



MARQUETTE PARK'S ASIAN BRIDGE SHINES AGAIN

Friends of Marquette Park took on the task of illuminating the beautiful Asian bridge again. Thanks to Greg Gondell and his crew at Great Lakes, Ltd. a new light fixture was installed. Luckily, the electrical connections were in working order. As you pass by the bridge on the lagoon at night, it is a sight to see.

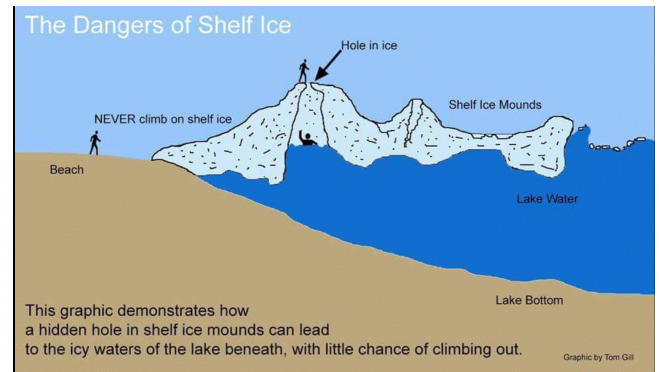


LIGHTS ARE BRIGHTER ON OUR STATUE

Once we replaced the lights shining on the Fr. Marquette Statue, it really made a difference. During the fall of 2019, we had the spotlights on the monument and hardscape replaced with LED lights. The brightness was noticeable; however, the actual statue was dimly lit. The spotlights were replaced with even more power to Pierre Marquette. Once again, Great Lakes Ltd. came to the rescue. The holiday lights and wreath added to the joy of the season. Thank you to the volunteers who decorated the trees with lights and Fr. Marquette with the wreath.

STAY OFF THE SHELF ICE

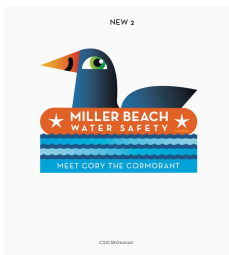
The ice on the lake, shelf ice, may form at some point. Be aware that it is not safe to walk on. It is very difficult to know where the shore ends and the water begins. It deceptively looks like part of the shoreline, but there is water underneath. If you fall in, you may not be rescued. The ice can be less than a foot high to over 30' high. When you fall in the water, you will most likely not find the hole to come back up, IF you survive the freezing water. When you see someone on the shelf ice, inform them of the danger. Many just don't know.



Stay Off the Ice Signs have been provided by **FMP Water Safety Community Group**. Two have been installed in Marquette Park and one at Lake Street. We know there is a need for more signs and hope to meet this need soon. If you would like one for a street easement near you, please contact Mary Ann Best at 262-309-9512 or maryannbest.2011@gmail.com To be on the email list for Water Safety information, email Paula Rooney at psrooney@yahoo.com. The first 2020 Water Safety Social is March 20, 7:00 - 9:00 PM at the home of Paula and Tom Rooney. See Upcoming Events, page 3.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Miller Beach Community Water Safety Social is **March 20, 7 - 9 PM** at the home of Paula & Tom Rooney. Agenda and information will be shared via email list, FMP FB page and Miller NextDoor. RSVP to Paula at psrooney@yahoo.com. Address is provided upon RSVP. Keep an eye out for Cory.



Annual Beach Public Safety Community Mtg. is **April 2, 6:30 - 8 PM** at M J Gardner Center for the Arts, sponsored by the Shoreline Committee. The Park Dept, Police Dept., Fire Dept. and Lake Co. Sheriff 's Dept. and community organizations all attend this to provide an update to the community and to answer your questions about our beach and park. Please plan to attend.

Great Lakes Water Safety Consortium Conference is May 4 - 5, Traverse City, MI. Water Safety Group members will attend this conference and bring back best practices for our beach community along the shores of the Great Lakes. Interested? Contact us.

FMP 4th Annual Meeting in May, Pavilion Lounge and Patio - Watch for more news and date of our celebration of four successful years doing projects in Marquette Park.

100 Year Celebration of Marquette Park is **July 18, 9 - 11 AM**, at Playground Shelter 3. Fun for all ages! Activities include hikes, tours, scavenger hunt, water presentation, and, of course, food.

FMP PROJECTS in Progress

Boulders - Thank you to Miller Garden Club for hosting "Bingo for Boulders" to raise funds for more protective boulders. We will be installing about ten boulders in the spring.

