Off to the Races

On Saturday, May 5, 2019 a few hundred people gathered under a warm and sunny sky at Iron Fish Distillery to see the horses run. The 3rd Annual Hats and Horses Kentucky Derby Party was a joint event with Friends of The Betsie Valley Trail and the wonderful team at Iron Fish Distillery. The day was filled with music, traditional Derby spirits, a silent auction, a pie auction, and a live horse race! Four horses from a local farm were brought to Dzuibanek Road, and raced in front of the distillery for all to see. Ladies in their fancy hats, and gentlemen in their spring bowties cheered for the horses. In addition to the live race we also viewed the 45th Annual Kentucky Derby. Combined with the 50/50 raffles, the silent auction, pie auction and your generous donations, this amazing community event raised over $5,000 for the Betsie Valley Trail. We are thankful to all the community business that donated to our silent auction as well as all the sponsors and everyone that came out to enjoy this breathtaking event. Thank you also to the incredible team at Iron Fish Distillery. Their tasting room and farm property are the perfect setting to sit back, relax and taking in the beauty of Northern Michigan.

Fix It Station

The trail is calling but often our bikes have a different plan. We are very excited to have a newly installed Fix-It Station at the Beulah Trailhead. This station was purchased with grants from Cherry Capital Cycling Club and the Friends of The Betsie Valley Trail. Now, riding the trail is easier than ever!
Honoring Dr. Bill Olsen

Pick up the 2019 Issue of Michigan Trails magazine and read about our friend Dr. Bill Olsen and his tireless working in founding the Betsie Valley Trail. Thank you Michigan Trails for this excellent feature.

Winter Wonderland

If you live along The Betsie Valley Trail year round, you might have noticed that the trail was plowed and maintained from Elberta to Frankfort all winter long this year. A massive thank you goes to our friends at Cottage Pros for plowing, and clearing this trail so that many people could use it and savor the beauty of winter.

Rising Water Levels

Water levels across the country are at an all-time high and here, along The Betsie Valley Trail we are seeing the highest water levels in over 20 years. The boat launch area near the Elberta Trail head has experienced on and off flooding as well as the trail and bridge on this portion of the trail. Please use caution when walking or biking in this area. We have posted signs and cones. When leaving the trail and using the side of the road please use caution. As of now, it appears these water levels will be here for the next few weeks of the summer months.
**Beernight Fun**

Stormcloud Brewing Company celebrated their 6th Beernight on June 15, 2019 and we were honored to be their local non-profit partner. It's always a good time with our friends at Stormcloud Brewing. People gathered for some beer can chicken, cold brews and good times. Thank you Stormcloud for all you do for our community and The Betsie Valley Trail.

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**Set the Date for the 2nd Annual Paddling Film Fest**

We are very excited to announce our 2nd Annual Paddling Film Festival will be returning to The Garden Theater in Frankfort Saturday, September 28th, 2019. This world-wide film festival has been featuring in cities across the world and we are honored to host it again this year. Films will range from paddling, to Standup Paddle Boards, to a variety of water sports. Our board is still reviewing them and will be posting the chosen films soon. Stay tuned and set the date for this exciting fundraising event.

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**Love the Trail? Want to Help?**

We are currently seeking out people to assist with Friends of The Betsie Valley Trail:

- **Trail Coordinator**: Tasks include trimming trees, clearing brush, touring the trail and having a deeper knowledge of the elements in and along the trail.

- **Website Coordinator**: Tasks include updating and maintaining the Friends of The Betsie Valley Trail website and other social media outlets.
VISIT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE:
betsievalleytrail.org
and
Like Us on Facebook

WE WELCOME ALL FRIENDS AND TRAIL PHOTOS!
To receive our monthly e-newsletter, please send your e-mail address to: FBVTMI@gmail.com

Please don't forget to renew your membership if you haven't already done so.
Envelope enclosed. Make your gift to the Trail last FOREVER by contributing to the William R. Olsen Endowment for The Betsie Valley Trail. You may also donate through our website at betsievalleytrail.org.

Friends of the Betsie Valley Trail
PO Box 474 • Beulah, MI 49617

We are a 501(c)3 Corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.