



FR. MARQUETTE STATUE SHINES AGAIN

We did our research on preserving our beautiful statue. There are two methods. One way is cleaning and lacquering the bronze - \$18,000 every 8 years. The second way is cleaning, waxing and buffing the statue -at least \$2305.71 every few years. We chose the waxing method this year to protect the patina and remove corrosive dirt. The process takes several steps: washing, carefully removing dirt, rinsing repeatedly, drying, waxing and buffing. An expert sculptor, Brent Harris, originally from Gary, worked with our local sculptor experienced in cleaning and preserving bronze statues, Karen Kirulis, who volunteered her time all day. A super group of volunteers made the job go quickly. This all happened on August 29th. Many thanks to Bob Farag, Joe Petras, Russ Blomquist, Terrance Guy, Kenny Sandine, Scott Miller and George Rogge. A donor helped us acquire the lift saving us \$1,259.00. Fr. Marquette will survive another winter now that he had his bath and a new “coat” of wax.

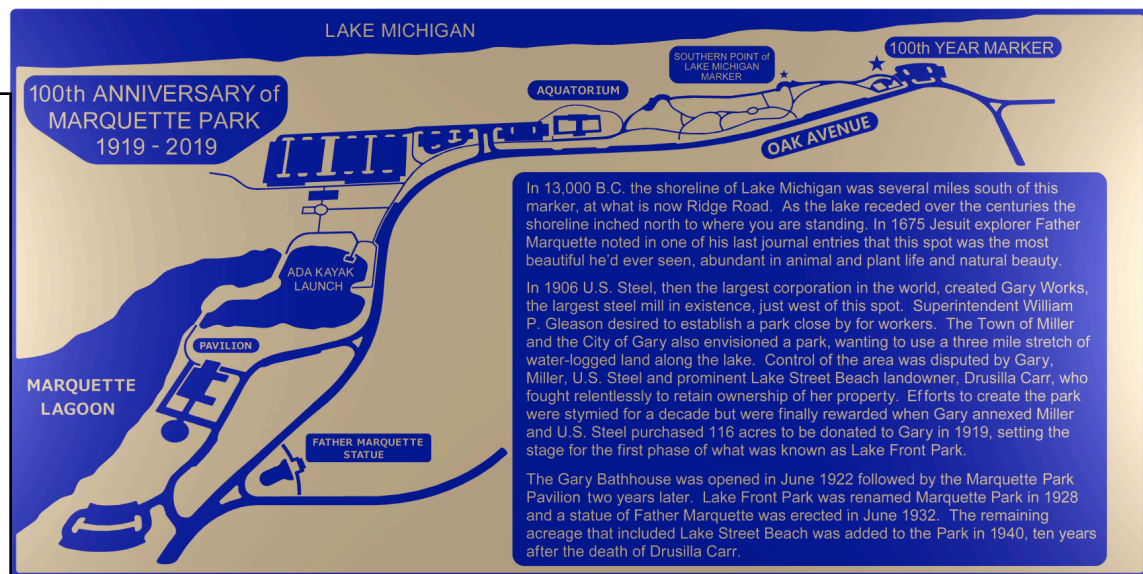
**100th Anniversary of
Marquette Park**

Aug. 1919 - Aug. 2019

The dedication of our 100 Year Marker for the 100 year birthday of our park will be announced. Watch for the date. Plans are in the works for celebrating our beautiful historic park. Updates will be on our FB page, Friends of Marquette Park.

Be a part of history!

There is still time to have your name on the donor list. Send your tax deductible check payable to Friends of Marquette Park/100 Yr. Marker along with your exact wording (max. 30 spaces) to George Rogge, 1130 N Vigo, Gary, IN 46403.



100 YEAR MARKER - To Celebrate and Preserve the Dunes

The 100 Year Marker celebrates the 100th birthday of Marquette Park and helps control erosion of the dunes. Before installation of the marker we will address the erosion issues. We are working with the City to restore the location where storm water and foot traffic have eroded the dune. Dune grass will be planted as the weather cools. Following the erosion control project, the 100 Year Marker with donor recognition will be installed north of the concession stand at Oak and Montgomery St. This will be a point of interest to visitors near and far who come to Marquette Park.