Marquette Park Trail System - This is comprised of a long and short trail. The trails will include points of interest, interpretive signage, accessible information, distances between points and directions from point to point. The sites are: Concession Stand (with trails map), Patterson Island, Lagoon, Lagoon Boat Launch, Octave Chanute Marker, Fr. Marquette Statue, Chanute Trail, Stone Gates, Nelson-Algren Trail and Pavilion.

Historic Street Lights - We are working with the City to replace the street lights on Grand Ave. in the park. We have lost four lights and poles. The goal is completion in 2020.

Historic Landmark Registry for Fr. Marquette Statue/Marquette Park. We are supporting Brad Miller's efforts to apply for Indiana and National Landmark status.



PROJECT being researched

The Pavilion bridge between the main building and outdoor dance patio is in need of major repair. FMP is assisting the Park Dept. in getting professional advice and estimates to repair the bridge. It is critical to solve the problem that caused the damage and provide a safe and beautiful structure. We will continue to push and work with the City to invest in the repairs for the historic Pavilion.



**BEFORE & AFTER
POWER WASHING AT THE GARDENS**

Look at the difference a power washing makes!
Thank you, Bob Jopek, of KABOB for doing this
job. Our concrete sparkles while our new LED
lights shine brightly at our Statue Garden.

YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN

- ★ 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 Carol Smith to help us at: 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 and Visit Miller Beach.
- We are grateful for a supportive Miller community who appreciate the work we do.

FRIENDS OF MARQUETTE PARK LEVELS OF GIVING

Level	Category	Examples of what gifts can do:
___ \$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
- ___ Pathways Signage Project
- ___ 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

MARQUETTE PARK PROJECTS IN 2019-202

We have been busy getting things done. Some of our projects are completed and some are ongoing. Some of our projects are in the works and not listed here including: No Parking dusk to dawn near the playground, the 100 Year Marker, and native plant preservation near Chanute Trail. Here is how your donations have been used to improve Marquette Park.

2019

<u>Preservation of Fr. Marquette Statue</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,817.38</u>
<u>Concrete repairs on Statue Garden stairs</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>\$274.71</u>
<u>Elimination of bagworms infesting evergreens</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>In-Kind & Volunteers</u>
<u>Carry-In/Carry/Out Signs Hardware</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$10.27</u>
<u>Erosion Control near Concession Stand</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Gary Sanitary District</u>
<u>Erosion Fencing</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$197.38</u>
<u>100 Year Marker foundation</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,965.00</u>
<u>100 Year Marker Installation</u>	<u>In 2020</u>	<u>To Be Determined</u>
<u>Memorial Bench Project</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>\$17,641.50</u>
<u>Statue Garden Mulching Project</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Gary Sanitary District & Vol.</u>
<u>Statue Garden Bush Replacement</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$540.43</u>
<u>Statue Garden Area Lawn Care/Clean-Up</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$630.00 & In-Kind</u>
<u>Statue Garden Irrigation System</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$42.50</u>
<u>Statue Garden New LED Lighting</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,400.00</u>
<u>Statue Garden Holiday Lights</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$279.99</u>
<u>Merchandise</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,600.93</u>
<u>Publicity & Printing</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$135.70 & In-Kind</u>
<u>Lagoon Area Clean-Up</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>In-Kind & Volunteers</u>
<u>Water Safety - Safety Stations, Lifeguard Stands</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>\$808.81 & In-Kind</u>
<u>Decorative/Protective Boulders</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>\$1,464.00</u>
<u>Annual Meeting</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$545.00</u>
<u>Legacy Online Fees</u>	<u>in 2019</u>	<u>\$72.96</u>

2020

<u>Pavilion Sign for Parking Area</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,297.69</u>
<u>Pavilion Asian Bridge Lighting</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,160.00</u>
<u>Statue Garden Spotlights on Fr. Marquette Statue</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$739.38</u>
<u>Playground Shelters Lighting Repairs</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>\$1,092.19</u>
<u>Total</u>		<u>\$33,815.82 & In-Kind</u>

As you can see, we have been busy. We could not do these projects without our donors, volunteers, in-kind gifts and cooperation from our city. **You make it happen.** Since our beginnings in June of 2016, we have increased our spending on projects in Marquette Park. This is based on the generosity of our members and donors. We hope you will be as generous this year as well.