



FFMHT is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible.

P O Box 455, Edmore, MI 48829
fredmeijerheartlandtrail.org

TRAIL TRACKS

*Friends of Fred Meijer
Heartland Trail Annual
Newsletter*



YOUNG VOLUNTEERS

by Jane Hemenway

Two fifth grade volunteers from Central Montcalm Upper Elementary (CMUE) in Stanton helped replace a damaged stop sign with a nice, new one this past May. CMUE students can often be found on the trail near their school on hikes with their class for science, math, physical education, (see page 2)



NEW BENCH NEAR ALMA

by Dianne Wilson

A new bench was placed west of Luce Road on the trail. It was given by the family of Leon and Mary Lou Byl. The Byls were active members in the Alma community and were Heartland Trail supporters. Mary Lou gave much time and effort in collecting items from Alma businesses and friends for the annual Trail Silent Auction.



HISTORIC SCHOOL MUSEUM

by Dianne Wilson

The Riverdale School Museum sits beside the Heartland Trail on Williams Road. Originally located several miles north of Riverdale, the Green County School was moved to this site in 1996. The village ACT group maintains the museum through (see page 2)

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS

by Karen Stearns

Every year the FMHT has several volunteers who really shine! This year, a few of these special volunteers are: Bruce Munsey, who works on the trail in Greenville; Rod Alton of Alma, who does special tree duty between Alma and Edmore; and Mark Prout of Alma, who trims and cuts trees on the Alma section. Nick Springsteen from Sidney carries a tool kit on his bike and works on the trail in that area, (see page 3)





*HISTORIC SCHOOL
MUSEUM Con't from p. 1*

donations, yearly pie sales and small events. Walk through the door to enter an old-time, one-room schoolhouse, complete with George and Abe overlooking desks of many sizes, an early 1900's teacher's desk, textbooks of the time, and the long, black chalk board. Many items of Riverdale's past are also displayed. Call Dianne at 989-268-5143 for an appointment.

*Hold the Date!
May 3, 2020
Annual
Banquet &
Silent Auction*

*YOUNG VOLUNTEERS
Con't from p. 1*

heading to the White Pine Library for a program. Thanks to them, our Trail is kept active and well maintained!

FUN ON THE TRAIL

by Patty Rockafellow

This summer another trail event was held with the help of the Sheridan Community Hospital, White Pine District Library, the Stanton Police Department, and the FFMHT. "The Run, Walk, Ride on the Heartland Trail" event was held on June 14 and was intended to promote health and safety, while using the Heartland Trail for the exercise of each person's choice. This event was a family event with over 80 participants!! On completion of the distance chosen, each person was given a gift package, a treat, and a chance to win valuable prizes!



Trail Tracks edited
by Sarah Avery



Special Volunteers, Con't from p. 1

and Eric and Nikki Hansen trim near Stanton. From Florida, Vince Gillette again returned this summer to give a week of volunteer work on the FMHT. He helped cut trees and painted a lot of bollards! These volunteers have made the trail safer and more beautiful through their efforts. Many thanks to them!

FMHT WORKDAY

by Karen Stearns

Wednesday, October 9, eleven volunteers gathered in Sidney to work on the trail. Three members of the group arrived on their bicycles! The group divided into several teams: Don, Eric, and Nikki went south to Lake Road and then worked their way back north; Heather, Mary, Karen, and Nick worked their way south from Sidney. Jane and Nellie Lou followed Don south and then came north on the trail, installing NO HUNTING signs from Lake Road to Stanton. Michelle and David rode north towards Sidney and trimmed brush. Repairs were made to many cracks in the trail, some bollards were painted, and a couple of holes were filled. Many thanks to all who helped!





GREENVILLE VOLUNTEER GROUP

by Karen Stearns

The City Church of Greenville, under the leadership of Marcy Simon, has generously taken over much of the maintenance and all the mowing of the FMHT in Greenville. This group has mowed the Trail from Peck Road to M57, picked up trash, painted over graffiti on Trail surfaces and signs, and painted all the parking lot bumpers in the trail lot on M91. They keep an eye on everything and let Board members know if anything is needing attention. Many thanks to this group who cares for the southernmost section of our Trail!



November 2019

The FMHT remains quite unique in the State of Michigan with the number and dedication of our mower crew! We wouldn't be able to have such a well-maintained Trail without all the volunteers who mow regularly throughout the season and keep an eye on the Trail in general. Our heartfelt thanks to all!