Seriously...Never Enough Boulders

We placed ten (10) additional boulders in the park near street lights and utility boxes for their protection. Our protecting boulders do their job. Unprotected boxes still get hit. The Playground Committee replaced the water utility box which was hit and we quickly placed a boulder to protect it (see top right pic.) We are ordering 10 more protective boulders this fall. The Miller Garden Club is helping us with raising money for boulders by having a “Bingo for Boulders” event (details will be coming soon). Your support continues to be necessary. If you cannot attend the Bingo event, please send your check for boulders to the FMP. Your donations to purchase boulders would be very much appreciated.

On the Darker Side...Too Many Lost Lights

We are working with the Parks Department and City to replace all four demolished streetlights between the Lagoon and the Statue Garden on Grand Blvd. We’re not letting them forget about this project. Hopefully, we will have this completed project to add to our park’s 100 year celebration. Light needs to be shed on our shelters at night. The Park Department is planning to replace broken/missing light fixtures at the shelters. All lighting in the park provides a safe and secure environment at night.

Water Safety Committee

Water Safety Community Socials - This was a new initiative this summer. It evolved thru the MCC Shoreline Committee and the Mayors Water Safety Advisory Team. The #1 goal is to be proud of our beaches! The plan is to have families host socials in their homes to discuss any local concerns and how we can expand water safety education, training, and programming. We want to provide a contact to the community to ask questions and to share any concerns. This will avoid negative social media and, more importantly, address situations before they escalate. Socials were held throughout the summer. Thank you to all who hosted the 2019 summer socials. The last social is September 27th at Bob Farag’s home.

We are proud that through these socials, we generated interest and were able to celebrate a few important accomplishments: provided radios to life guards, raised money for training, maintained the safety stations, painted life guard stands, and created a draft of a water safety document to put in rental houses.

- Winter Goals:** 1) Create a fundraising campaign
2) Create a programming calendar for 2020

Our top priorities are to provide water safety education to the community and help support our first responders. We have an email list that shares information and allows for community input even if people cannot attend meetings.

We are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in participating in either of our winter goals OR would like to be added to our email list please contact Mary Ann Best at maryannbest.2011@gmail.com



FMP Wednesdays at Wells Street

A great time was had by all each Wednesday at Wells St. Thank you to Alice Pickford for letting us invade her space and share information about the Friends of Marquette Park (FMP). Seeing old friends and making new ones is always fun! Especially with the beautiful location, entertainment, and sunsets by the beach. Oh, and those cheeseburgers....YUM!!!!

FMP Apparel

FMP t-shirts were sold on July 17th and August 7th. There are some short sleeved (\$20) and long sleeved (\$25) shirts still available. Contact Linda Halas at friendsofmarquettepark@gmail.com to purchase shirts.

Volunteer Recognition Dinner

All Marquette Park volunteers are invited to this annual event on October 23rd at 6:00 p.m. at the Pavilion lounge area. Come and see our great shirts for sale. Volunteer hours need to be submitted to Carol Smith by October 4, 2019 at friendsofmarquettepark@gmail.com.

MEMORIAL BENCHES Going..going.....

The Memorial Bench project offers a unique way to remember family members, honor friends and celebrate neighbors with a lasting gift of a bench installed in Marquette Park. Donors may choose from the 2 remaining locations for a Metro style bench. All benches include a concrete pad and honorary plaque installed on the bench. The total cost is \$2,000. Additional locations may be considered in the future.

Your donation of a memorial bench will help to support special projects in Marquette Park.

