Inside this issue of Marquette Matters

Contact us today

City of Marquette
City Hall
300 W. Baraga Ave.
Marquette, MI 49855

For more information, email marquettematters@marquettemi.gov or call City Hall at 906-228-0435

Visit our website at marquettemi.gov

Past issues of Marquette Matters are available online at: marquettemi.gov/newsletter/ While there, you can also join the digital mailing list for Marquette Matters.

Cover Photo

This month’s cover photo provided by Yvonne Bonsall.

Cover Photo Correction

Last month’s cover photo, “Creek Bridge”, was mistakenly attributed to Carl Routier, full credit belongs to Jason McCarthy.
Message from Mike

It seems that I always mention two things when I write this article, construction and the weather, and this time will be no different. I think that I can safely say in both cases that the news is positive. The good news regarding construction, other than we are pushing ahead with several of our planned projects, is that the City Commission recently made a significant decision about Lighthouse Park.

For those who are unfamiliar, Lighthouse Park is the old Coast Guard Station and Lighthouse that were traded to the City back in 2010 for the current location of the new Coast Guard Station. So this development has been a long time coming. The City Commission unanimously approved a plan to create a new entrance to the park from Arch Street, relocate the multi-use path, create new parking areas for visitors to the park and create additional parking for the Maritime Museum. This is a very significant first step in moving the long-awaited park towards more public access and use.

In regard to the weather, I’m hoping that, by the time you’re reading this, we’ve made the turn toward spring. We’ve had one of those winters that I remember from growing up in Marquette. To me, the 200 plus inches of snow that we have received so far is nothing new; however, it can still be a challenge and gets old really fast. The good news that I would like to mention here is the tremendous effort put forth by our City snow plowing crews. They have been working 12 hour shifts for several weeks now to, at the very least, keep pace with the snowfall. Granted, there are likely some citizens who are not happy with how we are handling it but, as the City Manager, I can’t think of a better method. So, if you see a snow plow driver thank them for their hard work, it will go a long way.

Five-Year Recreation Master Plan

The City of Marquette is on course to implement a vision that will provide citizens and visitors with experiences that are aligned with citizen preferences and current economic conditions for many years to come. The 2019 Five-Year Recreation Master Plan captures realistic programs, special events, parks, trails and recreation facilities within the city limits of Marquette that citizens-at-large, businesses and corporations are seeking as they determine where they will live, work and play.

The master planning process was started with the understanding that Marquette's Parks and Recreation cannot be all things to all people, but moreover should serve the greatest needs of the public with a mind toward fiscal responsibility. The process has shown where the City excels and where its challenges lie. This final document lays the groundwork for the next five years of park system maintenance and enhancements. It will guide the Parks and Recreation Division as we seek to maintain what we have, improve where we can and reduce what we no longer need.

The full master plan can be found on the City website at: https://www.marquettemi.gov/parkmasterplan/

Annual Pigs-N-Heat Hockey Game

Join us for a fun evening of hockey and help support a great cause! The Pigs-N-Heat Charity Hockey Game features area firefighters and police officers battling it out on the ice to support local families who have lost their homes to fire.

The Pigs-N-Heat Fire Relief fund began in early 1983, to raise money to assist a family whose home was lost to fire. Since Marquette is home to NMU Wildcats Division I hockey, along with a large number of hockey fans, a benefit hockey game was born. The game raises approximately $15-20k a year and the Pigs-N-Heat Fire Relief Fund has generated over $440,000 for Marquette County families.

This year’s game will take place on March 13 at 6:45 p.m. at Lakeview Arena. Tickets are $1 and are available at the Marquette City Police Department in City Hall and at Fire Station #1 on Third Street.
Mayor Fred Stonehouse
fstonehouse@marquettemi.gov

Mayor Pro Tem
Sarah Reynolds
(c) 906-869-7583
sreynolds@marquettemi.gov

Commissioner Dave Campana
(h) 906-226-3621
dcampana@marquettemi.gov

Commissioner Peter Frazier
(c) 906-250-6600
pfrasier@marquettemi.gov

Commissioner Jenn Hill
(c) 906-361-8016
jhill@marquettemi.gov

Commissioner Paul Schloegel
pschloegel@marquettemi.gov

Commissioner Jenna Smith
jsmith@marquettemi.gov

Interested in serving your community?
The City of Marquette has several openings for various volunteer advisory boards and committees.

