

Happenings at the Hatchery!

The Friends of the R.D Pike Building, Inc.

A 501c3 registered Non-Profit Corporation

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Re-Awakening History



The view of the building in the early 1900's

Welcome! We hope that "*Happenings at the Hatchery*," will be your go-to source for exciting news and updates on the transformative renovation of the historic R.D. Pike Fish Hatchery Building in Bayfield, Wisconsin. Constructed in 1897 and proudly listed on the National Historic Register, this iconic landmark holds a special place in our community's heritage. Our mission is not only to restore this architectural gem to its former glory but also to create a vibrant space that fosters education, enjoyment, and environmental stewardship for all. We invite you to join us on this inspiring journey, as we share our progress and celebrate the rich history of the region. Together, we can ensure that future generations appreciate and cherish this important piece of our local legacy. Stay connected with us here, through our website and on social media for regular updates, and thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm as we embark on this wonderful project.

The Mission is Clear.

We're working on Phase Three!

The board of directors has broken down the entire renovation project into phases for a clear and manageable order of operations. Phase 1 was to begin the restoration of the grounds and gardens and to restore some of the original plants and flowers that were written about in the historic journals from the building. We are very pleased with that

progress and are happy so many of you have commented as we've gone through this growing season. Wonderful to see everyone enjoying the beautiful grounds again! Phase 2 is the exterior renovation of the building. We hope to have very exciting news on that front soon. Phase 3 lays out the inspection report and inside abatement, including lead and asbestos remediation. We have received three quotes on this work and are in the process of raising 125,000 dollars for this part of the restoration. We would love to have community participation. You can make a tax-deductible donation by reaching out to us on email (friendsrdpike@gmail.com), by mailing a check to us at PO Box 511, Washburn, WI 54891, or by simply clicking the PayPal donation link below! Thank you for all that you do to help this worthy cause!

[Donate for Phase 3 here](#)



The Podium is Installed!

Our friend Nate is so talented. He took Brownstone boulders donated by Hauser's Superior View Farms (that we were told were very likely quarried at the Pike Quarry back in the day!) and fashioned them into bricks and built this beautiful podium for the bronze plaque we unveiled at our July Kick-Off event. Thanks so much Nate, it is gorgeous! Pictured here from left to right, Darren Miller, Hatchery Operations Supervisor, Nate and our board historian, Bob Nelson. Thank you gentlemen! Come on out and see the plaque in its new home at the hatchery!

The Work Goes On!



Meet the Board!

Mary Gruhl is the Chairwoman of the board for the Friends of the R.D. Pike Building. With her focus and incredible energy, she keeps us all in line and going strong! Thank you Mary for all of your efforts, your terrific long-term vision and your incredible ability to make a meeting run on time!

Mary resides in Washburn, Wisconsin with her husband, and helps with many good causes in our communities.

A clip and a chip!

Friends volunteers recently helped at the hatchery as thousands of young lake trout were "fin-clipped" (the little round adipose fin is snipped off in the picture above). The fish are unharmed and when finished a Coded Wire Tag (CWT) is implanted into the snout of the fish.

Subsequent creel surveys after stocking the fish, tells more about the fishes overall health, growth rates, etc. Fun and gratifying work!

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