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Request the Memorial Bench order form by emailing us at friendsofmarquettepark@gmail.com

Here's What We're Up To

- Preservation of Fr. Marquette Statue
- Concrete repairs on Statue Garden stairs
- Elimination of bagworms infesting evergreens
- Erosion Control near Concession Stand
- 100 Year Marker
- Memorial Bench project
- Maintenance of Statue Garden & Lagoon Area
- Landscaping
- New FMP apparel to wear with our new logo
- New LED lighting of Fr. Marquette Statue with electrical connections.
- Painting of lifeguard stands different colors
- Beach Water Safety & Signage
- Support of programs in the park to make Marquette Park an inviting destination
- Decorative/Protective Boulders
- Grant Writing
- Financial Development

We Can't Do It Alone

- ★ You, our members and donors, are absolutely necessary to help us with ongoing and new projects to beautify our park. We hope you continue supporting Friends of Marquette Park.
- ★ Volunteers are crucial to get the jobs done. If you see us working and can spare the time, stop and lend a hand. Even a honk and a smile helps. Contact us if you would like to join the fun: friendsofmarquettepark@gmail.com.
- ★ MCC, Shoreline Committee, Water Safety Committee who work with us and bring fresh new ideas and support
- ★ Parks Department personnel and Park Board of Commissioners who are supportive of our many projects and are open to new ideas.
- ★ Legacy Foundation, our financial manager, who keeps us on our toes and encourages us every step of the way.
- ★ Mutually supportive organizations who care about Marquette Park: Miller Garden Club, Lagoon Outlook Garden, Playground Committee.
We are grateful for a supportive Miller community who appreciate the work we do.

-- FUTURE PROJECTS --

Historical Status for Statue

An important goal of the Friends of Marquette Park (FMP) is to obtain National Historic Landmark status for our Father Marquette statue. There is a process that must be followed to qualify for this designation and we are prepared, with the support of the City of Gary, the Parks Department, Indiana Landmarks, and the MCC to commence action to accomplish the tasks ahead. We believe that our statue qualifies on three levels: The statue is over 50 years old, it has a high degree of integrity, and has great historic significance. The FMP is committed to preserving and restoring our Father Marquette statue because it is a reflection of our local and state history.

Trail with Points of Interest

The Friends of Marquette Park leadership team is developing a proposal for one or more trail routes through Marquette Park that would include directional signage and points of interest signage. The proposal will include a long and short route, both starting at the concession stand. The long route would include the beach, the Octave Chanute Trail, Marquette Drive and more. The short route would include several points of interest but would be shorter and be located within the main park area. Points of interest for the trails would include:

- Patterson Island
- The Lagoon
- The Octave Chanute Marker
- Father Marquette Statue
- Chanute Trail
- Stone Gates
- Aquatorium
- Pavilion

Stay tuned for more details as the proposal develops.

FRIENDS OF MARQUETTE PARK LEVELS OF GIVING

Level		What your gift can do for the Park
___ \$25+	Flower Garden & Trails	Mulch for trails & landscaping
___ \$50+	Shoreline	Walkway & stair maintenance
___ \$100+	Pavilion Area	Lagoon native landscaping
___ \$200+	Fr. Marquette Garden	Seasonal displays & gardens
___ \$300+	Mighty Oaks	Major projects to preserve park
___ Major	Marquette Park Preservation	Long-term major projects

DESIGNATED GIFTS

You are welcome to designate your gift to be utilized toward a specific project at the amount of your choosing.

- ___ Boulder Project
- ___ Memorial Bench Project
- \$100 100th Yr. of Marquette Park Marker
- ___ Statue Garden Projects
- ___ Water Safety Projects
- ___ Other (Please specify)

Donations are tax deductible.

Please write checks to: Friends of Marquette Park/Legacy Foundation and
 Mail to: Friends of Marquette Park, PO Box 2645, Gary, IN 46403
 or: Donate online to Legacy Foundation:
www.legacyfdn.org, click on DONATE NOW and search for Friends of
 Marquette Park in Miller. You may also mail checks to Legacy Foundation,
 370 E. 84th Drive, Suite 100, Merrillville, IN 46410

Friends of Marquette Park is an entirely volunteer organization. 97% of your donation goes toward our projects. The Legacy Foundation, our financial manager, receives an administrative fee of 3%.
 The Legacy Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.

Friends of Marquette Park Leaders

Tom Cera, Mary Ann Best, Susan Cohen, Linda Halas, Joe Petras, George Rogge, Carol Smith