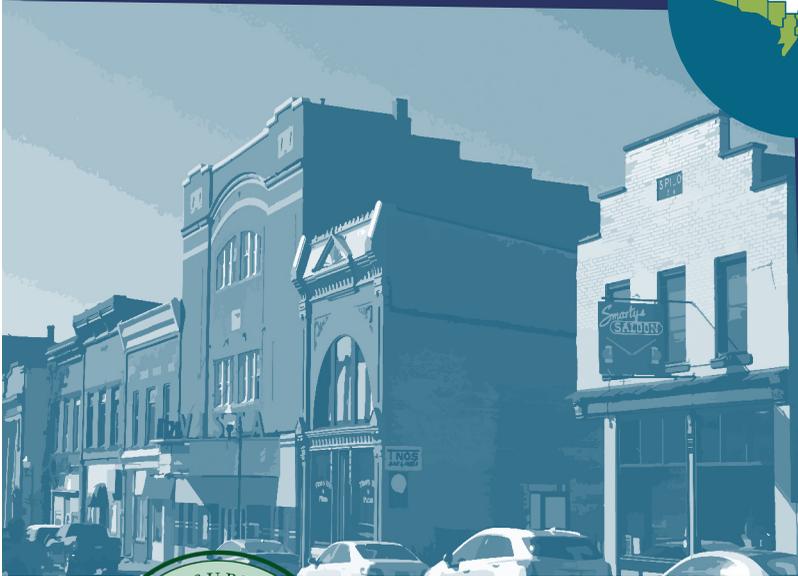


# VISION

MARQUETTE COUNTY 2019/20



Sponsored by the Lake Superior Community Partnership | [www.marquette.org](http://www.marquette.org)

# WELCOME TO MARQUETTE COUNTY

## POPULATION

MARQUETTE COUNTY: 66,516  
 CITY OF ISHPEMING: 6,431  
 CITY OF MARQUETTE: 20,680  
 CITY OF NEGAUNEE 4,579

## LOCATION

Marquette County is in the central Upper Peninsula on the south shore of Lake Superior.

## HISTORY

The county of Marquette was first settled in the mid-1800s. Marquette was established in 1848. It was named after Jacques Marquette, a Jesuit priest.

## FOR MORE INFO

LAKE SUPERIOR  
 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP CONTACT:

501 S. Front St  
 Marquette, MI 49855  
 (906) 226-6591  
 (888) 578-6489

www.marquette.org  
 Fax: (906) 226-2099  
 lscp@marquette.org



## REGIONAL WEALTH

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>POPULATION:</b>	66,516*	66,477*	68,426*	67,293	67,749
<b>PROPERTY TAX REVENUE:</b>	\$91.3M	\$89.4M	\$89.1M	\$86.8M	\$86.1M
<b>MEDIAN HOME SALE PRICE:</b>	\$149,500	\$137,500	\$135,000	\$135,500	\$125,000
<b>NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD:</b>	875	816	767	819	657

\*number is based on projection and subject to change based on actual conditions

## DISCOVER MARQUETTE COUNTY

Bike, run, or walk on the Iron Ore Heritage Trail spanning 48 miles from Chocolay Township to Republic Township.

Stop and taste locally brewed beer from our many breweries.

Spend the day beachside along 55 miles of Lake Superior shoreline or hiking to one of the 77 picturesque waterfalls.

Black Rocks at Presque Isle hosts many scenic spots to hike or relax and gaze upon the beautiful Lake Superior waters.

Cheer on sled dog teams at the start of the UP 200 and Midnight Run in downtown Marquette and the Jack Pine 30 in Gwinn.

The Downtown Marquette Farmers Market brings joy to the community from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays at the Marquette Commons.

Discover Sawyer Family Fun Day is a chance to check out Sawyer International Airport up close.

Pioneer Days takes place in Negaunee each summer and includes a softball tournament, parade, family friendly activities and fireworks over Teal Lake.



## RECENT RECOGNITION

### Best in Travel - Michigan's Upper Peninsula

(LONELY PLANET)

### 8 Reasons to Drop Everything and Move To This One Michigan City

(ONLY IN YOUR STATE)

### #8 Best Small City in America

(NERD WALLET)

### #10 Best Place for Young Families

(NERD WALLET)

### #23 Best Place for Millennial Job Seekers in the Midwest

(NERD WALLET)



## HOW CLOSE ARE YOU TO MARQUETTE?

**MILWAUKEE, WI:** 294 mi.

**CHICAGO, IL:** 384 mi.

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN:** 401 mi.

**DETROIT, MI:** 455 mi.

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## SAWYER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Celebrates 20 Years

Sawyer International Airport is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. The airport, as well as the surrounding area on the former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, has undergone a significant transformation since it began offering commercial air service in September 1999 with Marquette County serving as the airport sponsor.

“Today, the airport serves 100,000 passengers annually, serving as the gateway to the Central Upper Peninsula,” Sawyer International Airport Manager, Duane DuRay said.

“We’ve come a long way in 20 years when you think about what we started with,” DuRay said. “We had smaller aircraft and we have continually graduated year after year to bigger and better. And now we’re providing the only first class air service in the U.P.” The airport’s commercial air carrier service includes two of the legacy carriers, Delta Air and American Airlines.

The carriers provide service to and from Chicago O’Hare, Minneapolis-St. Paul and Detroit, three of the largest hubs in the country, giving travelers a ticket to explore the rest of the world with five daily arrivals and departures.

Since 1999, local, state and federal government have invested millions in the airport, undertaking major projects such as building the Operating Administration Center in 2006 and completing a major runway and concrete apron overhaul in 2018.

“Tens of millions of dollars have been invested in this airport to provide the service that we have and we continue to move forward with very intensive projects,” DuRay said. “If you’re to look at the next five years, we have close to \$15 million in projects scheduled.”

Businesses have flourished in the industrial park surrounding the area, creating numerous jobs around K.I. Sawyer. “Overall, the airport and its surrounding businesses have continued to succeed and grow,” DuRay said, adding the Sawyer-based Superior Extrusion is “a prime example, as they have gone from their infancy to being a leader in the extrusion industry across the country.”

The County and airport continue working to bring additional businesses into the area. “The County has a revolving loan fund, we work with entities wanting to start a business here,” DuRay said. “Marquette County has been very supportive in trying to incubate this whole region into an economic center. Sawyer International is important to the region as a whole,” DuRay said, “as it provides a valuable point of contact between regional, national and international industry leaders and the central U.P.”

“The airport provides the resource for medical, educational and industrial industries,” he said. The airport has also allowed the area to play host to a number of noteworthy individuals including multiple presidents of the United States, the Rolling Stones, Martha Stewart, Al Roker, John Stamos, Kid Rock and Ted Nugent.

“At the end of the day, the airport is a tool that the region has to use ... The region is extremely fortunate to have such an asset,” DuRay said.

“There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes that people don’t realize,” said Jody Lindberg, Marketing and Development from the department at Sawyer. “For example, the airport is “progressively becoming more of a winter testing ground for aircraft manufacturers, in conjunction with the U.S. Army,

drawing employees from major aircraft companies, as well as the Army, to the area for several months of the year.”

“They’re renting cars, they’re staying in hotels, they’re eating from our restaurants, it has a huge impact on the Marquette County area,” Lindberg said.

The airport also offers general aviation, which provides recreational and educational aviation opportunities for everyone “from the youth to seasoned pilots through hangar rentals, the Marquette County Flying Club and Experimental Aviation Association Chapter 850,” DuRay said.

“Marquette County continues to support a healthy general aviation community providing facilities for them to house their aircraft,” DuRay said. “We also have incentivized both the EAA and the Flying Club with facilities.”

The airport also handles cargo planes, which land over 80 times a month, allowing area residents to enjoy next-day air service delivery through carriers such as UPS and FedEx, he said. “It definitely helps businesses,” Lindberg said.

Envoy Air, operating for American Airlines, has been the airport’s “anchor tenant” for decades, according to DuRay. “They provide 200-plus jobs and they have been a loyal partner with us through the years. They were here before anybody else was.”

Sawyer is grateful for the community’s support, as it is the only U.P. airport not supported by funding through the Federal Essential Air Service Program, meaning it depends on travelers coming to and from the airport. “Marquette has a lot of loyal customers, they love their airport,” DuRay said.

With the first 20 years down, the airport has numerous projects planned and is one of several sites under consideration for the Michigan Launch Initiative’s proposed spaceport project. DuRay said the airport is looking forward to the next 20 years serving the Marquette region.

“Marquette County and Sawyer International continue to make the necessary changes with security and facilities to accommodate the growth, whether it be commercial air carrier service, air cargo service, general aviation operations, and future testing operations,” he said.

To further celebrate the airports 20th anniversary, a Business After Hours event was held by the Lake Superior Community Partnership on Wednesday, August 21, 2019.





# BROOKRIDGE HEIGHTS

## In the Moment

Life is a collection of many moments that can be cherished and enjoyed if the opportunity is recognized. At Brookridge Heights Assisted Living and Memory Care, located at 1901 Division St. in Marquette, the Memory Support care team is guided by this principle, employing the “In the Moment” Program, which works to help residents with Alzheimer’s disease, memory loss or dementia enjoy life to the fullest.

“When you look at In The Moment, it’s personal, meaningful and enriching,” said Brookridge Memory Support Director Brian Gaudreau. “The approach is guided by the program’s six principles of wellbeing: physical engagement, spiritual support, artistic expression, community connection, continuing education, as well as lifestyle and leisure.”

Guided by these principles, the program gives residents opportunities to work in the garden, go on field trips, play music, engage with art, form friendships, find meaningful community engagement, and much more.

The Memory Support Care team is carefully trained to recognize that each moment is unique and may not come back again, allowing them to take advantage of a seemingly simple moment, starting the day, eating a meal or even just looking out the window, and using it to engage a resident’s thoughts, senses, emotions, and memories.