Check out the City's website for an application and the most up-to-date vacancy information: marquettemi.gov/commission/boards-and-committees/vacancies/

- Board of Zoning Appeals  Three Openings
- Board of Review  Three Openings
- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority  Two Openings
- Harbor Advisory Committee  Two Openings
- Investment Advisory Board  Two Openings
- Local Development Finance Authority  Two Openings
- Local Officers Compensation Commission  One Opening
- Marquette Housing Commission  Two Openings
- Marquette County Transit Authority  One Opening
- Presque Isle Park Advisory Committee  Three Openings

Holiday Closure
City offices located at Marquette City Hall, 300 W. Baraga Ave.; the Lakeview Arena, 401 E. Fair Ave.; the Municipal Service Center, 1100 Wright St.; and the Marquette Arts & Culture Center, 217 N. Front St. (Peter White Public Library) will be closed on April 19 for Good Friday. The Fire, Police and Public Works and Utilities Departments will remain open and staffed during this time.

Manager Open Office Hours
City Manager Mike Angeli holds community office hours on the second Wednesday of each month, from 10 a.m. until noon in the Dandelion Cottage Room, located on the first floor off of the Huron Mountain Gallery of the Peter White Public Library. The next community office hours sessions are scheduled for March 13 and April 10.

The meetings are intended to provide informal opportunities to discuss issues within the community, and to give citizens a chance for direct dialogue with City staff about interests and concerns.

Rental Inspection Reminder
City Code (Ordinance #667) requires all rental dwelling units to be registered, inspected and certified with the City of Marquette. Any structure or dwelling unit that is occupied by persons other than the property owner, pursuant to any oral or written rental or lease agreement or other valuable compensation, is considered a rental dwelling unit. Rental properties are required to meet City Code requirements for fire safety as well as Zoning Ordinance requirements.

Registration forms and information can be obtained online at www.marquettemi.gov/departments/fire/inspections/, in person at the Marquette City Fire Department, 418 S. Third St. between the hours of 8 a.m.-5 p.m., by phone (906-225-8596 or 906-225-8941) or by emailing fire@marquettemi.gov.
Land Development Code

On June 20, 2017, the Planning Commission and Community Development Department staff held an Open House event to kick off the Land Development Code (LDC) project. Included in the LDC are all ordinance standards for zoning, signs, fences, land divisions and condominiums. The Marquette City Commission conducted a public hearing on Monday, Feb. 11, 2019 for consideration of the adoption of the LDC and adopted it with unanimous support. The changes went into effect on Feb. 23, at which time the Zoning Ordinance, Sign Ordinance, Fence Ordinance and Subdivision Ordinance were repealed. The map of new Zoning Districts is included in the LDC (pictured on back cover).

There are many major changes to the former land-use standards. Thousands of changes were made to update standards for various land uses and development to reduce the complexity of the current land-use ordinances and the number of variance cases caused by outdated standards, in addition to the incorporation of new standards for increased environmental protection and the mitigation of the negative impacts of urbanization. Some major updates include: revised minimum residential lot sizes, reduced separation requirements for residential accessory structures, allowances for commercial, temporary and open accessory structures, limited residential animal keeping (chickens, rabbits and bees by permit), drastically reduced parking space requirements for retail and other commercial uses, more robust landscaping standards for parking areas, commercial and industrial development, an overlay district for protection of stream corridors woodland tree replacement standards, completely revised signage standards for commercial uses and a simplified application process, new options for preliminary approval of site plans and expansion of the area for rear-yard screening fences in residential districts.

The LDC implements several goals and objectives of the Community Master Plan, including the overarching goal to update land development and use ordinances in a comprehensive way. The LDC and new zoning, sign, and fence applications are available in the Community Development office at 1100 Wright St., as well as online from the Zoning division webpage (www.marquettemi.gov/departments/community-development/zoning). Chapter 54 of the City Code is now dedicated to the LDC as well, but staff is working to have a much more interactive website interface created that will provide zoning district information to users upon entry of an address within the city. Even now the new LDC document is somewhat interactive when used online and is much easier to navigate than the ordinances it replaces by virtue of embedded hyperlinks and well-organized cross-references. User accessibility has been a foremost concern during the implementation of this code.

