

2012 Youth & Recreation

Programs and Projects

1/1/2012

Alpena County

Youth and Recreation Board

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Wilson Township

Project: Wolf Creek Park Pavilion

Grant: \$ 6,640

This grant was awarded to Wilson Township for the Wolf Creek Park Pavilion. They were in need of the pavilion in order to make the park more user friendly in all types of weather conditions. The Wolf Creek Park offers fishing, canoeing, picnic area, hiking pathways, nature observation areas along Wolf Creek for all citizens of Alpena County. Last year, some 200 -400 residents utilized Wolf Creek Park.





Alpena Softball Line Drive

Project: Alpena High School Field Improvements

Grant: \$4,330.00

The Alpena Softball Line Drive Club provides direct financial support to the Alpena High School Softball Program, including junior varsity and varsity teams. The grant money awarded to the club addressed the need for creating two softball fields of high quality that are currently being used by AHS softball players, ACC Softball Program, Alpena Women's Slow Pitch League and area youth. Specialized resurfacing material on both infields improved the physical appearance, quality and playability of each field as well as creating safer playing conditions for all area players. Approximately 300-350 softball players were able to benefit from the improved fields.





Hubbard Lake Lions Community Foundation

Project: Hubbard Lake Lions Park Improvements - Playground & Pavilion

Grant: \$10,000.00

This grant was given to the foundation for playground and pavilion improvements at the Hubbard Lake Lions Park. The Community Foundation improved the park by adding wood fiber, plastic ground cover, treated timbers for playground improvement and also added two outdoor steel barbeque grills. The park is open to all county residents & visitors. There are over 390 children K thru 5th grade in local schools who use this park, with their families. The park is open 9 months out of the year.







Alpena Boosters Club

Project: Wings over Alpena

Grant: \$10,000.00

This grant was given to Alpena Boosters Club to help pay for the fuel needed for the 2012 Wings Over Alpena Air Show, "Korean Conflict: The Forgotten War". The event is free to all Alpena County residents. The event had an overwhelming attendance, servicing over 25,000 people. The fuel budget was in excess of \$19,000.00. These funds allowed for some spectacular aerial displays of some wonderful vintage Korean War Aircraft.





Alpena County Plaza Pool (1)

Project: Operational Costs Grant: \$70,000.00

This grant was given to Alpena County Plaza Pool to help fund the operational costs of maintaining the pool which includes: cleaning, utilities, equipment and building maintenance. It also helps support the Aquatic programs which include: open swim, learn to swim, private swim lessons, boot camps, senior fitness, aqua chi, body sculpt, palates, water walking, aerobics classes and private rentals. The swimmers range from infants to our senior population. This grant also helps support our life guards as they are certified to teach water safety instructor classes, life guarding, first aid and CPR. The pool has increased programs and members while serving over 30,000 residents.





Alpena County Plaza Pool (3)

Project: Light Activated Motion Sensors & Replacement Valve

Grant: \$12,000.00

This grant was given to Alpena Plaza Pool for light activated motion sensors which help maintain safety at the pool. The second item was for an auto fill valve for the filter tank. This valve is original to the facility and continuously being repaired which increased the cost of operation at the pool. The replacement has since reduced the cost of repairs and promotes the long term use of the pool.



Friends of the Plaza Pool

Project: Community Education Swim Sessions

Grant: \$10,760.00

This grant was given to the Friends of the Plaza Pool for community education sessions involving swimming that promotes health and wellness. The Friends of the Plaza Pool also bought a pool vacuum, baby changing table and a PAL pool lift for the handicapped swimmers. Currently, there are over 800 patrons that will benefit from this grant.







Alpena Huron Shore Little League

Project: Alpena Huron Shore Complex Field Renovations

Grant: \$20,000.00

Alpena Huron Shore Little League provides an opportunity for area youth to participate in little league baseball, softball and t-ball programs. They currently maintain eighteen fields in Alpena County for games, practices and tournaments. The grant monies awarded were to improve four infields at the main complex. Specialized resurfacing materials were put on the infields of Sabourin, Rohn, Reynolds and Sobeck fields to help eliminate the safety risks for players and to improve the quality of ballgames. Improvements to these fields are expected to last between 15-20 years and approximately 750-800 area players will benefit from this project.







New Sod on Baseball Infields



Infield Soil Being Installed



Softball Field Clay Bricks Installed at Home Plate



Baseball Field - After



Building Baseball Pitchers Mound



Complex Field - Before

Michigan State University
Extension Project: Youth Development
Program Grant: \$ 27,345

This grant was awarded to MSU for the funding of the 4-H Youth Development Program. The program provides educational opportunities that target age appropriate life skill development, emphasize research-based experiential learning, involves volunteers, includes families, reaches diverse and underserved audiences, is accessible to all and is fun. During 2012, they had youth projects around environmental sciences, work force preparation, nutrition and physical activity, agricultural industries, crafts, woodworking, community service leadership, communication, financial literacy, youth entrepreneurship and much more. The program had 850 participants between 5 and 15 yrs. old.





Thunder Bay Soccer Association

Project: Provide Equipment to Maintain the Soccer Fields

Grant: \$20,750

This grant was awarded to TBSA to help provide equipment to maintain the soccer fields. They purchased a lawn mower, field marking machines, benches, goals with nets, and balls. By getting this grant it lowered and eliminated outside mowing cost, replaced old and damaged equipment, helped decrease costs that often carry over to participants, helping to lower registration fees. There are some 700 plus children in Alpena County that participate, the season is offered spring and fall.