“You have to capitalize on the moments as they present themselves,” Gaudreau said. Through In The Moment, the team works to meet residents where they are at in a particular moment, with an understanding of their history, personality and hobbies, to create a personal and meaningful experience for them in that moment.

“We try to make the most of every one of our opportunities and if anything, this work has taught me that those moments are really valuable,” he said.

The care team at Brookridge Heights Memory Support makes it their job to get to know each resident, so they can determine which programs, routines and approaches might be best for them. “We want to build a picture of that resident,” Gaudreau said.

For example, if they know a person has a particular morning routine, the team works to keep their morning routine intact. If they find out a resident has always enjoyed gardening, music, or a specific sports team, they provide a resident with regular opportunities to engage in their hobby.

Knowing a person’s interests can also help the team guide residents through their day, regularly and gently presenting them with multiple daily scheduled programs that they might find enjoyable. They also make sure residents are able to remain engaged with their pastimes, hobbies, lifestyles and other aspects of their lives, finding many opportunities to get a person back to doing what they loved, offering chances to enjoy exercise, art, nature, food, sports, and many activities. “Staff is even working to remodel one of the rooms at Brookridge to house a workshop area for its residents who enjoy working with their hands,” he said.

“The program also works with an understanding of the sensory needs of its residents,” he said. Team members work to create a quiet and calm environment, being mindful to minimize extra noise and distraction, while also presenting residents with ways to engage their taste, touch, sight, hearing and smell.

“We need to be aware of that, because when you have dementia, all of your senses function differently,” he said. One example of this can be found in the monthly signature Taste and Tell Program, which is held by Gaudreau in conjunction with Brookridge’s chef, using food and cooking to engage all five senses and open up a dialog amongst residents.

“You get everybody doing it, as many as you possibly can. And it’s amazing to watch a group of people, they’re all doing the same thing and now they’re making comments about what it smells like, what it looks like, what it feels like,” he said. “And then you make something with it.”

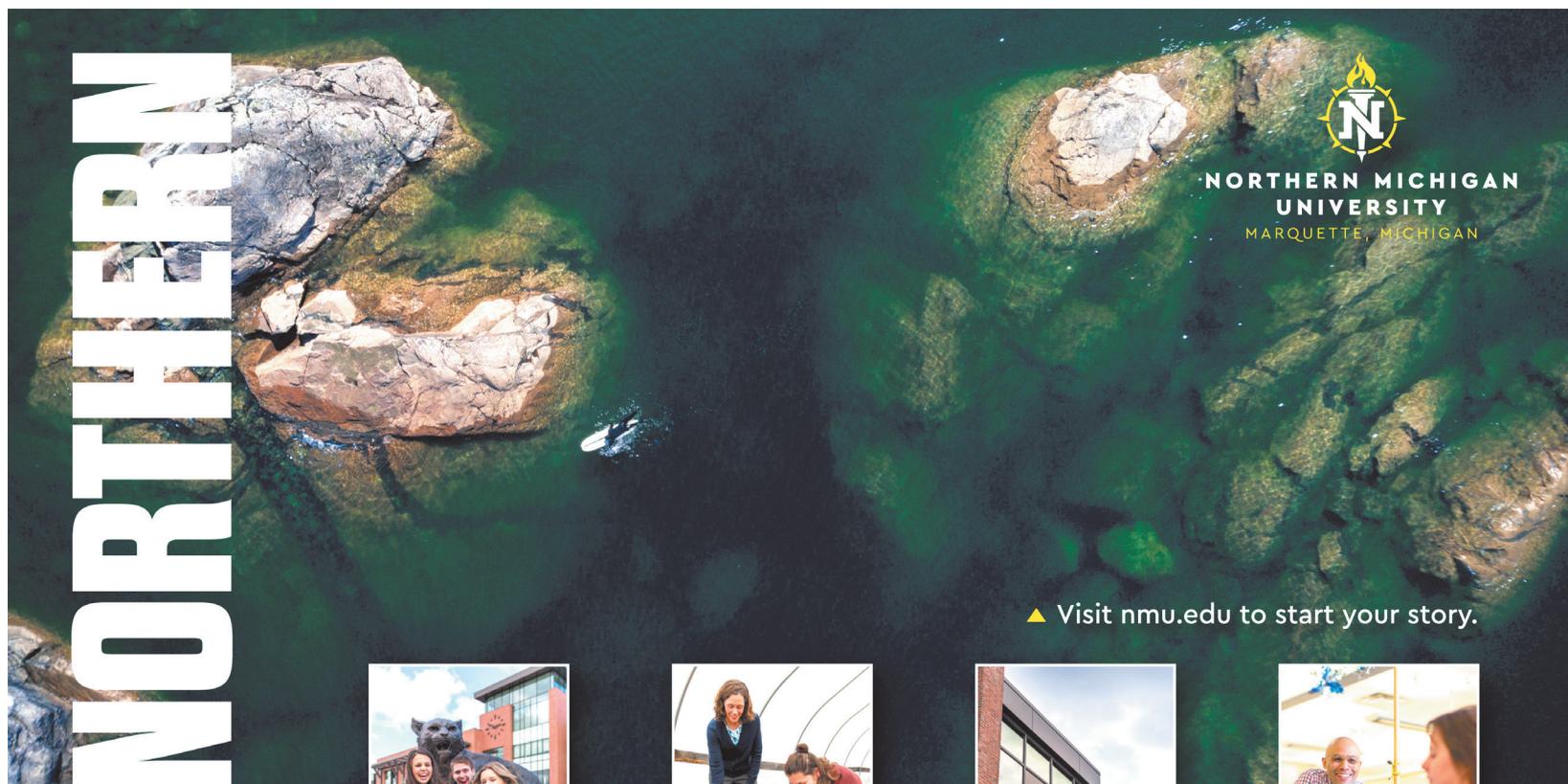
The caring of staff at Brookridge works to engage residents and make them comfortable. “They all have this wide reach in the community and



the entire U.P., to be honest,” he said. “And that’s why you hire the team you hire, because they’re going to be able to make a difference in the life of that new resident. And that’s really important.”

Overall, Gaudreau emphasized that it’s important to recognize that those living with dementia or memory loss still need the same socialization, recreation and purposeful activities that we all need, and that with proper direction, proper supervision, however you want to look at it, anything is possible for their residents.

**For more information about Brookridge Heights Assisted Living and Memory Care, call 906.464.6747 or visit [milestoneretirement.com/senior-living/mi/marquette/brookridge-heights/](http://milestoneretirement.com/senior-living/mi/marquette/brookridge-heights/).**



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# WINDOW OUTFITTERS

## OPEN DOORS

Window Outfitters of the Upper Peninsula is a supply and installation company for windows and patio doors that offer top quality products, fair pricing and professional installation. Their website states that Outfitters is home to the finest selection of new construction windows, replacement windows, as well as, interior and exterior doors in Michigan's Central Upper Peninsula.

"We cater to the homeowner, travel to their homes, and work with them to select the best products that fit their needs, and offer them the best solution to solve any problems they may have with their windows and doors," Joe Dost, President of Window Outfitters, said.

Window Outfitters mainly operates in Marquette County, but regularly conducts business all over the Central Upper Peninsula. The business has even supplied products at job sites in Wisconsin. Whether you're a home or business owner in the region, thinking about replacing drafty windows, building new or remodeling, the professionals at Window Outfitters will find the quality materials you need with the service you deserve. Order a custom

shower door, or other glass enclosures with lots of glass styles to choose from, along with hardware. Visit Windows Outfitters' showroom, located on U.S. 41 in between Marquette and Negaunee. The window supplier's knowledgeable, well-trained staff are ready and willing to help.

"Our goal, when a customer chooses Window Outfitters for their project, is that they are well informed with the right expectations, that we meet or exceed those expectations and at the end of the project they are delighted that they chose us," Dost said.

The supplier works with trusted, top-notch, brand name products such as; Therma Tru Doors, Ply Gem Windows, Marvin Windows and Doors and Integrity Windows and Doors. Therma Tru Doors offer the best styles and selections in the front door industry. Ply Gem Windows are made from some of the highest quality vinyl and built to last. Their products come in up to 8 different finishes and various styles. Marvin Windows and Doors and Integrity Windows and Doors were awarded Best in Quality in the 2017 BUILDER Magazine Brand Use Study.

"We choose to work with Marvin because they are a great partner in sales and service," Dost said. "Quite frankly we have less call backs because their quality is so high."

Replacing windows and doors in a home can do more than save on your heating bill. Dost remembers the stunning transformation of a log home after the they replaced older windows and doors.

"The transformation that the home incurred while we were working on it was fantastic to see," he said. "They went from the windows being a pain point to them being a focal point. We completely changed the interior feel of the room with the proper selection of the windows and doors."

According to Dost, the clients of that project were "over the moon" with the new setup.

"At the end of the day that is the most rewarding thing you can get out of helping any customer through a project," he said.

Thomas Anderson founded Window



Outfitters in 2001. After almost two decades as owner and operator, Anderson decided to take a back seat to the management side of the business and continue with the company in a sales role. He sold Dost, a Northern Michigan University Alumnus and Michigan native, the business in February of 2019.

“He left it in a very good position and I am very thankful to Tom and Karen, his wife, for the opportunity to lead this business into the future,” Dost said. “It has grown substantially over the years and I was very lucky to have the opportunity to purchase it.”

Dost, who has an extensive history in business and building supply management, is supported in his business venture by his wife Pam Dost and his two sons Cooper and Wyatt. The Dost family currently resides in Negaunee. The Outfitters makes sure to give back to the community they work and live in, supporting youth athletic teams and giving to charitable organizations.

“One thing I pride myself on is being involved in the community,” he said. “Whether it’s supporting local sports teams or different non-profits that is something I feel is important to be involved with.”

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
WINDOW-OUTFITTERS.COM OR  
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Upper Peninsula Power Company



# ENBRIDGE

## UPGRADING VITAL ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

Enbridge expects design work for a proposed tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac that would replace the Line 5 gas pipeline to begin in 2020. If all goes well, all state, local and federal permits should be approved by the end of 2021.