The shift to the Land Development Code from the previous ordinance will require a learning curve on the part of staff, Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals members, local developers and residents. Our staff is working to make the transition as smooth as possible and is available to answer questions and assist applicants and others with the LDC. Please call Planning and Zoning staff at 906-228-0425 if you need assistance and if you have any doubt about the permit requirement for a project that you wish to undertake. A call of inquiry is much easier for everyone to deal with than a fence or structure that is built without a permit. Our staff also wishes to thank all of the people that helped create the LDC, everyone’s participation was valuable and appreciated.
DDA Expands Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program

It is a fundamental goal of the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to promote economic growth and vitality within the Downtown District. In support of this objective, the DDA implemented the Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program in the spring of 2018 to provide local business and property owners within its boundaries an opportunity to make impactful exterior improvements to their building facades with financial assistance from the DDA. As a result of this program, the DDA awarded over $15,000 in grant funds to four property owners in 2018.

Later in the year, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) introduced a $1.5 million pilot program, called the Façade Restoration Initiative (FRI), intended to expand state support for façade improvement projects in Michigan communities. FRI provides matching funds of up to 50 percent of façade restoration costs to local downtown development authorities, Main Street organizations, principal shopping districts, or local authorities. After an intensive application and selection process, Marquette was chosen as one of three communities statewide to receive a Façade Restoration Initiative grant through the MEDC. The $300,000 grant allows the DDA to expand the Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program to fund additional projects that will have a larger impact on the economic growth and revitalization of the downtown district.

The Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program provides financial assistance in the form of a reimbursable grant after work is completed. Grant funding requires a 1:1 match, which means the DDA/MEDC will contribute up to 50% of total project costs while the applicant is responsible for the remaining balance. To be eligible for grant funding, façade projects must meet a minimum of $5,000 in total costs ($2,500 DDA grant award/$2,500 applicant contribution). The maximum grant reimbursement is $50,000. This is a two-year grant program; therefore, all projects must be completed no later than Dec. 18, 2020.

An informational packet has been mailed to all commercial property owners within the downtown district, outlining the program guidelines and project eligibility requirements. Downtown district business or property owners interested in participating in the grant opportunity are invited to schedule an appointment to discuss their project proposal and application procedures by calling the DDA office at 906-228-9475. The grant application deadline is Friday, April 26.
Restaurant Week

Celebrate the local flavors of Marquette's Downtown District during the sixth annual “Marquette Restaurant Week,” March 3-10. The Eastside Originals participating restaurants (pictured below), consisting of independently owned and operated restaurants within Marquette's Downtown District, will offer $10 fixed price lunch menus and select dinner meals for $25. Restaurant Week provides a wide variety of culinary opportunities for foodies to enjoy. Whether it is fine dining, local flavors, artisan baked goods, pub grub, authentic ethnic cuisine or just a good sandwich, enjoy these eastside gems at an affordable price. For additional information, visit: www.downtownmarquette.org/restaruant-week/.

2019 City Business Licenses

While most businesses don’t require a City license to operate, there are some that must go through the licensing/permitting process before conducting business in the City.

As a quick summary, the following business types must be licensed through the City Clerk’s Office:

- Auctioneers
- Farm/Produce Vendors
- Hotels, Motels, Bed and Breakfast Establishments and Lodging/Rooming Houses
- Mobile Food Vendors/Food Trucks
- Outdoor Merchandise Displays (sidewalk sales – only in DDA District)
- Sidewalk Cafes
- Precious Metal/Gem Dealers
- Theaters
- Secondhand Merchandise Dealer
- Transient Merchant

Applicants must complete an application packet, and pay the fee identified in the City fee schedule. Applications will be reviewed for compliance with City fire, safety and zoning regulations, among others.

Those businesses that had a license last year, as well as new businesses that staff has become aware of, will be mailed packets with forms and information for the 2019-2020 license year, which officially begins on May 1.

