



Marquette Downtown Development Authority

337 West Washington Street
Marquette, MI 49855
Phone: 906-228-9475
Fax: 906-228-6288

Mona Lang

Executive Director
Mlang@downtownmarquette.org

Office Staff

Rebecca Salmon

Assistant Director
Becky@downtownmarquette.org

Tara Laase-McKinney

Events & Promotions Coordinator
Tara@downtownmarquette.org

Myra Zyburt

Farmers Market Manager
Marketmanager@mqfarmersmarket.com

Kaitlin Sellers

Office Assistant
Kaitlin@downtownmarquette.org

Maintenance Staff

Jay Brady

Maintenance Coordinator

John Budinger

Ken Croschere

Leon Crothers

Kevin Frey

Joe Quinnell

Randy St. Charles

Board of Directors

Mike Angeli

City Manager

Paul Balconi

Treasurer

Jack Frost

Vice-Chair

Karan Hendricks

Secretary

Jim Johnson

Board Member

Jerney Ottaway

Board Member

Weston Pernsteiner

Board Member

Greg Potvin

Board Member

Tony Retaskie

Board Chair

DDA Expands Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program

Recently, the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (DDA) received a Downtown Façade Restoration Initiative Grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). The \$300,000 one-time funding is to assist downtown district property owners to make impactful exterior improvements to their building façade. The grant award allows the DDA to expand the Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program, originally initiated in 2018, 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 minimum 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. All projects must be completed and reimbursed no later than December 1, 2020.

The following documents outline the program requirements:

[Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program Guidelines](#)

[Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Brochure](#)



Before



122 N. Third
After

Downtown district business or property owners interested in participating in the grant opportunity are invited to schedule an appointment with DDA staff to discuss their project proposal and application procedures by calling 906-228-9475. The grant application deadline is Friday, April 26, 2019.

The DDA would like to thank the MEDC for their support of this program.



Restaurant Week: March 3-10, 2019

Celebrate the local flavors of Downtown Marquette during the sixth annual "Marquette Restaurant Week," March 3-10. The Eastside Originals participating restaurants, 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 special prices. For additional information and Restaurant Week specials, visit <https://downtownmarquette.org/restaurant-week/>.



Restaurant Week Participating Restaurants

- 906 Sport Bar & Grill
- Aubree's Pizzeria
- Border Grill
- Casa Calabria
- Delft Bistro
- Digs Gastropub
- Donckers Restaurant
- Elizabeth's Chop House
- Harley's Restaurant
- Iron Bay Restaurant & Drinkery
- Lagniappe Cajun Creole Eatery
- Northland Pub
- Piedmont
- Portside Inn
- The Pasta Shop
- Stucko's Pub & Grill
- Togo's Submarine Sandwiches
- Vango's Pizza
- Vierling Restaurant & Marquette Harbor Brewery
- Zephyr

DDA Hosts Third Street Connect Meetings

The Marquette DDA hosted a set of meetings with Third Street business and property owners on Tuesday, February 26 and Wednesday, February 27. The meetings, called "Third Street Connect", provided an opportunity to discuss potential funding, project priorities, promotions and events, and progress on our Identity Enhancement branding project. We would like to thank those who participated and shared valuable feedback as we move forward with implementing our new, cohesive brand for Downtown Marquette in coming weeks. We would like to extend a special thank you to Jim Johnson, DDA Board Member, for hosting the meetings at the Casa Calabria.

The Gallery and Marquette Artist Collective Welcomed to Downtown District



On Friday, January 25, the Marquette DDA welcomed The Gallery, a new art gallery run and organized by the Marquette Artist Collective, to downtown. The Gallery is located at 130 West Washington Street in the Masonic Square Mall. The Gallery's mission is to encourage and support artists, expand opportunities, and promote art in the community. The artist members support diverse forms of artwork and creatively engage the community in furthering the visual arts.

Pictured, from left to right, is Christine Saari, Marquette Artist Cooperative member; Alan MacNaulty, Marquette Artist Cooperative Secretary; Dyana Nefe, Marquette Artist Collective Member; Stacy Giroux, Marquette Artist Collective Member; Tony Retaskie, Marquette DDA Board Chair; Sabrina Langdon, Marquette Artist Collective Board Member; Mona Lang, Marquette DDA Executive Director; and Joy Bender Hadley, Marquette Artist Collective President.

