



Friends of the Blue Star Trail raised a toast June 20 to progress made on planned 20-mile nonmotorized path.

Friends raise funds for next stage of Blue Star Trail

More than 100 supporters of the planned 20-mile non-motorized path from Saugatuck to South Haven gathered June 20 for a Toast to the Blue Star Trail at Jan and Dave Ryder's lakefront home.

U.S. Rep. Fred Upton and state Rep. Mary Whiteford were among those at the event.

Co-chairs Cathy Carmichael and Lauri Sullivan, Friends of the Blue Star Trail board president Jeanne Van Zoeren and artist Cynthia McKean toasted the progress of the trail, which will run next to Blue Star Highway.

It will be used year round for cycling, running, walking, skiing and snowshoeing.

Funds raised at the event will help secure dollars for the next two phases of construction.

McKean, a well-known Saugatuck steel sculptor, created a special memorial plaque for major donors to the Blue Star Trail.

Stretches finished so far include 0.3 miles in Casco Township, approximately 0.8 miles in Douglas and 1.7 miles of existing trailway in Saugatuck Township.

The next section, to be built this fall, will stretch 1.2 miles on the west side of Blue Star from North Street south to Maple Avenue.

Friends of the Blue Star Trail is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. More than 100 area citizens, corporations and

foundations have supported the project by providing professional expertise and/or fundraising assistance.

Sponsors of the June 20 gathering thanked Saugatuck Brewing Co. and Wine Sellers of Saugatuck for their contribution to the Toast to the Blue Star Trail event.

Rent garden booths for Sept. 19

The Saugatuck-Douglas Garden Club is accepting booth reservations for 2016 Michigan Garden Club District IV Conference members will host Sept. 19 at Community Church of Douglas, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

At least 150 garden club members from across southwest Michigan are expected

to attend. Area vendors interested in showcasing their artwork, crafts, artisan foods or plants are being offered 8x10-foot floor space for their displays.

Parties interested in hosting a booth should email districtmeeting@aol.com or visit the SDGC website at saugatuckdouglassgardenclub.com.

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