 2014, 7:00 p.m.,**  
**Commission Chambers**

**Monday, January 27, 2014, 7:00 p.m.,**  
**Commission Chambers**

**Monday, February 10, 2014, 7:00 p.m.,**  
**Commission Chambers**

**Monday, February 24, 2014, 7:00 p.m.,**  
**Commission Chambers**

Meetings are televised on the City of Marquette's Channel 21. Additional meetings may be called, and changes may be made in accordance with the City Charter. Notices will be posted for such changes in compliance with Public Act 267 of 1976.



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## ASNMU Speaks Up!

Inaugural column written by local affairs liaison, Vito Giannola

The Associated Students of Northern Michigan University (ASNMU) is Northern Michigan University's current student body government. Like any governing body, ASNMU represents the students and their best interests. To further its productivity and effectiveness, ASNMU has decided to reach out to the City of Marquette and its community to create an environment that is nourishing to NMU students and Marquette residents.

Since Northern Michigan University's establishment in 1899, it has been a major influence on the City of Marquette and its community; however, one would be short spoken if they do not also mention the influence that the City of Marquette has had on NMU and its students. The majority of NMU students reside off-campus among the various community members that have their own reasons for living in this beautiful city. One could say that this city is virtually isolated in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, creating a unique environment unlike any other, where you have the small town demeanor with the giant hopes and dreams of a university setting. You might ask how such a harmonic relationship has been created and sustained. Sure there are the families, the local businesses, and the various sporting events and such that give all who come a feeling of being part of something unique; however, it shouldn't stop there. ASNMU has a vision to see their students prosper in the community. Whether involvement is through volunteer opportunities, interning at a local business, or taking part in the local entertainment to appreciate the culture, there are various undiscovered facets through which students could advance their education.

This is the first time in ASNMU's recent past where we have tried to create a working relationship between the students and the City. Our organization has assigned a local affairs liaison that monitors community events, city commission meetings and schedules monthly visits with the City Manager. All of these responsibilities help create a platform for our relationship with the City of Marquette and surrounding community. Nonetheless, ASNMU realizing that our goals cannot exist without working with the community, finding ways to help and give back to the community are steps that have to be taken for the relationship to stay prosperous. The goal is to provide an environment through which students can learn and prepare through the community while leaving it in better condition than when they found it.

This being ASNMU's first publication in this newsletter we have given our mission statement. In the future, ASNMU will talk about things we find relevant, whether it is an event, a topic or an update. ASNMU is here to inform the community of its agenda so we can take the first steps to achieving our goals.

## Outdoor Ice Rinks Open

The City of Marquette's outdoor ice rinks are open as of Dec. 13, 2013. The ice rinks are located in the north Marquette ball field area on Presque Isle Avenue and east of the Municipal Service Center on Baraga Avenue. Lighting, until 11 p.m. nightly, and portable restroom facilities are available at both sites. The ice rinks will remain open as long as weather permits.



## Wood Stove Safety Tips

Brought to you by the Marquette Fire Department

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 140,000 wood burning-related fires, 280 deaths and 2,500 injuries occur each year.

Here are some principal do's and don'ts regarding wood stove safety.

- DO** – Make sure there is enough clearance between the stove/chimney and combustible materials, including floors, walls and ceilings.
- DO** – Place the stove on a noncombustible, fire resistant base.
- DO** – Have the chimney inspected and cleaned every year by a professional.
- DO** – Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood.
- DO** – Consider opening a window a crack for ventilation.
- DO** – Dispose of ashes in a closed metal container outside the house.
- DO** – Keep a fire extinguisher nearby and install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.
- DON'T** – Connect a wood stove to a fireplace chimney or a chimney that services other appliances. When utilizing a chimney that services other heat producing appliances, consult with your insurance company first.
- DON'T** – Start a stove fire with flammable fluids, such as gasoline.
- DON'T** – Burn trash in a stove; doing so can start a chimney fire.