Spread Goodness Day: A Day for Sharing Goodwill and Kindness



Everyone is invited to participate in Spread Goodness Day on Friday, March 15.

This event is intended to inspire a global day of goodness by encouraging individuals, businesses, and organizations to take one action of goodness on this one day. Too often, we hear the words, "Nothing I do will ever make a difference." This day is to prove that one act of goodness multiplied by hundreds, thousands, and maybe millions can, and always will, make a difference.

Many local businesses and organizations have already committed to spread goodness their way with creative events. There are several ways you can participate:

- Sponsorship: All sponsorship funds received will go towards social media boosts and the purchase of promotional items for distribution. Visit the sponsor page to see available sponsor levels: www.surveymonkey.com/r/PG5Z3CZ.
- Encourage your company, management, and staff to participate by committing to do one good thing on March 15. Plan your own unique event by choosing what kind of goodness you want to spread and to whom you want to spread it. Create an event on Facebook and include Spread Goodness Day in your title or description to be included in marketing efforts. The website and social media will include a full listing of businesses and organizations that are hosting events.
- Volunteer. You can help Spread Goodness at any age, skill level, and location.

The goal is to record one million acts of goodness, showing the world the absolute impact that our actions can make each day. Record your act of goodness at <https://www.facebook.com/spreadgoodnessday/> or visit www.spreadgoodnessday.com for more information.

Kildare to Open in Downtown Marquette



Kildare Irish American Pub, located at 142 West Washington Street, plans to open its doors in Downtown Marquette in time for St. Patrick's Day on March 17! The pub will feature traditional Irish fare, with menu items such as corned beef and cabbage, shepherd's pie, Guinness beef stew, and more. Initially, the restaurant will be open Tuesday through Saturday, with the potential for expanded hours in the summer months. To stay apprised of the opening date, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/KildareMarquette/>. Welcome, Kildare Irish American Pub!

Blueberry Festival Vendor Registration Open



Downtown businesses, artisans, food vendors, and nonprofit organizations are invited to register for a booth during the 18th annual Blueberry Festival on Friday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Washington and Front Streets in Marquette's Downtown District. Vendor registration will run through Friday, May 24.

The popular festival features all day sidewalk sales and specials, children's activities, local performances, demonstrations, and live "Blueberry Jam" music on Center Stage. If you're interested in participating as a vendor in the Blueberry Festival, please visit our website, <https://downtownmarquette.org/blueberry-festival/>. For more information, contact the DDA at 906-228-9475 or email Tara@downtownmarquette.org.

Queen City Seed Swap

A Celebration of Seeds event, sponsored by the Queen City Seed Library, will be held in the lower level of the Peter White Library on Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23, to highlight the importance of seeds in our local food system.

The 2-day event begins with a kids activity and seed-themed scavenger hunt beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Friday. Saturday activities include a gardening workshop at 10:30 a.m., followed by the 5th annual Community Seed Swap. Participants who bring seeds should arrive at 1 p.m., prepared with open-pollinated, non-GMO seeds that are labeled with the plant type, variety, and date and location of harvest.



There will be envelopes and bags on-hand at the event, but participants are encouraged to bring their own envelopes. Attendees should arrive at 1:30 p.m. and need

not bring seeds to participate.

For additional information, contact Michael Riesterer at queencityseedlibrary@gmail.com or call 906-225-0608.

And Speaking of Seeds...



Vendor application packets for the 2019 season of the Downtown Marquette Farmers Market will be available in coming weeks. Watch the website, <https://mqtfarmersmarket.com/>, for more information as it becomes available. The Market will run Saturdays, May 25 through December 14,

from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Marquette Commons, 112 South Third Street.

Many Thanks to our DDA Maintenance Staff

With this winter's extreme weather, we'd like to take a moment to thank our DDA maintenance staff for their hard work and dedication in keeping our downtown district sidewalks, parking lots, and walkways clear of ice and snow. The crew works tirelessly, through all weather conditions, to ensure businesses are accessible to downtown visitors, employees, and residents. Be sure to thank them when you see them!

Comments and Suggestions Welcome

This newsletter is brought to you by the Marquette Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to keep you informed of progress, developments, and changes within the Downtown District. We welcome any suggestions or comments. If you have any news items you would like covered in future issues of *Building Blocks* please contact Rebecca Salmon at Becky@downtownmarquette.org. Visit www.downtownmarquette.org for more information on these articles.