Rock and soil sampling began in June of 2019. The company has taken geological samples by drilling 6-inch-diameter holes up to 150 feet into the lakebed to determine the best place for the tunnel.

"We have a barge that will be stabilized, jacked up in the shallow waters and will be able to take the boring samples," Enbridge Director of State Government Relations Peter Holran told industry and municipal leaders gathered for the U.P. Energy Summit at Northern Michigan University in June. "And then by July 2019, we anticipate that there will be a vessel that will sail into the Great Lakes and into the Straits and will help us with the deep-water boring. It will actually stabilize itself in any weather and will help us with that precision drilling at a precise location

250 feet below the water and another 100 to 150 feet below that. With that vessel, we are going to make a commitment in just over a week or so and get that sailing over into the straits. It'll be quite a sight once it gets out there on the lakes in probably July, August, and September."

The 645-mile-long gas and oil pipeline that carries crude oil and natural gas products from Superior, Wisconsin, to Sarnia, Ontario, Canada is a critical part of the national energy infrastructure and the future of energy, Holran said. "We need to take it into full context that there is a system of systems. Line 5 is crucial," Holran said, "not just to the U.P. and Michigan, but really, I would argue, to the nation."

Enbridge has committed \$500 million to the construction of the tunnel, which would house a segment of pipeline to replace the 66-year-old infrastructure that is currently situated on the bottom of the Straits.

**"WE ARE REPLACING ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE, WE ARE UPHOLDING A PROMISE TO PROTECT THE GREAT LAKES AND WE ARE CONTINUING TO SAFELY MEET MICHIGAN'S ENERGY NEEDS TODAY AND WELL INTO THE FUTURE."**



"This state-of-the-art Line 5 tunnel across the Straits of Mackinac demonstrates Enbridge's commitment to Michigan's natural resources," Holran said. "We are replacing energy infrastructure, we are upholding a promise to protect the Great Lakes and we are continuing to safely meet Michigan's energy needs today and well into the future."

Holran told Energy Summit attendees that the company has been working with Governor Gretchen Whitmer's administration to shorten the project timeline, which puts completion of both the tunnel and pipeline in 2023 or 2024. "When we signed all our commitments last year, the discussion with Governor (Rick) Snyder was around a project that would take seven to 10 years," Holran said. "We were very comfortable with that number. As we started to put our design teams on this and started to work on it, we realized we could do it a lot faster. Governor Whitmer's office has told us directly, 'I need you to do it a lot faster.'"

The 300-foot-long custom-built tunnel boring machine is another element of the project where the company will save time. "We have committed to the Governor that we will order the boring machine even before those final designs and the final permitting is done. That is out of sequence for how tunneling gets done, but we feel that's important and we feel we can probably save the project nine to 12 months by going out and investing in that boring machine."

"(The) tunnel boring machine will move about 40 feet per day, five days per week, which means it would take about two years to travel the full 4.1 miles across the straits," Holran said. "Pipe supports with rollers would be bolted along the wall, and pipe pushed along the tunnel, one long segment at a time. (The tunnel would be) equipped with a ventilation system to provide access to maintenance crews."

"At that distance, installation of the transmission pipeline could take six to eight months," he said. "Ultimately the company wants to honor the wishes of the state leaders, but, the company believes Line 5 is safe."

"Over the last several years, Enbridge worked with the previous administration to come up with, in a very collaborative way, to come up with some commitments, but also some vision on how we need to move forward. How can we do better?" Holran asked attendees of the 2019 U.P. Energy Summit. "But the main thing that I want you to leave with today, is the pipeline is safe. (We are) operating in compliance with all our state and federal regulations and our inspections and operations of the pipeline far exceed the measures set by those regulations. Line 5 today represents the most economical and also the safest way to move energy distances of (500) or 600 miles, which Line 5 does, and Line 5 is safe, and we go every day looking for ways that we can make it safer."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT ENBRIDGE.COM.**



# HOLIDAY INN OF MARQUETTE WRAPS UP RENOVATION

A hotel may be just a boarding stop for a night or two, but it signifies a safe, comfortable space to enjoy a vacation out of town or a place to put your feet up after a long wedding celebration. Though it may be viewed as a place to sleep, every detail incorporates that sense of home and comfort.

After wrapping up a 17-month renovation in May, the Marquette Holiday Inn maintains that welcome feeling with a brand new look, turning heads left and right from the highway, to when guests enter through the new double doors into the lobby.

The \$10 million investment included renovations to the rooms, the bar and restaurant, lobby, banquet rooms, pool and sauna area, along with the workout room. Guest Experience Champion, DeeDee Larson said the renovations were a long time coming and guests are feeling the positive energy. "It's not your grandma's Holiday Inn," Larson said, noting that the new look has evolved over the years. "It's now fresh and our kind of Holiday Inn."

The project involved the total renovation of the hotel's exterior and interior following the new H-4 Design by the Intercontinental Hotels Group. Square footage was expanded in two-thirds of the guest rooms. There are 50-inch television sets in all rooms; new windows, heating, ventilation and air conditioning units, lodging doors, vinyl, wallpaper, flooring, new beds and mattresses, window treatments, furniture, and shower surrounds. The hotel also moved to tub-less showers in all but 10 rooms. Some rooms with king beds now have additional queen sleeper-sofas, and the double beds have been changed to two queen beds.

The lobby bathrooms were increased in size and now are

Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible. The pool area has new flooring, with the pool interior refinished with a fiberglass glaze. There also is an ADA compliant sauna, remodeled restrooms, new windows and an updated color scheme. The guest laundry was moved to the first floor near the pool, and ice and soda machines were added to every floor within a custom-built room.

"Though renovations were in need to meet hotel standards, it was also time to rebuild a whole new Holiday Inn compared to just putting a "face lift" on the building. The process, however, was a "double-edged sword" and at times, it was stressful for the hotel staff," Larson said.

"It's a struggle to see things torn apart and working around it because we did work right through the renovations so it was very trying and taxing on ourselves and employees," Larson said. "But it's always nice to see the end results, the light at the end of the tunnel and when it all comes together and exceeds your expectations. Looking at something in a book seeing how it comes together in the flesh is so different."

As the Guest Experience Champion, Larson's job is to oversee guest expectations and do the best she can to acquire and meet those expectations. "Though there are still a few minor updates that need to be finished, having the renovation process completely done is a relief. Renovations entail a lot of different lighting aspects. Instead of choosing trendy items, Holiday Inn wanted to incorporate a classier look to the hotel. Every detail was crucial in maintaining the overall goal of that timeless, warm and welcome feeling such as choosing the color of stones and soft goods used in the rooms. Keeping ideas for the banquet room fluent and neutral was also



important, so the colors won't clash for weddings and other events," Larson said.

When the rain and wind is furious and drifting, the automatic doors are aligned more efficiently to help protect guests as they enter into the lobby. The bright cheerful seating in the lobby also serves as a "pre-function spot" for people attending weddings, celebrations and other social events; and it's of course, a great place to come sit and mingle or wait for someone to come down for dinner.

The goal was to update infrastructure to meet hotel standards and compete with other hotels, aiming to be the best in town. The outdoor renovations to further accommodate a more modern look, while also allowing for more activities in the back of the hotel for summer weddings.

"Guests now can totally see the changes, and it's been an eye-opening experience for everyone. They've been just overwhelmed. It's such a difference," Larson added. "To take an old building as it was and pretty much rip it down to its gutters and start with its bare bones. It was rebuilt like a brand new hotel."

**"TO TAKE AN OLD BUILDING AS IT WAS AND PRETTY MUCH RIP IT DOWN TO ITS GUTTERS AND START WITH ITS BARE BONES. IT WAS REBUILT LIKE A BRAND NEW HOTEL."**



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# SAYKILLY'S - THE CANDY STORE

## STILL SELLING SMILES

When it comes to quality sweets in the Upper Peninsula, it's hard to top Saykilly's Candies. A U.P. institution since 1906, Saykilly's has been giving people a little taste of heaven with each bite and although tradition may be important to the company's success, the company did go through some changes the last few years. Kevin and Julie Robitaille purchased Saykilly's Candies in 2014, becoming the first people outside of the family lineage to own the company. Last year, the Robitailles opened up a new location in Marquette Township, it's clear the company is on stable footing.

According to the company's website, saykillyscandies.com, Kevin Robitaille has worked at the Saykilly's Factory since 1987. He began folding boxes and taking out the garbage. Robitaille slowly climbed the ladder and learned how to create the candies and other parts of the business before ultimately buying it five years ago.

When asked what makes Saykilly's so special, Robitaille said "it's just become a part of the U.P. and people instantly know what you're talking about when they hear the name." After winning a prestigious award, it now appears that maybe more people are taking notice of Saykilly's delicious candy.

"I guess it's something regionally and not nationally known," he said. "Every Yooper knows Saykilly's. We just were awarded the President's Choice Award in Hartford, Connecticut on our Yooper Trail Mix last Thursday, which is kind of astounding. I think the President is from Massachusetts, so it's not like he knows who we are or that it was a buddy-buddy thing. He may not have heard of us, but when he picked us for the President's Choice Award, there were like 250 people there. When they said the President's Choice Award goes to Saykilly's Candies and I was like are you kidding me?"

So what makes the trail mix so enticing? Robitaille said, "It's because of the freshness and the famous chocolate we use that Yoopers love. We do everything in house," he said. "We roast freshly roasted peanuts, pecans, almonds and cashews. We use Michigan dried tart cherries and raisins. Then we put our chocolate blend drops in there. You can make

a trail mix with chocolate chips, but it's our chocolate. It's Saykilly's. It's the same chocolate that goes on snappy turtles. The same chocolate that's in clusters. The same chocolate that the Yooper Bars are made out of. There's no sidestepping. It's all the same premium products."

Those premium products can also be found in a new location as Saykilly's The Candy Store opened up in the Jandron Retail Center last year. Robitaille said that he wanted to keep the store strictly for candy and didn't want to add any other products.