For more detailed information, visit [www.mqtcty.org/fire.html](http://www.mqtcty.org/fire.html), click on the "Fire & Safety Resources" link on the right, and select "Wood Stoves" under Seasonal Safety.

## Interested in Serving Your Community?

The City of Marquette has several openings for various volunteer advisory boards and committees. Check out our website for the most up-to-date vacancy information, and for an application at

[www.mqtcty.org/government.html](http://www.mqtcty.org/government.html).

- **Aging Services Advisory Committee**—One opening (housing representative)
- **Arts and Culture Advisory Committee**—Three openings
- **Harbor Advisory Committee**—One opening
- **Local Officers Compensation Commission**—Two openings
- **Marquette Brownfield Redevelopment Authority**—Two openings
- **Marquette Housing Commission**—One opening
- **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**—Two openings
- **Planning Commission**—Two openings
- **Police/Fire Pension Board**—One opening
- **Regional Recreation Authority Business Plan Ad-Hoc Committee**—One alternate opening
- **Sister City Advisory Committee**—Five openings
- **Traffic-Parking Advisory Committee**—Three openings

Biannually, the City Manager along with the City Clerk and City Attorney, host *New Committee Member Orientation* to give volunteer committee members an overview of City government, policies, parliamentary procedure, and other general information about serving. The next session will be held on February 25, 2014, at 4 p.m. in Commission Chambers. Members are asked to sign up ahead of time at the City Manager's Office.

## Presidents Day Closure

City offices located at Marquette City Hall, 300 W. Baraga Avenue; the Lakeview Arena, 401 E. Fair Avenue; the Marquette Arts and Culture Center, 217 N. Front Street; and the Municipal Service Center, 850 W. Baraga Avenue, will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, for the Presidents Day holiday. The Fire and Police Departments will remain open and staffed during these times.

## Winter Hours at City Hall

City Hall offices are open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday-Friday. For operating hours of other City departments and facilities, please visit our website [www.mqtcty.org/contact\\_us.html](http://www.mqtcty.org/contact_us.html).

## Manager Open Office Hours

City Manager Bill Vajda holds community office hours on the second Wednesday of the month, from 10 a.m. until noon in the main floor conference room of the Peter White Public Library. It is intended to provide an informal opportunity to discuss issues within the community, and to give citizens the opportunity for direct dialogue with City staff about interests and concerns.



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# Update on Community Development Planning Projects

The Community Development Department has led a number of projects during 2013, some of which are still underway, to address future land use and efforts to make the community more sustainable. These projects are highlighted below.

## Community Master Plan Update

The City Planning Commission is working on a comprehensive update to the Community Master Plan. The Planning Commission kicked off the effort with a series of community visioning workshops during spring and summer of 2012, and Planning Department staff has been drafting updates to the Plan document. Several sections of the draft Plan have been reviewed by the Planning Commission in recent months, and it is anticipated that the document will be complete and ready for distribution and review before the end of March. Besides being a responsible effort, the update to the Plan is required to be conducted periodically, and the last update was completed in 2004.



The Community Master Plan (CMP) is a comprehensive document that encapsulates planning conducted for the broad spectrum of key community interests, and leads with the recommendations of the Planning Commission for implementation of goals and objectives of the Plan. The development of a Master Land Use Map follows from the recommendations. Extensive revisions of much of the 2004 CMP were required, including sections addressing demographics and housing, transportation, economic development, community services and amenities, and waterfront land uses. Also being updated are chapters addressing the natural environment, winter considerations and Marquette's historical context. Climate change adaptation and community health are two topics being addressed for the first time in the CMP.

## Economic Development Plan

As a critical component of community planning, the City hired Place Dynamics, LLC to assist with the development of an Economic Development Plan (EDP), which will be reconciled with the Community Master Plan. Beginning in 2012, the consultant conducted a comprehensive Community Economic Development Assessment, which included interviews with local businesses and key stakeholders. Findings were presented to the community in February 2013. It is anticipated that the draft EDP will be available for public review in early 2014.

