

IN THE NEWS**THE ALPENA NEWS**

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by **STEVE SCHULWITZ**

Sand Bay Marina wins small business award

ALPENA — A Presque Isle business was recognized for its service to the community by a state business collaborative earlier this week.

In a press release from Michigan Celebrates Small Business, it was announced that Sand Bay Marina Sales Service & Storage, LLC was presented the Michigan Small Business Development Center Best Small Businesses Award on Tuesday.

Sand Bay Marina, which is owned by Kevin and Brandie Krajniak and opened in 2017, offers a variety of services to its customers, including boat storage, dock and hoist sales and installation, boat and motor repair, and a retail shop that offers people everything they need to have a safe and fun time on the water.

Sand Bay Marina was one of 11 businesses to earn the Michigan Small Business Development Center Best Small Businesses Award this year.

Brandie said being recognized was nice, but the number one priority moving forward is to continue to maintain and grow the relationships they have built with customers.

“It is humbling, but getting awards is not the reason we’re here. We’re here to service the community,” she said. “But, it was amazing to be among so many cool people and people doing innovative things.”

The Presque Isle business was the only one in Northeast Michigan to win an award at the annual event this year. Last year, Alpena’s Hungry Hippie won the same award.

Michigan Celebrates Small Business is a collaboration of statewide organizations that offer collective resources to support, connect and celebrate small business. MCSB first launched in 2003 as an awards program to recognize the contributions of Michigan small businesses.

It consists of representatives from the Michigan Small Business Development Centre, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Small Business Association of Michigan, a Small Business Advocate, the Edward Lowe Foundation.

The MSBDC is a consulting group that offers no-cost services to assist Michigan small businesses.