"After 26 years of the family owning the three retail stores, one family member decided to retire in the Marquette area," he said. "They were just going to focus on the two retail stores in Escanaba and I saw my opportunity to open a retail store in Marquette. I own the franchise and I own the trademark, but they were in business there before I bought the factory. I just left them alone. When they decided to retire, that's when I decided to open up.

"I figured that we don't know what each generation likes and I make candy. So that's why it's Saykilly's The Candy Store. We get a lot of comments that we should bring gifts and things in there, but we're the candy store. When you go there, you're going out of your way to buy candy. If somebody wants to buy a gift, it can be a gift of candy. It can be a gift basket. It can be a wooden crate made by our local vendors, Lakestate Industries. It can be a custom box.

Saykilly's may be all about tradition, but they're also willing to add new things including a new variety of chocolate called ruby chocolate. "The ruby chocolate is a new chocolate that's coming out on the market," Robitaille said. "We're very excited to bring that on board possibly for special occasions or for special items coming soon. I don't have it in house, so if somebody calls me right now, I can't produce it. Ruby chocolate should be the next fad. It's naturally colored, it's got like a pink or light purplish color. If you Google it, you can see what I mean. The color is derived naturally from the actual type of bean that the cocoa is in. So it must be a certain type of cocoa."



Other than including ruby chocolate, Robitaille says, Saykly's will simply continue to do what it always does and urges people to try their candy if they haven't done so already. "We're just going to continue our traditional excellence," he said. "The future looks bright. If you haven't tried Saykly's, stop by. You'll be overwhelmed."

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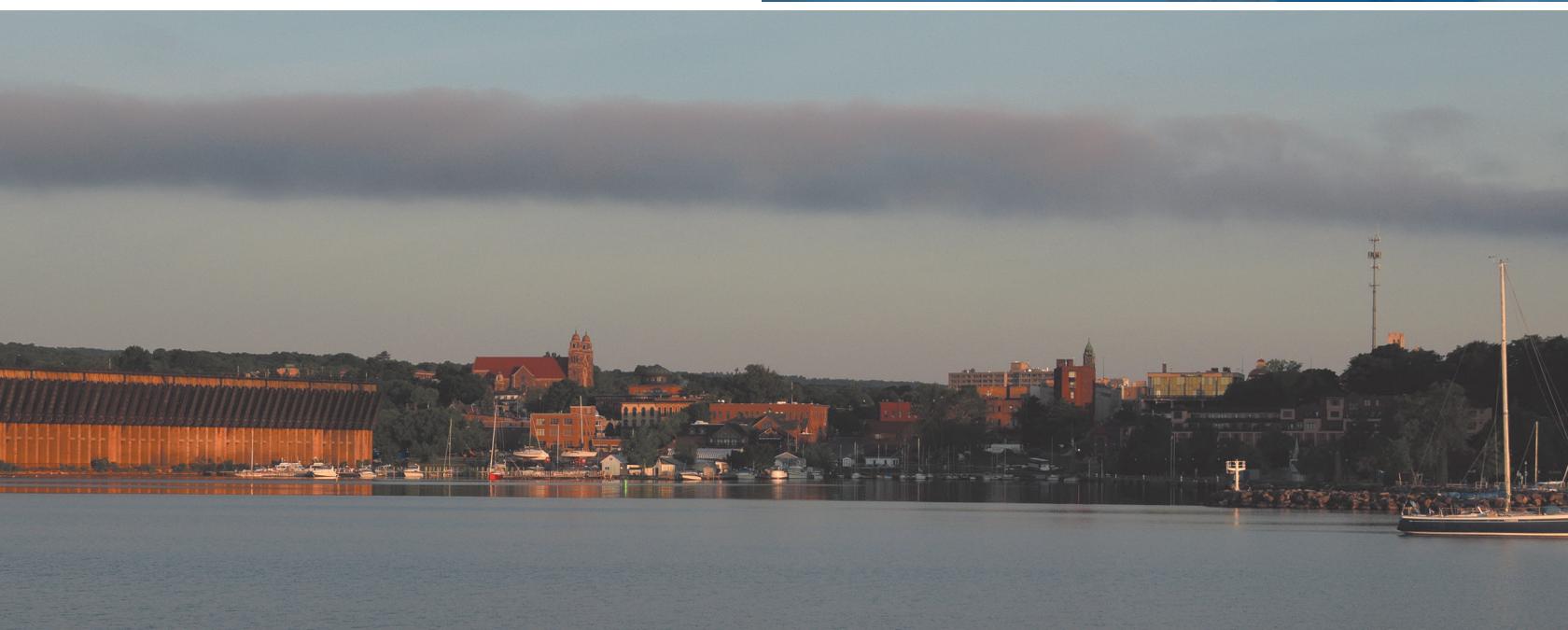
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# UP HEALTH SYSTEM-MARQUETTE

It took a lot of planning, but the move to the new Upper Peninsula Health System-Marquette hospital went very well.

**I**t took a lot of planning, but the move to the new Upper Peninsula Health System-Marquette hospital went very well on the first Sunday in June 2019.

“We had a very successful patient move,” said Victor Harrington, Regional Director of Marketing and Business Development for UP Health System-Marquette. “We moved about 100 patients from the old hospital to the new hospital. It was accomplished safely and comfortably for the patients, which is why the logistical work was so important. A ton of work went into the planning for the move. It was complex and it literally took years of planning,” Harrington said.

The Emergency Department also moved that Sunday with the medical offices in

the building opening the next day. “The transition has gone well. It is great to be in the new facility,” Harrington said. “We’ve received tremendous feedback from patients and from visitors. This is a brand-new, state-of-the-art facility and it’s a huge improvement from the old hospital. One of the well-received changes has been in the patients rooms. We now have single, private rooms for all patients,” he said. “We went to that after having double rooms at the old hospital and people are quite pleased.”

“The new building has all the hospital-based services in one place now. We have surgical, emergency, operating rooms, labs and in-patient floors all together now,” Harrington said. “Things are going really well.”

And looking ahead, the new building was designed for potential expansion. “There is an opportunity for continued growth since the eighth floor is shell space. There’s nothing on it. Not yet,” he said. “It could be used in the future,” Harrington said. Not only are patients and visitors impressed with the new facility, UPHS employees are proud of the place they work.

“Not only have we created a brand-new, state-of-the-art facility to accommodate our patients, we have created a tremendous working space for our nearly 2,000 employees. You can feel the employees pride and excitement. It’s a great place to come to work. It’s a facility that’s not just for Marquette, but for the whole Upper Peninsula. If we didn’t offer some of these services, people would



have to travel downstate or even out of state to get them. We already had employees who are knowledgeable, talented, compassionate and caring people. Now we have a brand-new hospital to tie it all together,” Harrington said.

The new hospital is an esthetically pleasing as well. “Art is a part of the new hospital,” Harrington said. “We partnered with a firm to secure art and we now have the works of 10 local artists in the new hospital. There are 750 pieces of artwork in the new hospital and we have a rotating public art program which offers the chance for local artists to be on display in all of our elevator lobbies.”

“We have the first set up. We’re happy to provide local artists a place to display in a busy place,” Harrington said. “We have the ability to hang photography, paintings, pretty much anything other than fabric, as what we hang can’t be porous.” Any local artists interested in the program can find more information on the hospital’s website, [www.mgh.org](http://www.mgh.org).



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# MOVING FORWARD

## NEGAUNEE ECONOMIC PLAN IS FULL STEAM AHEAD

The City of Negaunee has made significant progress on the economic development blueprint it launched last year. The plan, entitled “Moving Forward,” will encourage new development by capitalizing on the city’s unique history, said City Manager, Nate Heffron.

Moving Forward, which is the first plan of its type in the city, was initially unveiled to residents and stakeholders in December of 2018. Heffron said the plan, which was funded by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) under the Project Empire Initiative, is a major milestone for the City of Negaunee.

Heffron said the Lake Superior Community Partnership has been a key collaborator in the process, providing promotion and marketing for the economic development program. They also provided more “surgical” marketing platforms such as brochures about the community and investment opportunities that can be customized to individual developers as well as business retention and expansion brochures.

“They provided something that we can have in hand that talks about the community and the vision we have for our community, it can be tailored to each specific developer,” Heffron said. “The LSCP has been very vital in carrying forward the Moving Forward initiative and helping us with other economic development opportunities in the City of Negaunee. To be honest, without them, we would not be where we are today.”

Another element of the plan is the Downtown Plan and Streetscape Project. The city has had several planning sessions with Beckett and Raeder, the firm commissioned to do the work, Heffron said, with a public reveal from the firm during the fall update on Moving Forward.

Going hand in hand with the downtown streetscape are the MEDC Façade Grants that the city has helped facilitate for downtown business owners. The owners of Smarty’s Saloon and Tino’s Pizzeria partnered with the MEDC to invest more than \$200,000 into their buildings on Iron Street. The next round of façade grants will include four buildings on Iron Street, a \$610,000 investment between the MEDC and the owners of Midtown Antiques, the Grand Effex Salon, the Lowenstein Building and Old Bank Building Antiques.

“These downtown improvements are not just to make the town look nice,” Heffron said. “They are designed to help attract visitors to come into downtown, to attract investment into the town, it’s to attract people who want to live in the downtown, and that is where all the trends are going. Across generations, people are looking for new, exciting shopping and dining experiences that big box stores and chain restaurants just can’t provide,” Heffron said. “Riding a bike into downtown Negaunee, eating or shopping in a historic building, those are the experiences that people are seeking and we are trying to provide all of those avenues of opportunity in the downtown.”

# MOVING FORWARD NEGAUNEE, MI

The City's Downtown Development Authority (DDA) held its initial meeting in January 2019, Heffron said. A Tax Increment Financing district, where the DDA will get revenue to leverage into improvement projects is expected to be established.