## Climate Change Adaptation Plan

The City of Marquette was one of two Michigan communities selected to receive technical assistance from the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments Center (GLISA) and Michigan State University Extension (MSU-E) in creating a climate adaptation plan. Marquette was chosen based on its unique climate vulnerabilities in forestry, water resources and tourism, as well as its capacity to implement the final plan. The Superior Watershed Partnership and Land Trust partnered with the City of Marquette as a co-applicant, and assisted in the development of the process and project document - *Adapting to Climate Change and Variability* - which was completed in September 2013 and has been approved by the City Planning Commission.

The first of two community workshops was held in February 2013, during which participants identified local climate concerns. At the second community-wide forum, held in April, participants took in a presentation by a GLISA researcher on the local/regional climate, and then worked in small groups to prioritize adaptation strategies and identify trade-offs to these strategies. Following this, the Project Team conducted interviews with key stakeholders in the areas of transportation, tourism, agriculture, land use, natural resources, and public health. During this time, staff members from the City of Marquette completed a climate change audit tool, which served as a detailed assessment of the City's overall capacity to mitigate the effects of floods, extreme temperatures, severe storms and other climate hazards.

The *Adapting to Climate Change and Variability* report details the process and results of this community-driven process, and contains specific maps of the region that reflect the climate vulnerabilities and concerns of the residents and leaders in the Marquette region. Prioritized recommendations for six areas of concern are provided for implementation guidance. Appendix C of the updated CMP will contain excerpts of the *Adapting to Climate Change and Variability* document and provide information about two other climate studies done in recent years that used Marquette as a case study city. The full report may be accessed on the City Planning Department website, at the City Planning Department Office in City Hall, the Peter White Public Library, and the Northern Michigan University Lydia Olsen Library.

## 2013 Mobility Management/Transit Study

A transit/mobility management study and planning process took place during 2013, led by Roger Millar of Smart Growth America and the City of Marquette, in connection with the Third Street Sustainable Corridor Plan Project. The Michigan Sense of Place Council, representing numerous state agencies under the direction of Governor Snyder, engaged in this partnership with Smart Growth America to provide technical advisory services to Marquette and five other communities in Michigan pursuing livable communities initiatives. As part of the Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities program, the goal of this program is to coordinate federal funding directed to housing, transportation, and other infrastructure in communities, to create more livable places where people can access jobs while reducing pollution and also saving time and money. The vision is a vibrant, sustainable and livable community, city and region.

The focus of the effort for the Marquette livability effort was on mobility management, which is the state of the practice for planning and implementing effective coordination of transportation assets. Through regular collaboration with a diverse group of regional stakeholders, and building off of existing institutions and transportation assets, the task was to develop doable strategies to improve mobility for Marquette. Within the City core, the discussion focused on the Third Street corridor that connects the historic downtown, Northern Michigan University, and the hospital. The development of a 20-minute transit route connecting these destinations is considered in the study, and was tested by meeting participants with a MarqTran bus. Region-wide the discussion focused on better informing people about available services and coordination of service providers.

This project has classified strategies into the key areas of tactical day-to-day activities that match riders and services, and strategic longer-term efforts to plan and coordinate across multiple stakeholders. The project progressed in three distinct stages: 1) review of national leading practices and assessment of existing local resources and opportunities, 2) discussion of alternative approaches and strategies, and finally, 3) development of an action strategy for implementation. This report is the culmination of these three phases and their associated findings. The reports from this project may be accessed via the City Planning office, and they are posted on the Planning Department webpage, under the Public Transportation/Transit Planning with Smart Growth America heading, or at this link: [http://www.mqtcty.org/public\\_transportation.html](http://www.mqtcty.org/public_transportation.html).





