



Community Relations Opportunity at Mt. McSauba



The Charlevoix Recreation Department has an idea as part of their master plan to build a playground at Mt. McSauba, which is so popular with hundreds of children from Charlevoix and our surrounding areas. Mt. McSauba is heavily used much of the year with skiing, mountain biking, trails, and the beach with its wonderful dunes.

Coincidentally, Rotary Charlevoix recently approached the city asking if there is any project Rotary could help make happen. The playground idea at Mt. McSauba was immediately suggested. Rotary loves the idea, and it is now in the design and pricing phase with the expectation that it will happen soon, hopefully ready for community children as early as next summer.

The playground will be a short distance, just 250 feet, by trail from Mt. McSauba Lodge, and is designed to fit in nicely with the forest and preserve the wonderful feel of Mt. McSauba.

The desired playground equipment is in the process of being selected and will be from Penchura, a Michigan company. The equipment will be sensory and accessible, that is usable for nearly every child, ages four and up. The equipment will also mimic natural and free forms of play such as climbing, sensory exploration, balancing and imagination.

The total cost is expected to be approximately \$250,000. We expect there to be a plaque at the playground listing donors, like they have at the bridge for the lighting project, where the Belvedere Club is listed as one of the top donors, via individual member donations. Donations for individual members are listed as well.

Your Community Relations Committee would greatly appreciate your consideration of financial support for this community project. Your donation would be tax deductible. Please note "Belvedere Club" in the margin of your check, or let John Keyser at johnpkeyser@gmail.com know if you donate via the link below and he will make sure that the Club gets credit for your donation. You can also contact John with any questions.

Here is a link to the donation site for online donations:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/5c63c041/sD7i9eKR7kWI5qiEMX7VBw?u=https://rotaryclubofcharlevoix.org/donations>

Donation Levels

_ Up to \$99	Chipmunk
\$100-\$249	Squirrel
\$250-\$499	Raccoon
\$500-\$999	Beaver
\$1,000-\$2,999	Porcupine
\$3,000-\$4,999	Fox
\$5,000-\$7,499	Deer
\$7,000-\$9,999	Bear
\$10,000 and more	Eagle

Checks should be made payable to:
 Rotary Club of Charlevoix Charities, and sent to:
 Rotary Club of Charlevoix
 P.O. Box 532
 Charlevoix, MI, 49720

**Please write Belvedere Club in the memo line.
 Contributions are tax deductible.**

Thank you for your consideration of supporting the Charlevoix community in this effort. Please see article from Charlevoix Courier dated 12/15/23 below.

Your Belvedere Club Community Relations Committee



Rendering of the proposed Mt. McSauba playground. PROVIDED BY JOHN KEYSER

Charlevoix Rotary Club continues to raise funds for playground

Annie Doyle

The Petoskey News-Review
USA TODAY NETWORK

CHARLEVOIX — The Charlevoix Rotary Club is continuing to raise funds for a new playground at Mt. McSauba.

To date, \$99,165 has been collected. The total estimated cost is \$238,000.

Rotarian John Keyser said the playground "will be available to the hundreds of children who use this wonderful facility year-round from skiing, snowboarding and riding sleds in the winter to the sand dunes and beach in the warmer months."

"It is a favorite destination for these children and their moms and dads for outdoor recreation and good times," Keyser said.

The playground equipment will be specifically selected to be accessible for the vast majority of children, including

those with physical challenges.

Kent Knorr, Charlevoix's recreation director, has named the playground as one of the city's top park projects, according to Keyser.

The Rotary Club continues to make plans to approach families, businesses, clubs, churches and others for whatever financial support they can provide.

"With this great start, there is an excellent chance the playground will be open to our children by next summer," said Keyser.

For more information, visit rotaryclubofcharlevoix.org/donations.

Members of the playground committee are Mark Andresky, Abbie Hart, Kent Knorr, Jody McLoed, Bryan Lindfors, Kirby Dipert, Jeff Anderson and John Keyser.

— Contact reporter Annie Doyle at (231) 675-0099 or adoyle@charlevoix-courier