

WHAT'S YOUR Y?



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

APRIL 2018

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POOL THE PRIORITY

The YMCA pool experienced an unexpected shutdown in March, affecting the start of Session 3 aquatics programs. The failure, caused by a faulty pump, was the third unplanned shutdown of the pool since November.

"This is precisely why we are in this Capital Campaign," Center Director Jonathan Ringel said. "Our pool is simply on its last legs. In fact, it's beyond its last legs. These breakdowns, unfortunately, are going to keep occurring more and more often."



THE YMCA WILL AGAIN OFFER EVERY THIRD GRADER IN THE COUNTY FREE SWIM LESSONS THROUGH A COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM THIS MONTH.

When dealing with a mechanical system installed nearly 50 years ago, any type of breakdown or unexpected malfunction can quickly mushroom into a much larger problem.

"The old equipment just doesn't respond well to being completely shutdown and then restarted," Ringel noted.

In the most recent situation, when the pump failed, replacement was first delayed by the fact that officials could not stop a back flow of pool water into the mechanical room. Valves that were attempted to be shut off, were failing to completely stop the flow of water.

Another issue was bringing the pool back up to temperature after the extended shutdown. After falling to as low as 57 degrees, it took nearly five days to bring the water temp back into the 80s due to inefficiencies in the system.

"Thankfully, our campaign is going great and our goal within reach," Ringel said.

While no one knows for sure if the next breakdown will be the one that official pushes the pool into permanent closure, reaching the campaign goal quickly will at least put the Y in a position from which to act. Right now the rebuild is scheduled for the summer of 2019.

"If this thing breaks for good, perhaps we'll be in a spot financially where we can bump up the time schedule to get it replaced," Ringel said. "It's certainly something that may have to be considered."

Entering April, the YMCA was roughly \$250,000 short of reaching the minimum goal.

"With continued support, I'm confident we can reach this goal," Ringel said. "This pool is too important to our area."

NORTHERN LIGHTS YMCA - DICKINSON CENTER

Iron Mountain MI 49801

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www.WhatsYourY.org

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: DO THE CAPITAL PLANS INCLUDE AN INDOOR FIELDHOUSE?

The long-term vision for the facility includes multiple phases of development, including the addition of a fieldhouse with an indoor running track. But the current Capital Campaign is addressing the more urgent needs such as the pool, locker rooms and fitness equipment. Should the Y meet and exceed its fundraising goal in the current Capital Campaign, then additional elements of expansion and improvement will be announced.

PROGRESS METER