## Opportunities for Senior Citizens

### AARP E-Filing Tax Assistance Available

If you are over the age of 60 and need to file 2013 state and federal income taxes, as well as the Homestead Property Tax Credit and/or the Home Heating Credit, AARP volunteers will be available (by appointment) at the Marquette Senior Center beginning in February:

Tuesday	Feb. 11, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 18, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 21, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 25, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 28, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Please bring the following items and/or information with you to your appointment:

- A copy of your completed 2013 tax return (if AARP filed for you last year)
- Social Security card
- 1099-R form – retirement or annuity
- W-2 form – work
- Unemployment compensation statement
- SSA 1099 – Social Security – or if railroad retirement bring statement
- Miscellaneous income
- All 1099 forms
- Interest PAID to you
- Dividends
- Stocks – if sold, need to know the ORIGINAL purchase price
- All forms showing federal income tax withheld (only if itemizing)
- All receipts or cancelled checks
- Heating bills
- How much rent paid – and to whom
- Property taxes
- Bank information (routine information) for refund

Returns AARP can **NOT** do:

- Rental income
- Farm credits
- Business – except for CEZ form
- Very complicated stocks

Appointments are required and can be made by calling the Marquette Senior Center at (906) 228-0456.

*The Senior Center offers services and activities to the City's older adult population at its location in the lower level of City Hall. The Senior Center publishes a monthly newsletter which highlights activities and information of interest to seniors. It also offers a wide variety of health, education, nutrition, fitness and recreation programs, as well as the services of state-licensed social workers. Social workers and homemaker assistants also provide services to home-bound residents.*

## Workshops for Seniors

### Senior Arts

Jan. 7 & 21, 1-3 p.m. —  
*Watercolor with Corbin Lutz*

Feb. 4 & 18, 1-3 p.m. —  
*Resin Jewelry with Kelly Limberg*

Each month a new professional artist will lead the group. Funded by the Reynolds Foundation and the Marquette Senior Center. Participants **MUST** pre-register for this **FREE** class at the Senior Center by calling (906) 228-0456.

### Senior Acting with Jeff Spencer

Tuesdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, at 5:30-6:30 p.m. This class, for seniors only, will teach the beginning techniques of acting by using the body as an instrument of portraying emotion, improvising games, breathing techniques and scene acting. This class has been made possible by the Reynolds Foundation and the Senior Center.

### Intermediate Senior Acting with Jeff Spencer

Saturdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18, and Feb. 1, at 1-3 p.m. Intended for seniors who participated in last terms acting class, or for seniors with previous acting experience. This free class has been made possible by the Reynolds Foundation and the Senior Center.

### Advanced Senior Acting with Jeff Spencer

Saturdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18, and Feb. 1, at 3-5 p.m. Intended for seniors who participated in Spencer's Intermediate Senior Acting class last term. This free class has been made possible by the Reynolds Foundation and the Marquette Senior Center.

### Senior/Adult Skating at Lakeview Arena

Seniors are encouraged to join in the fun on Monday evenings from 7:30—9:20 p.m. for ice skating at the Lakeview Arena. The cost is \$2 for seniors (ages 50 & over) -- **FREE** for senior Marquette city residents (with ID).

## Ballroom Dancing with April Nyquist and Don Ohman

Wednesdays, Jan. 15, Feb. 5, and 19, at 2-3p.m.

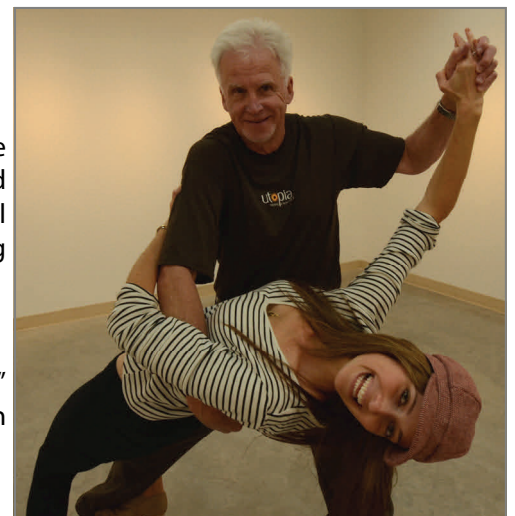
No experience or partner necessary!