The Negaunee City Council held a public hearing on July 18, prior to considering the adoption of boundaries, a Downtown Development Plan and the TIF Plan, which all center on the downtown area, with the corresponding ordinance considered for adoption in August. Once that process is complete, the DDA boundaries are able to be amended to include areas other than downtown. Heffron said that the organization will not interfere with the efforts of groups like the Negaunee Irontown Association, which sponsors the Pioneer Days Celebration annually.

"The DDA's job is not going to come in and tell other organizations what they can or can't do," Heffron said. "The DDA is going to come in and see what they can do to help those existing organizations to continue to be successful."

"Other elements of the Moving Forward Economic Development Plan are moving ahead as scheduled," Heffron said. Efforts funded by the Michigan Department of Talent and Economic Development to put the downtown district on the National Register of Historic Places are projected to be done this year, a partnership was struck with Invent NMU to install a community idea incubator kiosk in the Negaunee Public Library, and is working toward MEDC Redevelopment Ready Community certification. "We have come leaps and bounds in just a year and a half," Heffron said of the RRC certification efforts, "We've gotten a lot done."

The city has also incorporated a capital improvement plan into its budgeting process to develop a systematic approach to looking into municipal needs in the city for five years out. "From equipment to training, just a number of items," Heffron said.

He said that the Peck Street water project, the Brown Avenue sewer project, paving of five other roads, purchasing of two plow trucks, a bucket truck for the electric department, and a Zamboni for the ice arena are all coming to fruition due, in part, to the City's capital improvement plan.

"This is something that as new staff members are hired and new council members are elected, they would be able to see the path we have been going and why we are taking this path.



Otherwise, people will just be recreating the wheel or having their own personal agendas constantly and you just can't get anywhere."

Overall, Heffron said the city is poised for growth, and the Moving Forward plan encapsulates all the efforts that will help facilitate that growth.

"We are trying to take an approach where the community becomes more attractive through green space and natural elements. We are trying to make the community walkable. We are trying to make the community a hub of activity, whether that means bringing special events downtown, parades, music, whatever you can think of, that's what we are going to do," Heffron said. "We also have people who are buying buildings to create new businesses in town," Heffron said. "We want to be part of that movement. This town is going to be really cool when it's done."

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# LAKE SUPERIOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

For over 20 years, the Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) has been working with businesses, organizations, leaders, legislators and municipalities to shape the regional economy of Marquette County.

The LSCP is membership-based economic development organization (EDO) located in Marquette, MI. It is one of 60 economic development organizations accredited by the IEDC, which means it has undergone a comprehensive peer review process that measures economic development organizations against commonly held standards under the International Economic Development Council. The LSCP's highly educated staff has experience working with thousands of clients and can assist any business, regardless of size or stage.

Through private and public investment, the partnership offers a broad range of services that enhance the economic climate of Marquette County. By investing in economic development, partners allow the LSCP to create opportunities for local businesses, workforces and the communities in which they operate.

After decades of proven success in Marquette County, The LSCP is proud to collaborate with the Dickinson Area Economic Development Alliance (DAEDA) and the Baraga County Economic Development Corporation (BCEDC). By combining the talent, resources and expertise of these three offices, they have created a strong network and achieve economic growth on an even larger scale.

The LSCP offers a wide variety of valuable services to its partners, which include (but are not limited to):

- Economic and business development services
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# ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

## RAISING AWARENESS

Over 5.8 million people are living with Alzheimer's disease in the United States. That number is projected to increase to nearly 14 million by 2050. In Michigan alone, over 180,000 people are living with the disease, and approximately 9,000 in the U.P. are affected by Alzheimer's. One organization continues to battle the storm and attain higher goals in search of a cure.

The Alzheimer's Association Greater Michigan Chapter, Upper Peninsula Office works tirelessly year round to get people from the Marquette Community and surrounding areas involved and project an urgency in the cause. Events such as the Walk to End Alzheimer's, which took place on September 14th in Marquette, help raise funds to go toward research. Last year's goal was \$55,000, but Regional Director Jake Bilodeau said that they hope to raise the bar higher this year with a goal of \$80,000.

"Other community walks taking place in September around the region include St. Ignace, Sault Ste. Marie and Iron Mountain. The association hopes to raise a total of \$100,000 from all of the U.P. walks," Bilodeau said.

"The Alzheimer's Association is the leading funder for Alzheimer's research

and it's great to be part of an organization that is so committed to not only finding a cure, but understanding that we have a lot of people who are caring for people out there," Bilodeau said. "Over 500,000 people alone, in the State of Michigan, are caregivers for somebody with Alzheimer's disease. It's great to see that we're out there searching for a cure, but it's also important we provide support for those caring for others."

The vision the association continues to push for is a world without Alzheimer's disease. The organization also has many different areas at work including education programs and support groups. Being able to reach people in rural areas and allowing caregiver's access to support groups is unmatched to some other areas around the country, and people are able to get involved in several ways.

June is one of the busiest months of the year for the association. It is the month of Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness month, including The Longest Day, an event in June where people participate in to help fundraise for the disease. Other events include Iron Mountain's pickleball tournament. The association also conducts education programs in all 15 counties of the U.P., focusing on brain health with a program called 'Healthy Living

For Your Brain and Body' that incorporates a discussion titled '10 Ways to Love Your Brain.' "Its main focus is educating people about prevention and maintaining a healthy lifestyle," Bilodeau said.

"One of the most important resources we have available to us is our 24/7 helpline. That helpline is really important for connecting all of our residents of the Upper Peninsula to resources whether it be to the Alzheimer's Association or other programs in our area," Bilodeau added.

Since January of 2018, Bilodeau said that he enjoys working on a regional level and being available to all counties in the U.P., witnessing first-hand how Dementia and Alzheimer's affects families and caregivers. Bilodeau said he feels motivated in providing others with resources to talk one-on-one or interact in group settings so people do not feel as if they are alone. Living in such a rural place in the U.P., it can feel like there's nowhere to turn, but Bilodeau said that the Alzheimer's Association is a place that provides comfort and reassurance.

For those who want to get involved with events, there are plenty of opportunities for everyone, regardless of age, and events vary from pouring water at walks to facilitating discussion sessions. Though volunteer support groups are scattered across the U.P., Bilodeau said they are always looking for more volunteers.

"This cause is important not only for research but it also reaches people at the most local level like Marquette. It is vital caregivers have someone to talk to and the association has created opportunities through support groups," Bilodeau added.



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# NEW SHELTER, NEW PAWSIBILITIES

## UPPER PENINSULA ANIMAL WELFARE SHELTER (UPAWS)



At the start of 2019, the Upper Peninsula Animal Welfare Shelter (UPAWS) opened the doors of its new facility. A facility large enough to provide compassionate care for the 1,500 animals that pass through the shelter each year, while getting the community involved in the process.

The UPAWS staff and volunteers have been dreaming about such a place since 2012, and in 2015 they purchased their new property at 815 S. State Highway M553 and began a capital campaign to raise the funds necessary to build their dream shelter. With the help of the community, UPAWS met their goal of \$3.7 million with their “Imagine the PAWSibilities Campaign,” and broke ground on their new property in August of 2017.

What’s so different about this new shelter compared to their former property on Snowfield Road in Negaunee? “Everything under the sun,” said Executive Director of UPAWS Kori Tossava.

The facility is almost five times larger than the previous, there’s a separate area just for holding animals that are lost, strays or not healthy enough for adoption, an adoption center, two dog villages, a free roam room for cats, a new room for any rescued domestic animals that aren’t cats or dogs and a community room. The room provides a space for training from TacoMo Dog Training on animal behavior and body language to reduce dog bite instances, birthday parties, committee meetings, fundraisers and the Kids Club program. “We can really engage with the community more

specifically in animal welfare,” Tossava said of the space.

The shelter can now host more volunteer opportunities and community programs such as the Read to a Shelter Pet program, which will start at the beginning of the school year and allow kids to interact with animals in a safe environment.



All of these amenities and possibilities in the new facility sets it apart not only from its predecessor, but from the original intent of animal shelters. Animal shelters were originally designed for the purpose of simply holding animals for the public's safety. "Once an animal's 7 to 15 day standard impound time was up, they were euthanized," she said.

"Since we became a no-kill shelter and since the no-kill movement, we don't put a time limit on any animal in our care," Tossava said. "We will care for them until they have a home. For example, we have a dog who's been with us off and on for two years. We needed to be able to build a facility that was comfortable in the long term in order to really fulfill our no-kill mission and no-kill philosophy. A no-kill shelter is about more than just having the space to hold all of these animals; it's also about fulfilling the lives of the animals while they live there.

We had to make sure that we had enrichment and that they were exercised both physically and mentally and that they are kept comforted while they're here because that increases the chance that they'll get adopted when their true personalities are really coming out," Tossava said.

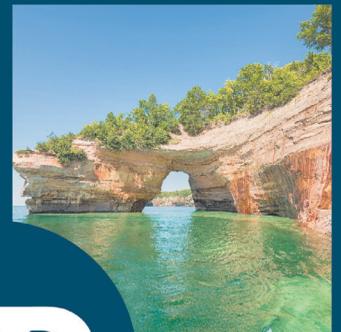
UPAWS staff and volunteers are made up of the most passionate advocates for animals, but with just 200 of them and 1,500 animals to care for over the course of a year, they are outnumbered. "Animals in general, especially domesticated ones, are such an integral part of our community and part of the families in our area," Tossava said. "If we can't provide all the services, we at least want to be able to provide the direction to them."

The new shelter gives staff, volunteers and community members the resources and opportunities to better help the animals, but UPAWS still runs solely on funds provided from the community through donations and fundraisers. "Everything that we've been able to do has been through the support of our community members. Donations and volunteers keep our doors open and allow us to be able to help as many animals as possible," Tossava said.

