



"Live Where You Play"

Newsletter for February 2014

CITY OF IRONWOOD

213 S. Marquette St.
Ironwood, MI 49938

(906) 932-5050
www.cityofironwood.org

CONSTRUCTION CORNER - WHAT'S ON TAP FOR 2014 (Construction Season)

U.S. 2 Reconstruction (2014/2015)

After many years of planning the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will begin the reconstruction of U.S. 2 this year (2014). The U.S. 2 reconstruction project will take place over a two year period. The first phase of the project will include a complete reconstruction of U.S. 2 from approximately the State visitor's center at the west end of town, east to Curry Street. This will be a full street reconstruction project which will include the removal and replacement of subgrade, gravel, concrete curb and gutter, four lanes of asphalt pavement along with new concrete sidewalk on the north side of the street. The existing sidewalk along U.S. 2 is not contiguous and hopscoches back and forth along the street. When the sidewalk is rebuilt it will be reconstructed along the north side of the street as a continuous sidewalk. In addition to the street reconstruction, water mains and sanitary sewer mains will also



be reconstructed as a part of the project. It is very cost effective to reconstruct the City utility mains at the same time that the MDOT rebuilds the street. During the first phase of construction, all east bound traffic will be detoured to Highway 51 in Wisconsin. The detoured traffic will then be directed through Hurley into Ironwood and back to U.S. 2 along Lake Street. There will be one lane of west bound traffic maintained at all times. The first phase of the project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2014. The second phase of the project will start in the spring of 2015. The second phase will be from Curry Street east to approximately the Super One/Kmart Plaza area. This will also be a complete street reconstruction project which will include installing new water mains, sewer mains, and sidewalk along the north side of the street. During the second phase of the project, west bound traffic will be detoured along Jackson Road to Greenbush Street and then back to U.S. 2. One lane of east bound traffic will be maintained at all times. As a part of the project, the MDOT will also be replacing the traffic signals at the intersections of U.S. 2/Lake Street and U.S. 2/Douglas Boulevard.

Prior to construction starting, the MDOT and City of Ironwood will be hosting an informational meeting to provide additional information and details regarding the project.

City Water and Sewer Reconstruction

The City of Ironwood will be bidding out a project for the replacement of old residential water and sewer mains in the neighborhood located north of U.S. 2 and south of Margaret Street, west of Luxmore Street and east of Lake Street. As a result of the underground utility work, the streets will also get new gravel and asphalt pavement. This work will be completed in 2014 with the second (final) layer of asphalt being installed in 2015.

Phase I Construction of Regional Trail (Michigan's Western Gateway Regional Trail)

In 2014 the first phase of construction will begin on the development of a regional trail system that will connect the Cities of Hurley, Ironwood, Bessemer and Wakefield. It is anticipated that it will take three separate phases of construction to complete the regional trail. The first phase of construction will include building a ten foot wide asphalt path along the existing non-motorized rail grade (north of the existing motorized grade) from the Montreal River easterly approximately three miles to Ironwood's easterly city limits. The trail authority, along with numerous other partners, is pursuing additional grant funding for the development of the second phase of the trail system from the easterly edge of the City of Ironwood city limits east to the City of Bessemer.

Local Street Paving

The City of Ironwood will continue milling/pulverizing and overlaying various local asphalt streets within existing residential neighborhoods.



INFORMATION FOR YOU!

"Board of Review"

Tues., March 4th 1-4 pm
Wed., March 5th 9 am-12 pm
Thurs., March 6th 1-4 pm
Fri., March 7th 9 am - 12 pm

"Michigan Free Fishing Weekend"

February 15th & 16th, 2014
no license required

City Offices Closed Good Friday

Friday, April 18th

"Make a Difference Day"

May 3, 2014
(Meet at Depot 8:00 a.m.)

"Spring Clean-Up Day"

May 10, 2014
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
(vacant Lot on Ayer St.)

City Wide Rummage Sale

June 7, 2014
(Contact Chamber of Commerce)

"Festival Ironwood"

July 16th - 19th

*For additional information on any area event, please contact
Ironwood Area Chamber of Commerce 932-1122
Western U.P. Convention & Visitor Bureau
932-4850.

Carnegie Library

Art Workshops

at Carnegie Library

"Teen Creative Writing Group"

Feb. 14th at 3:30 p.m.
& Feb. 27th at 4:00 p.m.

"HIT present the Teen Drama Club's Production of RUMBO!"