Location: Community Room of the Peter White Public Library

Seniors ages 55 and older have the opportunity to try something new at no cost. The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center is offering Ballroom Dancing on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 2-3p.m. (no class on Jan. 1). Instructors April Nyquist and Don Ohman will teach the basic techniques of ballroom dance, including the waltz, swing and Latin dance.

Classes will take place in the Community Room of the Peter White Library, with no experience or partner necessary. "All you need is an interest in dance and having fun," said Nyquist about the class. Nyquist has a background in ballet, jazz dance, and was in the Northern Michigan University Ballroom Dance Club. "It was where Don and I discovered a shared love for ballroom dancing."

The duo (pictured right) has been instructing ballroom dance for the community and for residents of Brookridge Heights for the last five years. Call the Senior Center to sign up for this workshop at (906) 228-0456.



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# Winter Maintenance Explained

...Continued from front page

## Sidewalks

In a similar fashion, crews remove snow from various City sidewalks. The cleared routes were developed to offer safe walking routes to school. As a secondary function, they provide safe walking routes to the City's business district. The routes are generally one side of the street and are designed to minimize the distance a person would travel on an unmaintained route. As with plowing, City crews attempt to clear the sidewalks as soon as possible following a snow event. Sidewalks within the City's downtown district are maintained by the Marquette Downtown Development Authority.

## Salting and sanding

Plow trucks do more than just push snow. When they are not actively plowing, trucks can occasionally be seen on the street. They are likely applying anti-icing materials, checking road conditions or simply returning to the City's Municipal Service Center for additional materials.

Abrasives like sand are used in some areas to increase traction, but the City generally uses salt and sand mixed at a 5-to-1 ratio. The salt allows the sand to stick to the frozen mat on the road surface and provide traction. Pure salt may be used under certain conditions, such as on hills and at intersections. Another concern with increasing utilization of abrasives like sand is that the substances create additional problems with storm water sedimentation and degradation and obstruct storm water sewers. Abrasives also can cause problems if carried indoors on shoes and boots. Abrasives do not melt snow and ice and are not as effective at providing safer winter roadways.

City staff must determine the best way to reduce winter weather hazards and several factors influence those decisions. Current and predicted air temperatures, time of day and precipitation type are all important considerations when determining an appropriate response. In some cases, plowing alone will be most effective at addressing the hazards. In some events, such as cold pavement with dry and blowing snow, application of salt or other chemicals could create a problem by allowing moisture to accumulate and possibly freeze on the otherwise dry pavement. Ultimately staff must ensure they are reducing the hazard.

## After the Storm

As snowfall accumulates during the winter, roadside banks throughout the City grow as well. The City removes snow banks in the right-of-way to maintain visibility and snow storage. Snow bank removal begins in the business district, which has the highest pedestrian traffic. Removal is next done along the school zones and sidewalk routes. Both of these areas have cleared walks and the snow from the sidewalks creates higher banks requiring the earliest removal. From there, crews will move into the major streets followed by the local streets.

Plows can occasionally damage resident mailboxes. Residents should report any damage as soon as possible to the Public Works Department at (906) 228-0444 and should be prepared to provide name, address, phone number and a description of the damage. It is important to note; however, that mailbox damage is most often caused by snow being thrown from the blade of a plow. Wetter and heavier snow brings with it a greater potential for damage to mailboxes. Residents can work to avoid damage by making sure their mailbox poles or supports are in good condition. The City of Marquette will repair mailboxes that have been physically struck by a plow.

## Winter Parking Ban

Finally, it is important to remember that parking on City streets between 1 and 6 a.m. is prohibited from Nov. 1 through April 1. Parking on the street is also prohibited during declared snow emergencies.