UPAWS is always in need of donations such as bleach, bedding, pumpkin, toys, kitty litter, towels and more. Check their website for an active wish list of items needed. "We can use all of it, and we are so thankful for the community being so supportive over the last 40 years and helping us with everything," she added.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING UPAWS IN SOME WAY BUT AREN'T SURE HOW, CALL OR VISIT THE SHELTER FOR TIPS ON HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT UPAWS.ORG.**

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# UPPER PENINSULA HEALTH PLAN

## Upper Peninsula Health Plan Scores Well for MI Health Link Coverage

In 2018, The Upper Peninsula Health Plan (UPHP) celebrated 20 years of service to its members in the Upper Peninsula. The mission of UPHP, a managed care provider service organization, is to be innovative in managing the care of its members in the U.P. and to guide them to quality, cost-effective care through their network of providers to improve the community's overall health.

One of UPHP's main efforts is MI Health Link, a health insurance program that helps people covered by both Medicare and Medicaid, said Stephanie Stocking, Marketing Communications Specialist for UPHP.

Single plan coverage with MI Health Link is for health care, behavioral health care, home and community-based services, nursing home care and medications. Eligible individuals must live in the U.P., be 21 years or older, have full Medicare and Medicaid coverage and not be enrolled in a hospice program. "They have one plan and one card to get their healthcare services," said Stocking.

"Before that, they had a card for Medicaid. They had a card for Medicare. It was very confusing, because they were billed separately, so this streamlines care for both members and providers. The pilot program," she said, "has been in place since 2014." Currently, about 4,000 members are enrolled in the MI Health Link through UPHP.

UPHP MI Health Link has been rated the top Medicare-Medicaid plan in the United States based on scores from the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) member satisfaction survey, tying for first in 2017 and 2018.

UPHP is required to administer the CAHPS surveys to its members who rate the health plan in a number of categories, including overall healthcare experience and accessibility of services, to name a few. "We're expecting to perform well again in 2019," Stocking said.

MI Health Link also offers a home and community-based supports and services waiver program that helps members live more independently. Eligible members don't pay additional copays for the services they receive.

UPHP MI Health Link members have several positive stories about their experiences. Excerpts include:

- "I met the one person who really, sincerely wanted to help me and did help more than anyone ever had."
- "I can't even describe how it feels to get my independence back. It was like I was held captive in my own home."
- "My care coordinator through UPHP has been my saving grace."

Stocking said, "Members are assigned care coordinators who coordinate their care and get them the services they need."

"If someone is in a wheelchair and needs a ramp put up to their house, a care coordinator could help them with that," Stocking said.

She believes that's what sets apart MI Health Link from other plans. "Our care coordination team is an incredible resource to our members," Stocking said, "and I think members really appreciate that personal touch they get having their own care coordinator. Care coordinators are licensed nurses and social workers, and together, the team has over 470 years of clinical experience and 165 years of care management experience."

As a result of implementing the MI Health Link program in the U.P., UPHP went from 81 staff members in 2014 to 155 staff members in 2019, mostly because of the hiring of clinical workers associated with the program. Employee salaries and benefits also more than doubled during this period.

"We've grown a lot in the last few years as a result of this program," Stocking said. UPHP also has a significant impact on the local economy. Direct UPHP jobs generated \$10 million in wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits in 2018.

UPHP is involved in the community as well, donating \$150,000 in community sponsorships and charitable donations, supporting health service and community organizations, health education events, youth activities, community health events and more.

About 50,000 U.P. residents are enrolled with UPHP, with over 2,000 in-network providers.





# ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY PELLETS

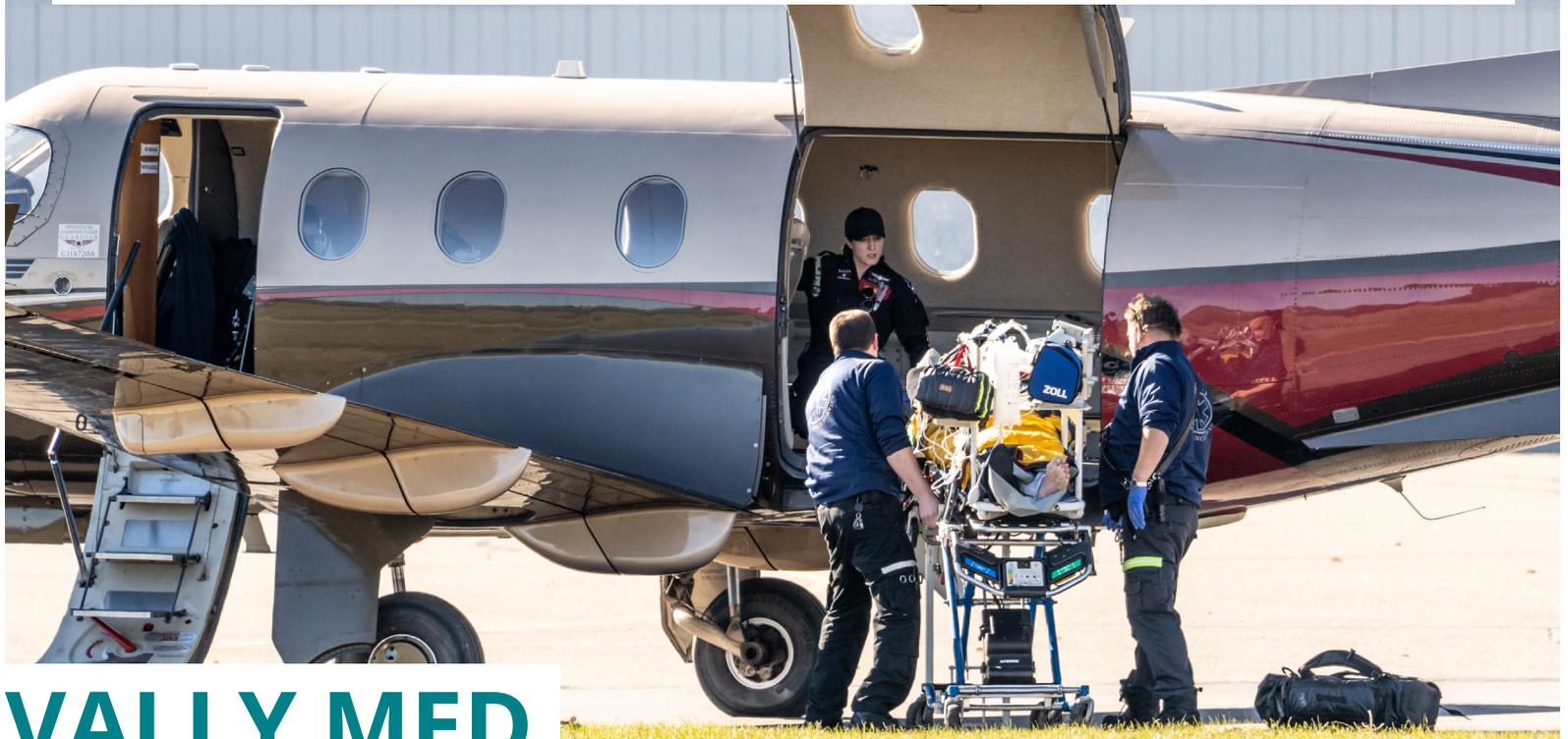
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# VALLY MED

## WHEN EVERY SECOND COUNTS - VALLEY MED FLIGHT PROVIDES EMERGENCY MEDICAL AIR TRANSPORT

Time can make all the difference in a medical emergency. At Valley Med Flight, a team of extensively-trained medical and aviation professionals serve Upper Peninsula residents with rapid emergency medical transport by air.

“We offer fast, compassionate, cutting edge critical care. Living in a rural area like the U.P. presents a challenge for getting patients to specialized care in a timely manner when seconds count,” said Valley Med Flight Escanaba Base Manager Josh Menard. “Our flight teams not only dramatically reduce transport times, they will also be providing advanced care that is based on the latest evidence-based practices.”

Valley Med Flight’s rotor base is located in Escanaba, with airplanes based in Iron Mountain and Houghton, allowing the organization to provide service across the U.P. and beyond. Having access to the multiple aircraft that Valley Med Flight and Guardian Flight bring to our area has a significant impact on the community by providing our residents the ability to access critical healthcare in times of need,” said Carrie Bartel-Petrin, Valley Med Flight/AirMedCare Network Membership Sales Manager. “The healthcare facilities in our area provide great services. However being in

the Upper Peninsula, resources are often limited and there are certain instances when transporting patients to facilities outside of our area is what is best for the patient’s well-being.”

Valley Med Flight’s crews are highly skilled and they, along with the Valley Med Flight aircraft, are another resource for our local healthcare providers and EMS personnel to provide care to our communities. A team can be in the air within just 10 minutes of a call, with a typical transfer from Escanaba to Marquette taking just 25 minutes. “If we are dispatched for a patient having a heart attack in Delta County, we will have them in Marquette where they can undergo procedures to restore blood flow to the heart muscle within 40 minutes. Time equals tissue in these instances,” Menard said. “The same goes for traumatic injuries. The quicker we can get a patient who might be bleeding internally in front of a surgeon the better.”

The staff consists of 20 medical personnel, 10 pilots, one mechanic and one director. “Each base staffs three fixed-wing pilots and four rotor wing pilots, as well as one mechanic. Each team has three crew members at a time, a critical care nurse, a critical care paramedic and a pilot, who

all work together to prepare, plan and execute each transport safely and timely,” said Michigan Program Director Jacob Smith.

“A patient’s team will always consist of a paramedic and a nurse caring for them in flight. All of us are from the U.P. and still live here,” Menard said. “We have staff from Marquette, Norway, Negaunee, Ishpeming and Escanaba to name a few. I think that’s what makes us so compassionate about the care and service we are providing. These aren’t just faces we take care of; they are our neighbors.”

“All of the medical staff employed come to Valley Med Flight with a minimum of three years’ experience in a critical care/emergency background, undergo an internal orientation process and gain a flight critical care certification within one year of their employment,” Smith and Menard said.

“We all have to have the standard nursing and medical license issued by the state. In addition, we have several advanced certifications, ranging from neonatal resuscitation to burn trauma that we must hold and renew,” Menard said. “In house, there is always education being done.”