City Church, Greenville – M57 in Greenville, north to Peck Road

Stan Telak - Greenville

Kevin Arnold – Lake Road to Ferris Road

David Christensen - Ferris Road to Miller Road

Jack Pearl - Miller Road to Derby Road

Ken Mitchell - Derby Road to the Dalmac Bridge

Rick Baldwin - Dalmac Bridge to McDonalds in Stanton

Bruce Basom - McDonalds to Epley Road

Eric Rolston - Epley Road to Cannonsville Road

Roger Hinton - Cannonsville Road to Coral Road (McBride)

Jeff Hansen - Coral Road to Forrest St. (Edmore - 2 sections)

Cedar Lake Academy - Neff Road (Edmore) to Derry Road (Vestaburg)

Phil Peasley - Derry Road to Caris Road

Monty Stratton - Derry Road to Caris Road

Cal Callison - Caris Road to Crystal Road (Vestaburg Depot area)

Art Lombard – Crystal Road to Lumberjack Road (Riverdale, 2 sections)

John Eisenberger - Lumberjack Road to Pingree Road (Elwell)

Dr. Paul Gruca - Lumberjack Road to Pingree Road (Elwell)

Steve Litwiller - Pingree Road to Charles Road (Alma)

Don and Karen Stearns also did 45 miles of ditch mowing over a two-week period (seven days of mowing). The trail was mowed and cleaned from McBride to M57 in Greenville and back to McBride.



2019 TRAIL MOWERS



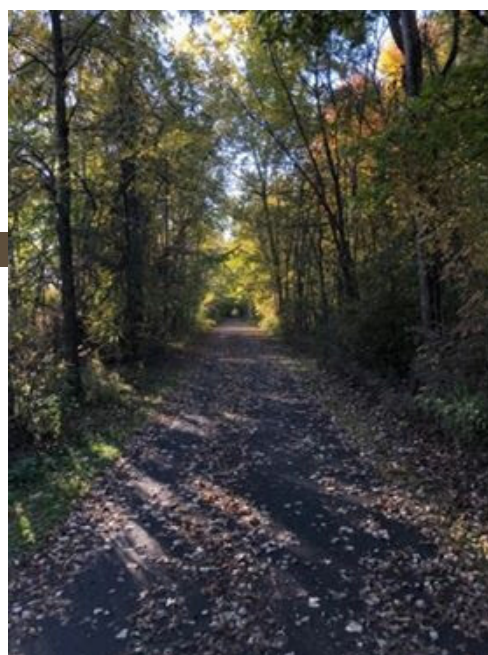
BIKE MORE EDMORE

by Jeff Hansen

The annual Bike More Edmore Ride (BME) took place on Saturday, July 27, 2019. This organized ride started at the trailhead in Edmore, then travelled south on the FMHT. It connected with the Fred Meijer Flat River Trail in Greenville, then traversed around Baldwin Lake and back to Edmore. This year we had 77 registered riders who enjoyed the great weather. The proceeds of \$1001.21 were donated to the FFMHT trail organization. We had many returning riders; over 70% of the participants were from previous years!

Due to busy schedules and growing families, the Hansen family won't be hosting the BME ride in 2020. We have enjoyed organizing the ride for the past five years. Thanks to all the riders who have joined us in the past. Thank you to all the people who helped organize and SAG this ride. Also, a big thank you goes out to the FFMHT committees and volunteers who provided us with a great place to ride.

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2019 RAFFLE WINNERS

by Karen Stearns

Winners of the FFMHT Annual Banquet Raffle were:

Raleigh Detour 1 Bike - Reese Scripture, Clawson, MI

Cannondale Quick 8 Bike – George Gibbs, Alma, MI

Candlelight Inn B&B, Ludington–Carol Freed, Riverdale, MI

Insel Haus B&B, Bois Blanc Island, - Sarah Avery, Alma, MI

Cloghaun B&B, Mackinaw Island - Bill Humm, Ithaca, MI

2019 TRAIL DONORS

Trail Supporters (\$1 - \$99)

Aldrian/Walkington, Bill/Barb

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Alma Women's Club

Anderson, Robyn

Avery, Susan

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Grossbauer, Ralph

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Trinity Farms

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VanDeWeghe, Linda & John

Vos, Larry & Charlene

Wanink, Doyle & Valerie

Ward, Robert

Warthman, James & Janet

Wassenaar, Dottie

Wegner, Phyllis

Wesp, Heather

Wood, James & Lee

Wulf-Marvin, Janet

Trail Contributors (\$100 - \$249)

Bader, Mark & Ashley

Barberi, Alison

Bussema, Dave & Joyce

Clements, Terry & Janice

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Duran, Jerome & Judith

Fritsma, Mark & Kristen

Frutiger, Rich

Gallmeyer, Daniel & Amy

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Gratiot Chamber/2019 Dalmac Rider donations

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Miller, Margaret

Morey, Jon & Rox

Onkala, Kathy

Petersen, Mark & Trudy

Prout/Avery, Mark/Sarah

Rockafellow, Patty

Russell, Steve & Jan

Sheldon, Scott

Shy/Miller, Janet/Marty

Sidney State Bank

Simmons, Nellie Lou

Sipka, Tim & Christine

SLECO/c/o Vincent Gillette

Tacia, Peter

Trail Sustainers (\$250 & up)

Bookwalter Chevrolet

Christiansen, John

Highland Plastics, Inc

Humm, Mary & Kathleen

MEA Financial Services, Mark Prout

Ride More Edmore

Rogers, Thomas & Susan

Sorensen, Ron & Sharon

Thank you for your generosity