Cars ticketed and towed for being illegally parked during snow removal operations are taken to the tow operator's facility. The Marquette Police Department will be able to tell persons whose cars have been towed where they were relocated. The phone number for the Police Department's front desk is (906) 228-0400.

## Helpful Hints

The City's goal is to provide the best service possible to our citizens during and after a snow and ice event. There are several things that you can do to help the City achieve this goal.

When it starts to snow, please do not park your car on City streets. Continue parking off the street until Public Works has completed its snow clearing operations on your street. This will help City crews travel City streets more safely and allow crews to clean snow from the street and parking lanes to the curbs.

Do not push snow into the City streets. This creates a hazard to the public, is a violation of City Ordinance, and puts an additional burden on the Public Works Department.

Do not push snow around fire hydrants. Public Works crews will return after the snow event to clear hydrants. Residents are asked to consider adopting a neighborhood hydrant to help keep them clear for the winter.

Please shovel snow from your sidewalk and driveway into your yard. Place snow from your driveway off the street and to the left-hand side of the driveway. This will reduce the volume of snow that will be placed in your driveway when the street is plowed.

Use safe winter driving habits. Sharing the road with snowplows can create special challenges for motorists. You can be better prepared by following a few simple tips when you encounter a snowplow:

- Be visible - keep headlights on at all times when travelling.
- Slow down and keep to the right. Snowplows in residential areas move at much slower speeds than other vehicles. On the highway, snowplows may travel as fast as 45 mph. Operators also frequently stop to clean off their lights.
- Don't pass on the right hand side on undivided roads. Snow and debris exit the plow on the right and pose a severe hazard.
- Be cautious when approaching a snowplow from behind - plows may cause snow clouds that reduce visibility.
- Stay well back until the snowplow operator can safely pull over to let you pass and will turn off the de-icing spreader for vehicles passing whenever possible.



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## Downtown Development Authority

### UP200 and Midnight Run

The 2014 UP200, Midnight Run and Jack Pine 30 Sled Dog Championship races



promise loads of thrilling excitement. Marquette's YMCA, located at 1420 Pine Street, will serve as race headquarters this year hosting the pre-race banquet, the silent auction, and will have merchandise for sale. Race headquarters will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. throughout the weekend starting on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014.

The 25<sup>th</sup> running of the **UP200** begins with its traditional downtown Marquette start on Friday night, Feb. 14, with the opening ceremony at 6:15 p.m. at the corner of Fourth and West Washington streets. Spectators will line the streets to cheer on the teams as the first team leaves the chute at 6:50 p.m. to begin their 240-mile journey across the Upper Peninsula. The excitement continues as the **Midnight Run** takes off with their eight-dog teams from the starting gate in downtown Marquette 30 minutes after the last UP200 team (but not before 8:30 p.m.). Beat the winter chill at the warm-up party at the Marquette Commons between the last UP200 musher and before the start of the Midnight Run. Live music, hot cocoa and a warm fireplace provide the perfect opportunity to get warmed up before cheering on the Midnight Run mushers.

New this year will be the **Midnight Run** finish in Marquette's Mattson Lower Harbor Park on Saturday morning. The weekend races culminate with the exciting finish of the **UP200** on Sunday at the Lower Harbor Park. The first musher is expected to arrive at approximately noon.

Also Saturday morning, Gwinn will host the 11<sup>th</sup> running of the **Jack Pine 30**—a 30-mile race offering competition for six-dog teams. This family-friendly event begins with opening ceremonies at 9:15 a.m.

Generous sponsors continue to support the UP200, Midnight Run, and Jack Pine 30 Sled Dog Championship races. Dedicated volunteers provide hours of planning and logistical support throughout the year as well as during the races. Check out the Upper Peninsula Sled Dog Association's website ([UP200.org](http://UP200.org)) to get involved as a volunteer, view updates on the 2014 sled dog races, or for more information.