You can access additional information, including copies of business license packets, on the City’s website at: www.marquettemi.gov/businesslicenses.
**Lifeguard Training/Summer Employment**

The Marquette City Fire Department would like to notify interested individuals who might be interested in attending lifeguard training and/or serving as waterfront lifeguards this coming summer of upcoming course availability. Please be advised that this is not a swimming class; all candidates must be proficient swimmers and comfortable in the water.

This year, all Red Cross Waterfront Lifeguard Certification/Re-certification classes will be conducted through Northern Michigan University and will be held at the PEIF pool. This certification is required to be able to serve as a waterfront lifeguard in the City of Marquette.

There are two certification classes are remaining:

Class 1: April 5, 6, 7, 13 and 14 (Friday 5-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday 12-6 p.m.)

Class 2: April 9, 11, 16, 18, 23 and 25 (from 6-9 p.m. each date)

A lifeguard re-certification course will be offered in May.

Detailed course information, including pre-requisites, dates/times, cost and registration, is available online at: [https://www.nmu.edu/recsports/lifeguard-certification-course](https://www.nmu.edu/recsports/lifeguard-certification-course)

For questions or additional course information, please contact Katie Moe at 906-227-2421.

Lifeguards that are hired by the City of Marquette for the 2019 beach season and complete the season in good standing will have their NMU certification course fees reimbursed. To apply, complete and submit a City of Marquette Employment Application.

---

**Change Your Clocks and Change Your Batteries**

The Marquette City Fire Department wants to remind you to change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks as we “spring forward” on March 10.

Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors can only alert you if they have battery or electrical power.

Changing the batteries in these devices once a year, when you set your clocks forward for daylight savings time, will ensure that you are alerted in the case of an emergency. When you are changing your batteries, it is a good time to vacuum your detectors to remove dust, cobwebs and insects.

All detectors should be tested once a month. To test the smoke detector, press the button on the cover. Hold the button down until you hear a beep. If you don’t hear a beep, then the system is not working properly. It could be the batteries or the detector itself.

Smoke detectors should be replaced every ten years. Carbon monoxide detectors should be replaced every 2-10 years according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

Working smoke detectors double your chances of surviving a residential structure fire.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Keewenaw Bay Indian Community, and discount assistance from Lowes, we were able to purchase smoke detectors to have available for residents who need them. City of Marquette residents can receive up to two smoke detectors per personal residence. They can be picked up Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Marquette City Fire Department located at 418 S. Third St. Residents in need of assistance can sign up for free installation by calling 906-225-8936.
Cardboard Furniture: 120° Revisited – Jason Schneider
March 1-30, The Deo Gallery

In this exhibition, artist, furniture maker and Northern Michigan University Woodworking and Furniture Design professor Jason Schneider explores the beauty and character of corrugated cardboard in both functional and sculptural forms. This study of the fine use and function of this low-status, recyclable, and often overlooked material motivates him; the inventive process of creating finely-crafted objects with corrugated cardboard is exciting and stimulating, often resulting in a surprisingly elegant surface and form. An artist reception will be held on Thursday, March 28 from 6-8 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public and refreshments will be provided.

Fine Art Portraiture - Chuck LaBelle
Feb. 1 – March 28, Reception Area Gallery

Marquette photographer Chuck LaBelle presents his latest exhibition – a collection of photos that captures youth athletes from Marquette County.

Winter Charm
Feb. 2 – March 28, Huron Mountain Club Gallery

Organized by the Lake Superior Art Association, MACC and Peter White Public Library, this annual exhibition features artwork from community members that embodies the spirit of our beautiful winter climate. The exhibit will be on display in the Huron Mountain Club Gallery, located on the main level of PWPL through March 28.
MCACA Grant Writing Workshop to be Held at MACC

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Division will host a grant writing workshop on Wednesday, March 20 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., put on by representatives from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). The workshop is an opportunity for local organizations and other potential applicants to learn about the grant opportunities available through the MCACA, focusing on guidelines and the online application process. The workshops are free and open to the public; pre-registration or RSVPs are not required.

In addition to the workshop, the MCACA will host an informal town hall listening session to gather feedback from community members as they develop their new strategic plan over the next year.

Both events will take place in the Marquette Arts and Culture Center in the lower level of Peter White Public Library. Please contact Tristan at 906-225-8655 with any questions.

