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Celebration planned for trail section

The new stretch is in Saugatuck Twp.

Sentinel Staff

Friends of The Blue Star Trail will celebrate the grand opening of a recently completed section of the Blue Star Trail in Saugatuck Township on May 20.

"After a long, dreary winter it will be time for some fresh air and fun," Event Chairwoman Ann Horner said in a press release. "The Celebration is open to everyone. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for an afternoon of spring therapy."

The celebration will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the south trailhead, located at the corner of Old Allegan Road and Blue Star Highway.

The new trail section runs parallel to Blue Star Highway from Old Allegan Road north to North Street.

Parking will be available at the Saugatuck Reformed Christian Church.

A brief opening ceremony will include a special tribute from the state and a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Those in attendance can participate in a fun walk, ride or run north to the Saugatuck Township Fire District Fire Station for an open house.

The celebration will feature prizes including six bicycles for kids and adults, and a limited number of water bottles and cow-bells. Free popcorn, cotton candy and Palazzolo's Gelato will be available as well as barbeque and other food for purchase.

Music will be provided by the South Haven High School Jazz Band at the event and the nearby fire station will be open with its equipment on display.

The Friends of The Blue Star Trail is an all-volunteer group that works in partnership with local communities to promote and fund the trail

The next phase of the Blue Star Trail will extend north to the existing trail that runs along Holland Street. This phase of the trail will also be constructed along Blue Star Highway to 64th Street, where it will connect with the Beeline Trail to Holland.

The trail will also be extended south to Maple Street. The Friends in partnership with Saugatuck Township hope to begin construction on these new sections as early as Fall 2019.