

CITYCNCL

09-19-22 [City of Alpena & Zonta Club promote Breast Cancer Awareness Month]

The City of Alpena and the local Zonta Club are doing their part to promote October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The Municipal Council has adopted a proclamation urging citizens to support the cause.

According to the proclamation, an estimated 287,850 American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and about 43,250 will die of the disease.

To help combat breast cancer and promote early detection services, the Zonta Club of Alpena is hosting the 16th annual Zonta Walks for Women event on Saturday, October 1. The 5K run starts at 9:30 a.m., at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center off Fletcher Street. The 5K run starts at 10 a.m. and will be followed by awards, food and refreshments.

Walks for Women honors and celebrates breast cancer survivors, educates women about the importance of early detection, and raises funds for local community organizations like Friends Together and MyMichigan Medical Center Alpena's breast health services department.

Additional information on Walks for Women can be found on Zonta's Facebook page.

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11-09-22 [City proclamation for American Diabetes Month & World Diabetes day]

November is American Diabetes Month, and this week the Alpena Municipal Council adopted a proclamation of support for the month, and for World Diabetes Day next Monday, November 14.

The proclamation says that according to 2019 data, 37.3 million people, including over 912,000 in Michigan, had diabetes, which is a serious disease with potentially life-threatening complications such as heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney disease and amputation.

An additional 86 million Americans are at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes, and recent estimates project as many as one in three children born today will have the disease by the time they are 50 years-old.

The proclamation further states that an increase in community awareness is needed to help put a stop to diabetes.

Mayor Matt Waligora encourages all citizens to recognize American Diabetes Month and "join the American Diabetes Association's Stop Diabetes movement to confront, fight, and most importantly change the future of this deadly disease."

MISC ***PHOTO SENT INTO WORK OF PATCH

10-03-22 [Alpena Police wear pink patches during Breast Cancer Awareness Month]

City of Alpena Police are showing their support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing special pink patches on their uniforms this month.

The patches are also being sold for \$10 apiece with all proceeds benefitting the non-profit cancer support group Friends Together.

Patches can be purchased at the police department Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

CITYCNCL/MISC

12-08-22 [Alpena grants of \$300K would change the landscape of 2 parks]

The City of Alpena has been awarded a grant that will make beach volleyball players very happy, and recommended for another award that would change the landscape of a second park.

The City was recently notified that it is receiving a \$150,000 Department of Natural Resources Recreation Passport Grant. The monies will be put toward new and relocated volleyball courts at Mich-e-ke-wis Park. That project of a little over \$301,000, includes adding parking spaces and a street loop through the park, near the warming shelter.

The city is on the hook for the balance of the costs, however it is working with members of the volleyball community who have committed to pitching in to offset a portion of the balance.

Construction is tentatively scheduled for spring 2024. The project includes relocating the courts upland of the prevalent flood area along the shoreline. The berm surrounding the existing courts will be removed leaving a larger beach area

In other grant news, Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have recommended the City receive \$150,000 for the development of a pavilion and restroom facility at Alpena's Duck Park.

The roughly \$300,000 project is phase one of a much larger proposed Thunder Bay River Center. The river center board is raising funds to cover the difference between the grant and the total cost of the project.

The project recommendation is now headed to the National Park Service for final approval.

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12-06-22 [City receives 28th consecutive financial reporting award]

The City of Alpena has earned the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting for the 28th consecutive year.

The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting was recently awarded to the city by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

City clerk Anna Soik and her staff were recently recognized for compiling the information contained in the report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

CITYCNCL

12-19-22 [Alpena & others receive award for fluoridation in water system]

The City of Alpena and 68 other communities in Michigan have received a Water Fluoridation Quality Award from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The award recognizes communities that maintained a consistent level of optimally [OP-TUH-MUH-LEE] fluoridated water throughout calendar year 2021.

“Michigan consistently exceeds the CDC recommendations for community water supplies by having 90 percent of our population on community water systems accessing fluoridated water,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, Chief Medical Executive for the State of Michigan. “These awards demonstrate the commitment to quality by these community systems.”

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) explains that fluoridation is the adjustment of fluoride in the water to a level that is optimal for preventing tooth decay. It has been recognized by CDC as one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. CDC recommends water fluoridation as a safe, effective and inexpensive method of preventing decay. The MDHHS says that every \$1 invested in fluoridation saves at least \$38 in costs for dental treatment.

A total of 1,394 water systems in 28 states received a Water Fluoridation Quality Award from the CDC.

Ironically, the Alpena Municipal Council is expected to vote tonight, on whether to continue adding fluoride into the water system, something the city has done since 1958.