Sanborn Township

Project: Shinga-ba-Shores Playground Improvements

Grant: \$8,473

The grant was given to Sanborn Township for Shinga-ba-Shores playground improvements. The fiber fill at the playground was over 10 years old. So, with volunteers, 6 inches of fiber was replaced. The fiber makes the playground, more safe to play in. The park is open at least 7 months out of the year and over 2,000 children and families use the park.





Optimist Club of Alpena

Projects: Optimist Club for the Annual Spring Break Fun Day

Grant: \$4,480

This grant was awarded to the Optimist Club for the Annual Spring Break Fun Day; held each year during spring break. The children have the opportunity to swim, play games, win prizes, eat and have fun in a safe and supervised environment at the high school, at no cost to the child. The grant also helped fund the Kids Fishing Day at Culligan Plaza during the Brown Trout Fishing Tournament. Children have the opportunity to learn the techniques of fishing and catch some fish. Between the two events, over 1,000 children participated.









Northeast Michigan Center for Fine Arts

Project: Busing/travel and program cost

Grant: \$15,000

This grant was given to help provide busing/travel and program cost. The program “Ready, Set, Create Program is offered through Art in the Loft. The program provided all 5th grade students in Alpena County the opportunity to participate in a 5-week program at the Art in the Loft. Students had the chance to work closely with artists in a creative environment, to explore and begin to develop their abilities in a variety of art forms. This provided classes to approximately 425 fifth graders.







Multi-Purpose Arena Coalition

Project: First Year Skating Program and Northern Lights Arena Learn to Skate Program.

Grant: \$15,000

This grant was awarded to help fund the First Year Skating program and Northern Lights Arena Learn to Skate Program. By funding these programs, it promotes youth participation in hockey, figure skating, speed skating and recreational skating. It gives the individual and families the opportunity to try out the sport at little or no cost. It usually serves 150-175 skaters each year.

[Click here for a slideshow presentation of the project](#)



Kiwanis Club of Alpena

Project: Kiddie Park (by the Band shell)
Grant: \$12,000

This grant was awarded to the Kiwanis Club of Alpena to improve the Kiddie Park (by the Band shell). The park was in need of some improvements. First being playground equipment, which were an Infinity Loop, four Seat Bounce Around and Quad Swinger. The park not only provides a safe place for the children to play, but promotes the City of Alpena, with a focal point of family activities. Hundreds of children and families utilize this park.



Babe Ruth Baseball (2)

Project: Babe Ruth Baseball Field Improvements Project

Grant: \$17,000.00

Babe Ruth Baseball provides opportunities for area youth to participate in baseball. With the elimination of several area baseball fields, the league has been utilizing the fields located at Alpena High School since 2000. The grant awarded monies to improve and level the grass areas of the field by placing sod down to help eliminate injuries to players and enhance the quality of play. Grant monies were also awarded for a wooden storage facility and roofing for the batting cage. The storage facility allows the league to store baseball equipment and gear near the fields rather than at a local business. Roofing on the batting cage provides for usage during inclement weather and protects the batting cage equipment from damage. Roughly 100 area players would benefit from the improvements as well as some 35 out-of-district teams.





Babe Ruth Baseball (1)

Project: Babe Ruth Operational Project

Grant: \$3,500.00

Babe Ruth Baseball provides opportunities for area youth to participate in baseball. Grant monies awarded were designated for updated equipment and operational costs (balls, jerseys, bats, catching gear, etc.). With the additional support from the grant, the Babe Ruth Baseball League was able to decrease their registration costs by two-thirds. Approximately 60 area players profited from the updated equipment and operational costs covered by the grant.





Alpena Public Schools

Program: Inter-Scholastic Athletic Funds

Grant: \$31,500.00

Alpena Public Schools is a Class A District serving a population of some 4200 students in six elementary schools for (grades K-5), Thunder Bay Junior High (grades 6-8) and Alpena High School (grades 9-12). With the erosion of school funding, Alpena Public Schools was forced to cut athletic programming and eliminate some sports teams altogether. This reduced the opportunities for area youth to participate in athletics and required many teams to rely on community businesses, organizations, coaches, parents and students to raise funds to continue programs. Grant monies for this program were given to cover transportation costs for athletic teams and to support a swimming coach for AHS students. After some consideration, APS chose to return that portion of the grant money designated for a swimming coach as it posed some future sustainability issues for the district. Approximately 900 students were able to benefit from the transportation portion of the grant.



Alpena Swim Club

Project: Alpena Swim Club Equipment

Grant:\$4,180

This grant was given to help the Alpena Swim Club by equipment caddy, matts, software upgrades, deck cable, and pool time. Belonging to the Swim Club promotes physical fitness, competitive swimming, builds confidence, sportsmanship, discipline, and goal setting. This grant helped offset the cost of membership for the parents and they had over 50 swimmers this year.

[Click here for a slideshow presentation of the project](#)

Green Township Hall and Recreation Facility Upgrade

Project: Recreation Facility Upgrade

Grant: \$13,558

This grant helped fund new equipment and areas at the Green Township Hall where local residents can come and enjoy time with their family. The new swings, a half basketball court, and two picnic tables join the ball field to create a place where all ages can come and everyone have something to enjoy. There are four new colorful swings for all ages to use. The half basketball court is made of concrete and is 47 feet by 50 feet with a commercial hoop. There are also two concrete picnic tables sitting on concrete pads for families to enjoy sitting at or having a picnic on. This project was completed in November 2012 and anticipates much use.