Catch the glow of mushers' headlamps and witness the dogs and sleds quietly gliding by. Spectators can also watch teams compete in both races along the way through Harvey. You can also follow the mushers' progress on the UP200 website and cheer your favorites across the finish line!

## Downtown Showdown and Rail Jam

Extreme skiers and snowboarders will once again take to the streets of downtown Marquette for the second annual Downtown Showdown Rail Jam on Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014, from 3 – 9 p.m.

The Marquette Downtown Development Authority, Marquette County Convention and Visitors Bureau and generous partners have worked together to bring the excitement of the ski hill to the historic streets of Marquette. This ski and rail jam competition takes place on the 100 block of East Washington Street, where competitors and fans alike will gather less than 100 feet from Lake Superior - a scenic and unique location to ride the snow-covered rails and thrilling jumps.



An 'Open Jam' will take place for riders of all abilities starting at 3 – 5 p.m. Athletes who partake in the competition phase of the event will vie for a cash prize in one of two sections: Skier Rail Jam and Snowboarder Rail Jam.

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Marquette Downtown Development Authority at (906) 228-9475. Additional information is available online at [www.travelmarquettemichigan.com](http://www.travelmarquettemichigan.com) or [www.facebook.com/DowntownShowdown](http://www.facebook.com/DowntownShowdown).

## Arts and Culture Center — Wintercharm Exhibit

### Call for Artists

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center (MACC) is accepting entries for February's Wintercharm exhibit. Wintercharm is an annual art exhibition sponsored by the Lake Superior Art Association with support from the MACC. Artwork that embodies the spirit of our wintry climate will be accepted. This is a non-juried exhibition open to the public, all media is welcomed.

The exhibition will be held at the Peter White Public Library in the Huron Mountain Club Gallery, Feb. 2 – 28. There will be a reception on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 6-8 p.m. Artists and community members are invited to attend.

Entry forms and guidelines for the show can be picked up in the SmallWorks Gallery at the MACC. Artwork (with entry forms attached) is due on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 30 and 31, from 1-5 p.m. and artists will pick up their work in the Huron Mountain Club Gallery on Sunday, March 2, between 1-5 p.m.

## Kiddie Mutt Races



The Marquette Kiwanis Club will once again sponsor the annual Kiddie Mutt Races at the Marquette Commons (112 South Third Street) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014. Dog sleds will be available for those who would like to bring their children and family dog to join in the fun of mushing.



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# Arts and Culture Center Workshops

*Intermediate Watercolor with Carl Mayer*  
Tuesdays, Jan. 7-Feb. 11, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
\$90 city residents, \$95 non-city, lab fee \$15  
Intended for intermediate to advanced painters. Creative use of color and composition will be emphasized.

*Beginning French with Janine Adams*  
Tuesdays, Jan. 7-Feb. 11, 7-8 p.m.  
\$40 city residents, \$45 non-city, book fee TBA  
Seasoned language instructor will lead conversation French in this class designed for beginners. Ideal for those planning to travel or anyone interested in the language and cultures of speaking places.

*Musikgarten with Corrine Rockow*  
Every Friday starting Jan. 10, at 10-11 a.m.  
\$5 drop-In, pre-registration encouraged  
Promote your child’s growing independence through movement and music. With over 30 years experience and training, Rockow will lead both children and their caregivers in singing, playing instruments, storytelling and dance activities with a new theme each week. Ages 2-6.

*Make a Mess Art Class with Wendy Johnson*  
First and Third Tuesday of each month at 10-11 a.m.  
\$5 drop-in, pre-registration encouraged, small material fee  
Stretch your child’s imagination through projects designed to inspire young artists. Explore a variety of mediums engaging the senses, fine motor skills, creativity and imagination. Using natural materials children will paint, draw, wet felt, build with clay and much more. Projects are adapted to a wide range of ages and abilities. Ages 3 and up.