Superior Inspirations – Yarnwinders Fiber Guild of Marquette

April 2 – May 3, Reception Area Gallery

Fiber artists from the Yarnwinders Fiber Guild of Marquette present Superior Inspirations in the lower level Reception Area Gallery of Peter White Public Library. An artist reception will be held on Thursday, April 4 from 6-8 p.m. The reception is free, open to the public and refreshments will be provided.

Unseen Marquette – Colleen Maki

April 2 – May 3, PWPL Huron Mountain Club Gallery

April's Huron Mountain Club Gallery will feature local photographer, Colleen Maki. The exhibit, Unseen Marquette, features a collection of photos that highlight aspects of nature in our immediate surroundings that many do not see. The exhibition will run through May, with an artist reception held on Thursday, April 18 from 6-8 p.m.

Superior Theatre Experience

Senior Acting classes are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month from 2-4 p.m. at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center, located in the lower level of Peter White Public Library at 217 N. Front St. in Marquette. Please contact 906-360-7126 to register or with any questions.

Senior Acting with Moire Embley will take place from 2-4 p.m. on March 11 and 25 and April 8 and 22.

In addition to acting classes, Senior Acting Experiences take place each month with local theatre companies and include attending Forest Roberts Theatre performances, auditions, rehearsals, technical and backstage tours, music and choreography rehearsals, flight staging and much more. These experiences come at no-cost to the participant, but pre-registration is required. For more information about Senior Acting Experience offerings or to get involved, contact Tristan at 906-225-8655.

March Experience Schedule:

Entertainment Art and Design Studio: Scenic Painting with Vic Holliday

Advanced study in a particular area or areas of design for theatre and entertainment production. Topics may include but are not limited to sets, lighting, costumes, sound and makeup.

Tuesday, March 12, 10-11:40 a.m., NMU Thomas Fine Arts Building

Modern Drama with Paul Truckey

Modern playwrights and their plays, the physical stage, dramatic criticism and aesthetics from 1850 to the present. Reading and Discussion of Death of a Salesman.

Thursday, March 14, 1-2:40 p.m., NMU Thomas Fine Arts Building
Superior Theatre Experience (continued)

Beauty and the Beast Rehearsal

Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m., Forest Roberts Theatre

April Experience Schedule:

Makeup Design with Vic Holliday

Theory and application of theatrical makeup. An investigation of makeup design, materials and supplies with laboratory assignments.

Tuesday, April 2, 2-3:40 p.m., Forest Roberts Theater

Beauty and the Beast Rehearsal

April 21-23, Marquette Masonic Building

Creative Community Series

All classes take place at the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center (MACC), located in the lower level of the Peter White Public Library.

The Creative Community Series is made possible by grant funding from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. To learn more about how to host your own workshop or for any questions regarding the series, contact the Art Center at 906-228-0472 or arts-culture@marquettemi.gov.

Oil Painting, Drawing, and Pastels with Marlene Wood

Thursdays, March 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25
1-3 p.m., MACC Studio #1

The series costs $20/class or $70 for a four-class punch card. Materials are not included, but if you’d like to give oils a try, you may use the teacher’s materials for $5/class.

Email Tristan at tluoma@marquettemi.gov, call 906-225-8655 or simply show up to register.

Marlene Wood has been teaching art to children and adults for over 30 years. Her passion is to teach in a way that elicits personal self-discovery, emotion, and the unleashing of creative juices. Marlene’s philosophy is that if one can learn to see correctly, all else in art is both teachable and obtainable. Marlene brings with her a diverse education and a positive and supportive approach to teaching.

She recently moved to the shores of Lake Superior from Palatine, Illinois where she had owned Positive Strokes Art School and Gallery since founding it in 2000. She is happy to call the Upper Peninsula her new home and is eager to get more involved in our bustling art scene.

Her classes will be offered for eight weeks on an ongoing basis and students are welcome to begin at any time. There will be an emphasis on drawing, seeing correctly, use of medium, value, composition, color and techniques as well as helping you strengthen your ability to draw and paint what you see or want to see and become a more dynamic artist. The class is geared toward the individual and allows artists to begin at their own level. Both individual and group instruction and attention will be provided.