

Progress, change can lift us all

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To the editor,

As a lifetime resident of the Douglas/Ganges lakeshore, I am writing to voice my overwhelming approval of the Blue Star Trail link from Douglas to Saugatuck — a link that connects our community to the state.

Change for progress is a cornerstone for the betterment of us all, both currently and for generations to come. “Progress always involves risk,” Frederick Wilcox said. “You can’t steal second base and keep your foot on first.”

I was here in the 1950s when municipal water arrived down Wiley Road to the lakeshore. My mother, Louise Showers, and GTE telephone worker Bill Rich got a telephone installed in the old Douglas school.

Later I saw the bridge removed at Pier Cove so the school bus could get through, and years later Mother collected enough interested parties to get natural gas down the lakeshore.

All of these things provided a better, safer and more comfortable lifestyle for all of us. These were changes for the good of the community. The benefits to the community by completing this trail far outweigh any unforeseen liabilities.

The Saugatuck City Council needs to acknowledge the benefits to be gained for the community as a legacy asset that most residents agree is a wonderful gift of change for all of us to enjoy.

Greg Shaw

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