Sat., Feb. 22nd at 7:00 p.m. & Sun., Feb 23rd at 2:00 p.m.
(Performances at Historic Ironwood Theatre)*

*Tickets available at Theatre Box Office, Ironwood Carnegie Library, or on line at www.ironwoodtheatre.net

"Great Michigan Read"

Featuring Annie's Ghosts by Steve Luxenberg
20 copies of the book will be available beginning Feb. 7th.
Mon, Feb. 24th 4:00 p.m. meet the Author Skype visit and book talk

Tues., Feb. 25th 5:30 p.m. Gogebic County's "Poor Farm"
Presentation by local historian Larry Peterson

*For additional information on other events please contact the Library at 932-0203 or visit them on their website:

<http://www.uproc.lib.mi.us/Ironwood/>

CONGRATULATIONS IRONWOOD BUSINESSES

The City of Ironwood would like to extend a "welcome" and "congratulations" to the businesses that have recently expanded or made the decision to locate in the City of Ironwood. We are excited to have them as part of our community.

- *Ironwood Antiques, South Range Rd.
- *Buon Appetito, Aurora St.
- *Downtown Art Place, Aurora St.
- *Sandy Harden Photography, Cloverland Dr.
- *The Other Side Glass, Suffolk St.
- *Uncommon Goods, Suffolk St.
- *Interior Gardens MI, Suffolk St.

Please note: This is not a complete list. Updates will be posted in future newsletters!

If you are a business owner, or prospective business owner, and would like information about any of the various programs that exist or aid business development or start-up, please contact the City of Ironwood's Community Development Office at (906)932-5050 x126 or via e-mail Michael Brown at brownm@cityofironwood.org.

REMINDER: Business Licenses will be coming due on February 28, 2014. Notices will be going out soon. For more information about obtaining your business license please call City Clerk's Office at (906)932-5050.



The City of Ironwood Welcomes the Smithsonian The Way We Worked

The Smithsonian The Way We Worked exhibit is one of many that travel the state as part of a national program, Museum on Main Street. MoMS is the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service's key initiative that engages small-town audiences and brings revitalized attention to underserved, rural communities through their museums, historical societies, libraries and other cultural venues. The Michigan tour of this exhibit is coordinated by the Michigan Humanities Council. The Smithsonian will be coming to Ironwood in 2015. Along with the main exhibit in the Downtown Art Place, many local exhibits will be sharing Ironwood heritage with cultural and art events between April 4 - May 31, 2015.

An educational meeting will be held on February 13th at the Memorial Building on the 2nd floor from 10-11:30 a.m. The meeting provides an opportunity to see the MoMS slideshow and to learn more about the local project. Refreshments will be provided and the public is welcome to attend.



The Michigan Humanities Council is a private, nonprofit organization created to foster a better understanding of each other and our state through local cultural, historical and literary experiences for all. The Council was founded in 1974 and is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities and individual donors. For more information on future programs, upcoming grant opportunities or how you can support these efforts, please visit www.michiganhumanities.org or call (517) 372-7770



IRONWOOD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Ironwood's Comprehensive Plan will guide the community for the next decade as it continues to respond to demographic shifts and build on recent successes. The Comprehensive Plan will establish a vision for what the community seeks to be in the future, and how this vision will be achieved. The current Ironwood Plan was adopted in 1982, and has become dated. A new plan and vision will be established, and it will reflect the goals of the community while addressing Ironwood's housing and infrastructure, streets and sidewalks, existing and future parks and trails, and the vitality of downtown. The plan will build off of previous efforts such as the Downtown Blueprint and the Parks & Recreation Plan. The process of developing the updated plan is a community-wide effort, and includes numerous opportunities for community members to view information, brainstorm, provide insights, and leave comments in face-to-face meetings and electronic formats. Please visit the plan's website to participate and stay informed at <http://ironwoodcomplan.com/index.php>.

Reminder

The City of Ironwood still has a Demolition Incentive Program in place. If you have a structure in need of removal we may be able to help pay for the process. Interested parties feel free to contact us at (906) 932-5050 extension 123.

Jason Alonen Code Enforcement Officer



Commissioner's Corner

I have now had the pleasure of being a commissioner for the City of Ironwood for a couple months now, and I am constantly amazed about how much I've gotten to learn about the inner workings of municipal government.

From a day of education about what all of the various departments are responsible for, to a surprisingly interesting half day conference on Robert's Rules of Order, I've had an opportunity to meet and learn more than I thought I might have at this point. For myself, I hope that continues and I encourage anyone that is taking the time to read this to continue learning about and participating in your government as well.

There's no better time than now, especially with some of the major initiatives that are coming right around the corner. The City of Ironwood Comprehensive Plan is currently being written and your input is important and critical in guiding the future of our community. The U.S.2 reconstruction will be taking place as well. There will be challenges as the highway is torn-up and rebuilt. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact a City Official. This is major investment that will benefit us all.

We don't get many chances to do projects like these often, so it is important that we all work together to make sure that they are done right the first time and can position us for future growth. Here's to a bright 2014 and beyond!