“Valley Med Flight pilots are some of the most highly trained, experienced pilots in the industry,” said Escanaba Rotor Base Lead Pilot Conrad Mulford. “Valley Med Flight requires that their rotorcraft pilots have many years of experience beyond what is considered the industry norm for medevac pilots,” Mulford said. “We utilize a modern fleet of helicopters equipped with state-of-the-art avionics and the same caliber night vision goggle systems currently employed by the US military. Pilots receive monthly, quarterly, and annual training to ensure that they are current and up-to-date on the safest flying techniques available.”

“It’s important to recognize that Valley Med is not a self-dispatching service, meaning getting us to your bedside depends on either a physician calling us to a hospital for interfacility transports or the EMS, police and fire calling for the on-scene trauma side of things,” Menard said, noting he’d like to thank those folks for thinking outside the box and working as a team to do what’s best for the patients here in the Upper Peninsula.

“Valley Med Flight, under the operation of Guardian Flight, is also a part of the AirMedCare Network, the largest membership network of emergent transport providers in the country, providing financial coverage for emergency air medical transport, ensuring no out-of-pocket expenses for medically necessary flights flown by an AMCN provider,” Bartel-Petrin said.

“By being a part of AirMedCare Network, members have access to our network of providers in 38 states, so their membership coverage goes far beyond the Upper Peninsula,” Bartel-Petrin said.



AirMedCare Network and Valley Med Flight have partnered with the Lake Superior Community Partnership to give LSCP Partners and their employees an opportunity to join AirMedCare Networks membership program at a discounted rate of \$65 a year. Contact Carrie Bartel-Petrin for the LSCP discount code at 906.241.3855.

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# NICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## A LEADER IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education, CTE for short, is a big part of many school districts curricula, and it plays a notable role at NICE Community Schools.

NICE stands for National Mine, Ishpeming, Champion-Humboldt-Spurr Townships and Ely Township. The district is composed of Westwood High School, Aspen Ridge School for pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, and the Patriot Online Academy.

“We put a lot of emphasis on CTE here,” NICE Superintendent Bryan DeAugustine said. “We allocate resources, both personnel-wise and financially, to support that.” Westwood High School devotes 32 hours a day to CTE programming, and that’s for a high school of about 360 students.

It also has a robust business program, with students earning accolades this year at the National Leadership Conference of the Business Professionals of America in Anaheim, California.

“What’s also robust,” DeAugustine said, “is the districts industrial technology courses, with a two-hour Autos Block that’s routinely filled up. Students also built a house, about 1,500 square feet in size, on the corner of Silver and Center Streets in Ishpeming Township that is expected to be sold.”

NICE will be the fiscal agent for the U.P. Cybersecurity Talent Consortium, which will focus on K-12 school districts and intermediate school districts learning about tech-based subjects and careers. Not only will it be the fiscal agent, students will learn about the up-and-coming subject.

“We’re going to incorporate cybersecurity lessons into our existing classes this coming year, and then the following year, we’ll create new courses that are specifically focused on cybersecurity,” DeAugustine said, “and we’ll get help from companies like IBM and Compudyne to help us create that curriculum.”

He said that the district will rely on Northern Michigan University to ensure the curriculum is in good order so students come out of high school with skills that will help them in future career exploration. “That’s the essence of CTE education and about any field at NICE,” DeAugustine said. “Kids in industrial technology can go out in the workforce and get training, maybe through a

vocational program or on a job, and they’ve already got some skills under their belt that will help them excel in that field.”

Westwood Principal, Dave Boase, estimated 40 percent of the Westwood student body is involved in CTE education in some way or another. He stressed that certification is important.

“We are trying to tack as many certifications on to a student as we possibly can, for instance, a welding certificate or a building certificate or even an OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) training safety certificate,” Boase said, “and then from the business standpoint, a lot of our certifications are in Microsoft and the various areas of Microsoft, from one type of discipline to another.”

Four-year university degrees aren’t the path for everyone. Instead, having a certificate can lead to employment. “What we’re finding is those kids showing up with those certifications are becoming more and more valuable,” Boase said. “We’re really seeing it, certainly, in the trades area.”

“The success NICE Community Schools is achieving in CTE is due partly to the districts commitment to CTE programming,” DeAugustine said.

“Our kids want those courses,” he said. “They’re good for them. It’s money well spent. What’s also beneficial are community partnerships such as one the school district had forged with Frei Chevrolet where,” DeAugustine said, “students ‘job shadow’ employees for a couple of weeks each year.”

“We want to give our kids as many opportunities to see what’s out there as we can,” he said. Not only does NICE Community Schools offer CTE, it invests about \$94,000 a year in college preparatory activities.

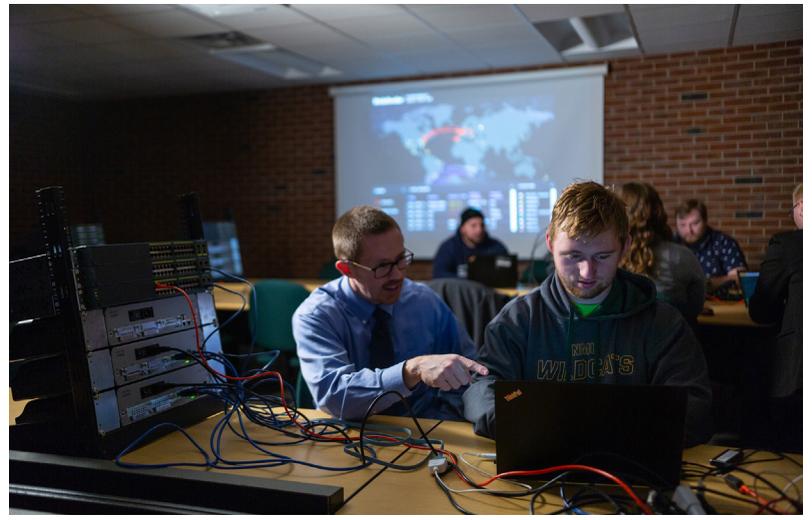
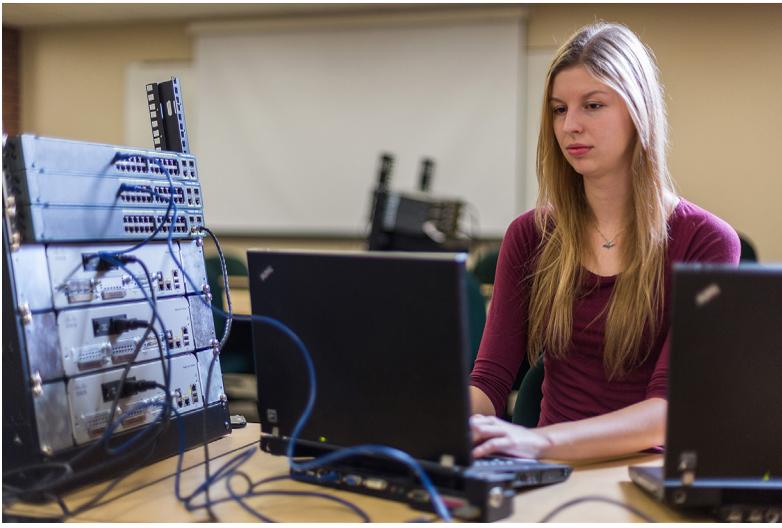
This investment includes job shadowing, working on the Silver Street house and sitting in on NMU courses. “That senior year is more of an introduction to what life might be like after high school,” DeAugustine said, “and we think that really gives our kids an opportunity to see what’s out there and maybe make some more informed decisions before they actually commit to a college program or a vocational program, or pursue a job

in a career field. They get a chance to try it out first before they make a commitment.”

For more information on CTE please visit [www.maresacte.org](http://www.maresacte.org) and you can find them on Facebook.



**NOT ONLY DOES NICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFER CTE, IT INVESTS ABOUT \$94,000 A YEAR IN COLLEGE PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES.**



# NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## A CYBERSECURITY LEADER

With the digital world so prevalent in today's society, cybersecurity is becoming more at the forefront of concerns. Northern Michigan University (NMU) is taking a lead in this area.

In May, NMU, along with the Merit Network, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Defense Center and Michigan Cyber Range, hosted the grand opening of the Upper Peninsula Cybersecurity Institute at the Northern Center.

The institute is one of only six in Michigan and the first facility of its kind in the U.P. It offers non-degree and industry credentials relevant to careers in cybersecurity and augments NMU's existing cyber defense bachelor's degree, providing additional career exploration and training opportunities with K-12 school districts in the U.P. and postsecondary institutions.

"We are all realizing the importance of cybersecurity for personal protection, business and economic prosperity, and national security," said Steve VandenAvond, Ph.D., Vice President for Extended Learning and Community Engagement at NMU. "We are convinced that the development of the institute is a game changer not only because it presents lucrative career opportunities for U.P. residents of all ages, but because it has the potential to foster economic development and position the U.P. for increased participation in the 'new economy' by allowing people to stay in the U.P. and work either as remote employees for organizations that need cybersecurity talent, or creating their own startup businesses providing cybersecurity services."

VandenAvond said that in conjunction with NMU's Educational Access Network, the institute will allow U.P. residents to participate in cybersecurity regardless of where they live.

"A decade from now, I think we are going to look back and truly understand the importance of the creation of the institute and the impact of the support of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation has had on the economic health of the Upper Peninsula, the wellbeing of its businesses and residents, and state and national security." Jim Marquardson, Ph.D., NMU Assistant Professor of Information Assurance and Cyber Defense, said the most important part of the institute partnership is the people it brings together.

"We've got a good program here at the University and support from our

leadership," Marquardson said. "I'm especially grateful for professionals working in cybersecurity, our advisory board and the people willing to work with us, give us guidance, help mentor our students and open up doors for them that would otherwise not be available."

"I'm excited to see what our students are able to do with these enhanced opportunities," said Stephanie Zadroga-Langlois, Director of Continuing Education and Workforce Development at NMU. "Cybersecurity is becoming a trending topic in businesses as well as homes."

