

City of Alpena

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MAYOR SHAFTO TO DRAW WINNING ENTRY TO SUPPORT THE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY'S RIVER CENTER

On Thursday, September 25, at 12:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Alpena Mayor Carol Shafto will draw the winning entry in the Wildlife Sanctuary's Wooden Canoe Raffle. The 16-foot, handmade, wooden canoe and paddles were constructed as part of the NOAA Maritime Heritage Center's Boat Building Program. Roger Witherbee, Alpena Wildlife Sanctuary Board Chair, donated the canoe to the Sanctuary to be raffled as a fundraiser for its River Center project.

A long-time goal of the City's Wildlife Sanctuary Board, the 10,000 square foot River Center, to be located in the Duck Park between the parking lot and Oxbow Condominiums, will serve as an educational and research facility for area students and the general public. It will include a variety of exhibits, fish aquariums, classroom and laboratory space, and fiber optic capabilities that will provide direct access to NOAA's Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center and its resources. A boardwalk with fishing pier and canoe livery will connect to Island Park which, along with the adjacent 500-acre Wildlife Sanctuary, will serve as outdoor classrooms complementing the facilities of the River Center.

Tickets for the raffle may be purchased right up to the time of the drawing for \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00. Contact Greg Sundin, City Planning and Development Director and staff liaison to the Sanctuary Board, at 989-354-1700 for tickets.