

The Capital Campaign is Rolling Along!

We're off and running! It is gratifying to see the support for our new museum project in our extended community. Since the campaign began in late 2007, we have raised \$2.2 million toward our goal. As we are presenting programs at various organizations, everyone wants to know how we are doing with the campaign in the challenging economic times. In spite of financial uncertainty, each week brings great rewards. There is tremendous goodwill for this project.

We have written numerous grant proposals, primarily relating to exhibit development. Our funding request to the Kresge Foundation is in the works and we feel we are in a very positive position having received the prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant.

A new fund raising division under the leadership of Judy Vonck and Carol LaVallie is just starting up. With more than 700 potential donor names, that group will be working through the summer. When that division is wrapping up, Tom Belt will head up the final public phase of the campaign. We have some great ideas to engage the public at that stage of our fundraising.

Ground breaking is set to take place this summer. At this juncture we are hoping for the middle of August. The entire project will then take approximately a year to complete, with the idea of opening the new museum to the public in the summer of 2010. We will be offering special “hard hat” tours of the work in progress to our donors who are interested in seeing how a museum is created from the ground up. Some phases of the exhibit installation will be particularly interesting.

As a donor, we would like to thank you for investing in our community. This investment, unlike some others recently, will continue to grow and benefit our area. Our shared heritage, with all of our stories and interesting artifacts, is what connects us to each other and to our county. You have already contributed, however, you can continue to help with the campaign by encouraging others to contribute as well.

We welcome your thoughts and ideas on this project and thank you again for your contribution.

-Kaye Hiebel, Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ◆ The Museum will be walking in the Fourth of July Parade in Marquette. Please call if you would like to join us! #226-3571
- ◆ Fire Hall Tour - Aug 15
- ◆ Texas Hold ‘Em Poker Tournament - Sept 20



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CONCEPTUAL IMAGE OF THE FUTURE MUSEUM BY BARRY POLZIN, ARCHITECT

Museum Receives \$600,000 NEH Challenge Grant

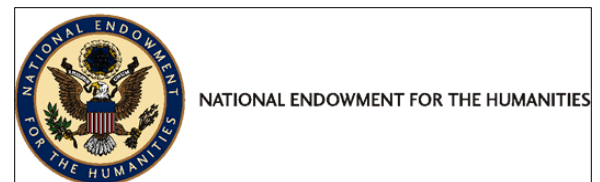
The Marquette County History Museum has received a \$600,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). One of the five largest challenge grants awarded nationwide, it recognizes MCHM's excellence and commitment to humanities programming.

a rigorous review and selection process to ensure that the best of humanities research, education, preservation and public programs is cultivated," said Cole in a letter to U.S. Representative Bart Stupak, D-Menominee notifying him of the awards.

Stupak praised the museum when announcing the grant awards. "The Marquette County History Museum is a local jewel that has grown bigger and better with each passing year because of the commitment and dedication of the trustees and the local community. The museum continues to be a valuable resource for researchers, students and residents of Marquette County. I was pleased to support the museum's grant request and am equally pleased that the NEH has chosen to award the grant," Stupak said.

Challenge Grants strengthen the humanities by encouraging non-federal sources of support and helping institutions secure long-term improvements and support for their humanities programs and resources. Marquette County History Museum as a recipient is required to match NEH funds on a three-to-one basis. "It challenges the greater community to match this grant," Hiebel said, by inspiring \$1.8 million in local donations for the construction of the new museum facility.

-Jon Becker, Capital Campaign Manager



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-U.S. Representative

Bart Stupak

The National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency created in 1965, is the largest funder of humanities programs in the United States. NEH grants typically go to cultural institutions, such as museums, archives, libraries, colleges, universities, public television, and radio stations, and to individual scholars. By offering diverse and competitive grant opportunities to scholars and museum curators as well as to libraries and cultural organizations, NEH strives to promote excellence and lifelong learning in the humanities.

"In order for our democracy to survive, American citizens need to know the ideas that have shaped and continue to influence our nation," said NEH Chairman Bruce Cole. "By funding the nation's highest-quality humanities projects, the Endowment offers the opportunity for our citizens to discuss the important role philosophy, art, literature, and history can play in our lives."

"It's a tremendous honor for our museum," said Executive Director Kaye Hiebel. "It is based on what you've done in the past and what you're going to do in the future. It speaks volumes about our museum."

"NEH grants are highly competitive and involve

Thank you to our "History on the Move" Corporate and Foundation Donors

Barry Polzin, Architect

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Cliffs Natural Resources

Cold Sky Publishing

Downtown Eye Care

Dressler Mechanical

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Frazier Fund

Hetrick & Associates

Granchamp, McBride & Prophet, CPAs

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UP Catholic Credit Union

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UP Power Company

Wells Fargo Bank

Exhibit Design-Natural History

The history of the Upper Peninsula did not begin with the arrival of the first humans. The stage was set millions of years earlier. Geological and natural processes created the resources which later brought people to the region. It was with the concept that humans and the natural landscape are intricately connected that the exhibition gallery theme was developed. The central theme is: *The challenging environment of the Upper Peninsula has helped shape the dynamic, persevering and resourceful people of the UP.*

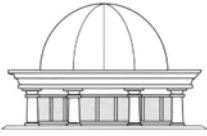
Community visioning sessions and meetings with individuals and groups interested in helping to develop the content for the exhibit gallery determined that a natural history gallery was key to telling the complete story of the region.

The gallery which has been designed is unique and compelling. It includes an underwater diorama of Lake Superior complete with fish species, an interactive weather station and a wave generator. Also, a beaver pond diorama discusses wetlands and the role of the beaver (which is also the connecting thread to the fur trade).

Another area allows visitors to explore the geological processes which led to the creation of the region's extensive mineral resources. An interactive station in this area shows the glacial stages and the various shorelines of Lake Superior. A large tree trunk from the prehistoric forests which were buried between glacial stages is displayed near this station. *(continued on page 4)*

Thank you to our "History on the Move" Donors (through May 1, 2009)

Ray & Jeanneane Adamini	Mr. & Mrs. John B. Dorais	Paul & Kristin Kerns	Lou & Joan Myefski
Michael & Cheryl Anderegg	Pryse & Louise Duerfeldt	Daniel & Lori Kill	Sandra Neibaur
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Mission Statement:

“We believe preservation of the cultural and physical history of our area brings understanding to the past and present and provides a guide for the future. The Marquette County History Museum not only maintains exhibits, artifacts and a research library, it is a forum for engaging the community and creating links between people.”

Exhibit Design-Natural History

(continued from page 3)

For more than a year and a half, many partners have been meeting to develop the natural history gallery. Some of these partners include: Michigan DNR, Michigan Sea Grant, biology and geology professors from Northern Michigan University and Michigan Technological University, National Weather Service, NOAA, Moosewood Nature Center, Superior Watershed Partnership, Outdoor Ventures Taxidermy, Cliffs Natural Resources, and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission.

All of their ideas have produced an exciting, interactive and educational natural history gallery found nowhere else in Upper Michigan. We would like to thank them for their support.

In future issues of the newsletter, other areas of the exhibition gallery will be discussed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or stop by the museum!



TAYLOR
2018 Marquette, MI
906-226-3571
www.marquettcohistory.org

A CONCEPTUAL DRAWING OF THE BEAVER LODGE DIORAMA. THIS EXHIBIT WILL EXPLORE HOW THE BEAVER CREATES WETLANDS HABITAT AND THE INTERDEPENDENCY OF ALL PLANTS AND ANIMALS.