*Bottle Cutting with Gene Bertram*  
Saturday, Jan. 11, at Noon-3 p.m.  
\$25 city resident, \$30 non-city, lab fee \$10  
Upcycle wine or beer bottles to make unique art projects such as hanging lanterns and wind chimes.

*Pyrography with Angel Abbs-Portice*  
Friday, Jan. 24, at 2-5 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 25, at Noon-4 p.m.  
\$40 city resident, \$45 non-city, lab fee \$10  
January’s Exhibit Artist, Angel Abbs-Portice, will be teaching two wood burning workshops. She will be guiding the beginner and give tips to burning straight lines, shading, adding depth, highlighting, etc.

*Origami Valentines with Judy Sarosik*  
Saturday, Feb. 8, at 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
\$25 city resident, \$30 non-city  
Instructor will teach participants how to make origami heart valentines, just in time for Valentine’s Day!

## January Exhibit

The City of Marquette is proud to announce Kathy Peters as the January Main Gallery exhibit. Peters, a Lake Superior Art Association (LSAA) member, will exhibit winter scene-inspired quilts created over the past 26 years including Presque Isle’s moose, sled dog races, ice fishing, saunas and the Hyakutake comet.

The new SmallWorks Gallery will feature Corbin Lutz (painting pictured right). Lutz, also an LSAA member, studied under renowned watercolor artist, Nita Engle. Lutz paints primarily with watercolors and acrylics.

Both exhibits will be displayed from Jan. 7-Feb. 1. There will be an opening reception for both artists on Thursday, Jan. 9, from 6-8 p.m. Refreshments will be available and the public is encouraged to attend. The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center is located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library. For more information or questions, please call (906) 228-0472 or email [arts-culture@mqtcity.org](mailto:arts-culture@mqtcity.org).

## February Exhibit

The City of Marquette features work by Sue Roubal, Marc Himes and Charlice Stewart. The MACC Main Gallery combined show, “Rock, Water, Wood” is a tribute to Marquette’s local environment with pastels, oils and turned bowls.

The SmallWorks Gallery features work by Paul Grant titled “Revisiting People and Places,” inspired by subjects over the last four decades. Michigan native Paul Grant has spent the greater part of the last four decades living and painting in Marquette. Grant’s exhibit will display works of watercolor, oil and charcoal.

The Main Gallery and SmallWorks Gallery will run from Feb. 4-March 1. There will be an opening reception for both artists on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6-8 p.m. Refreshments will be available and the public is encouraged to attend. The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center is located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library. For more information or questions, please call (906) 228-0472 or email [arts-culture@mqtcity.org](mailto:arts-culture@mqtcity.org).

# First Thursday Series

*Troy Graham and Highway Harmony*  
Helena Antoni and Heidi Boyd of Highway Harmony have teamed up with local musician, Troy Graham, to provide Marquette with a cutting edge evening of music. This performance will take place on Thursday, Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. and is free to the public.

Highway Harmony, an acoustic duo from lower Michigan, has performed at many venues, including Hiawatha Music Festival, the Van Riper Music Festival, and Root Notes in Laurium.

Troy Graham has been playing folk, bluegrass and gospel music in the Marquette and greater U.P. region for 10 years. The night’s musical offerings will entertain an all ages crew. Graham will play a mixture of original songs along with old time classics and gospel songs on auto harp and guitar.

*The Superior Sackbuts*  
The City of Marquette presents The Superior Sackbuts as February’s First Thursday Performance Series on Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. and is free to the public.

This quartet features trombonists from the Marquette Symphony Orchestra and Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra. A variety of musical styles are sure to entertain, ranging from Renaissance to Rock. Regular members are Dr. Steve Grugin (Director of Bands and Professor of Low Brass at NMU), Gordon Erickson (Band Director at Westwood High School), Ben Mayer (Band Director at Ontonagon High School), and David Allen (retired biologist and community musician).



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