"People are talking about it and they're concerned, and so it is obviously a concern but it's also an opportunity," Zadroga-Langlois said.

"NMU," she noted, "is tackling that need with the cybersecurity institute. Not only will the institute allow NMU to embrace different four-year programs and involve K-12 students, it will help people looking to change careers with non-degree programs." She also noted the hub has three arms: teach, test and train.

NMU is involved with cybersecurity through the consortium. The Upper Peninsula Cybersecurity Consortium, convened by NMU with industry and education partners, has been awarded about \$2.47 million through Michigan's Marshall Plan for Talent to improve the state's talent development and education system.

Thirteen talent consortia, representing 500 entities, have been awarded a total of nearly \$14 million in innovation grants to develop talent pipelines for high-wage, high-demand occupations through education and training initiatives.

Zadroga-Langlois said that through the initiative, NMU will make sure the school districts are all on the same page and heading in the same direction so students can determine early if they're interested in the subject. "Then they can move right into the institute and then to certifications," she said.

The awarded consortia represent a diverse group of businesses, K-12 districts, post-secondary education institutions and other entities, including 155 small and large school districts, 136 businesses, 56 post-secondary institutions, 41 industry associations, 19 Michigan Works! Agencies and 92 non-profits and other organizations. The funding benefits more than 220,000 students and their communities statewide.



# RAMBA

## GIVES BIKERS A PLACE TO RIDE

Mountain biking is one of the more popular recreational sports in the Upper Peninsula and there are several good places to hit the trails to get your riding fix. RAMBA Trails is one group that is helping Yooper bikers discover new areas to ride, particularly around the Ishpeming and Negaunee area.

The Range Area Mountain Bike Association (RAMBA) is a member-supported, nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to inspiring people to realize the benefits of mountain biking and living a healthy lifestyle. RAMBA president Danny Hill says, “the group specializes in creating hand-built trails and for the most part does not use machinery.”

“We started it 30 years ago out of necessity because there was no mountain bike trails and mountain bikes were just coming around at that time,” he said. “We started building trails so we’d have a place to ride.”

“It’s all hand tools. We do use chainsaws when needed, but picks and shovels, handsaws, loggers, that sort of thing. We have 72 miles of trail right now that we’ve built in the Ishpeming-Negaunee area.” Hill said, “The organization started slow, but has grown steadily over the past few years and has also gotten more technologically-savvy. We started one at a time, but then you get kind of bored riding the same trail. So we continued to build more trails and they interconnect between Ishpeming and Negaunee. There are access points off the Iron Ore Heritage Trail.”

“Especially these last few years, we’ve gotten a lot more organized as an organization. We kind of used to fly by the seat of our pants, but now that we’re getting a little bigger, we have four trailheads that you can get access to trails from. All of our trails are assigned and mapped. We have DPX files on our website if you want to download them to your GPS. It’s an evolving project I guess you’d say.”

Hill also said that RAMBA continues to build trails and would like to expand further into different parts of the area. “Right now, we’re working on, it’s called a pump track at our main trailhead off a mountain road on business M-28 in Ishpeming,” he said. “That consists of, it’s kind of like a BMX track or a rollercoaster for bikes.”

“Each year, we think about where we want to go. We’d like to expand over in the Al Quaal area in Ishpeming, on the north side of Teal Lake. That’s kind of our loose net plan. Al Quaal is such a beautiful area and we do have some mountain bike trails there, but not a lot. It’d be a great place to expand.”

If RAMBA gets a request for a trail, Hill said that they do build it if it fits within their system. As far as how long does it takes to build a trail, he said it depends on the type of area their building on. “It’s really hard to tell,” he said. “Some trails go quite quickly and we’ve had other trails that took years to build and to complete. Depending on the terrain, and we have so much rock in the Ishpeming and Negaunee area, sometimes if you get 50 yards of trail built in eight hours,

that’s pretty amazing. Then other places, it goes really quick.”

When asked what makes mountain biking so popular in the area, Hill said he thinks it’s due to the fact that it’s a life sport and people of all ages can participate in it. He also added that the fact that you can connect socially with other people with biking also could play a role.

“We have a group ride that has been meeting for the past 30 years, Wednesday nights, and it’s not unheard of to have 100 people show up,” Hill said. “We have groups for every ability level I guess you’d call it. From the hardcore mountain bikers, we have the A group, and it goes all the way down. We’ll probably have five or six groups on a Wednesday night depending on ability.”

As much as RAMBA emphasizes mountain biking, Hill also wanted to emphasize that the trails are for everyone who wants to get out and enjoy the outdoors. “We love seeing people on the trails,” he said. “I guess I would say that we’re a mountain biking organization per se, but we enjoy seeing the hikers and everybody else, like trail runners, and everybody else using our trails. It’s not just for mountain biking. We’re open pretty much to all the silent sports. In the wintertime, we groom them for snow biking, but they’re also used for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. We provide the trails for year-round use.”



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 Verizon: 226-9900 - verizonwireless.com

### GAS (NATURAL):

**SEMCO Energy Gas: (800) 624-2019 - semcoenergygas.com**

### GAS (PROPANE):

Amerigas: 263-7442 - amerigas.com  
 Ferrellgas: (800) 530-0113 - ferrellgas.com  
 Harvey Oil: 226-0866 - harveyoil.com  
 Quality Propane Service: (800) 217-9982  
 Superior Propane: (877) 873-7467 - superiorpropane.com

### ELECTRIC:

**Marquette Board of Light and Power: 228-0311 - mblp.org**  
**U.P. Power Company: (800) 562-7680 - uppco.com**  
**We Energies: (800) 242-9137 - we-energies.com**  
 Alger Delta Cooperative: (800) 562-0950

### CABLE:

**Charter Spectrum: (888) 438-2427 - charter.com**  
 Negaunee Cable Company: 464-6064

### WATER/SEWER:

City of Ishpeming: 485-1091 - ishpemingcity.org  
 City of Marquette: 228-0420 - mqtcty.org  
**City of Negaunee: 475-9181 - cityofnegaunee.com**  
**Chocolay Township: 249-1448 - chocolay.org**  
 Ely Township: 486-6802  
**Forsyth Township: 346-9217 - forsythtwpmi.org**  
 Ishpeming Township: 485-5411 - ishpemingtowship.com  
 Marquette Township: 228-6220 - marquettetowship.org  
**Michigamme Township: 323-6608 - michigammetowship.com**  
 Negaunee Township: 475-7869 - negauneetowship.org  
 Powell Township: 345-9345 - powelltownship.org  
 Republic Township: 376-8827 - republicmichigan.com  
 Richmond Township: 475-4180 - richmondtpw.org  
 Skandia Township: 942-7404  
 Tilden Township: 486-6580  
 West Branch Township: 942-7400 - westbranchtownship.org

## TRANSPORTATION

### AIR:

**American Eagle (American Airlines):**  
 (800) 433-7300 - aa.com

Delta Airlines:  
 (800) 221-1212 - delta.com

**Sawyer International Airport:**  
 346-3308 - sawyerairport.com

### GROUND (RENTAL, TAXI AND BUS):

Avis Rental Car Service:  
 346-6398 or (800) 331-1212 - avis.com

Budget Truck Rental:  
 249-2159 - budgettruck.com

### Checker Transport:

226-7777 - checkertransport.com

Enterprise Rent-A-Car:  
 225-8690 - enterprise.com

### Marquette County Transit Authority:

225-1112 - marq-tran.com

National/Alamo:  
 346-6378 or (800) 227-7368 - nationalcar.com

Thrifty:  
 346-4355 - thrifty.com

Uptown Taxi:  
 362-2331 - mqttaxi.com

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## MEDICAL

### UP Health System - Bell:

486-4431 | bellhospital.org

### UP Health System - Marquette:

228-9440 | mgh.org

### Upper Peninsula Medical Center:

225-3905 | penmed.com

## EDUCATION

Father Marquette Catholic Central School System:  
225-1129 - fathermarquette.org

Gwinn Area Community Schools:  
346-9283 - gwinn.k12.mi.us

**Ishpeming Public Schools:**  
485-5501 - ishpemingschools.org

**Marquette Alger Regional Educational Service Agency:**  
226-5100 - maresa.org

Marquette Area Public Schools:  
225-5320 - mapsnet.org

**Midwest Skills Development Center:**  
346-9155  
lscpfoundation.org/midwest-skills-development-center

**Negaunee Public Schools:**  
475-4156 - negaunee.k12.mi.us

**NICE Community Schools:**  
485-1021 - nice.k12.mi.us

**Northern Michigan University:**  
227-2650 or (800) 682-9797 - nmu.edu

North Star Public School Academy:  
226-0156 - nsacd.com

Powell Township School District:  
345-9355  
sites.google.com/site/powelltownshipschooldistrict

Republic-Michigamme Schools:  
376-2277 - r-mschool.org

Wells Township School District:  
238-4200 - wellstownshipschool.weebly.com

## ARTS, CULTURE & MUSEUMS

**Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center:**  
227-1219  
nmu.edu/beaumierheritagecenter

City of Marquette Arts & Culture Center:  
228-0472  
mqtcty.org/arts.php

**Cliffs Shaft Mine Museum:**  
226-3911

**DeVos Art Museum:**  
227-2235  
nmu.edu/devosartmuseum

**Forest Roberts Theatre:**  
227-2553  
nmu.edu/forestrobertstheatre

**Iron Industry Museum:**  
475-7857  
michigan.gov/mhc

Lake Superior Theatre:  
227-7625  
lakesuperiortheatre.com

Marquette Maritime Museum:  
226-2006  
mqtmaritimemuseum.com

Marquette Regional History Center:  
226-3571  
marquettehistory.org

**Marquette Symphony Orchestra:**  
226-6591  
marquettesymphony.org

Peninsula Arts Appreciation Council:  
475-7188  
vistatheater.org

Pine Mountain Music Festival:  
(888) 309-7861  
pmmf.org

U.S. Ski Hall of Fame and Museum:  
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