



# TART TALES



**The storm damage was unprecedented...  
The volunteer cleanup and community support was unparalleled!**



## BY THE NUMBERS

**100** MPH top wind speed

**60+** Miles of trails impacted

**1,000+** Trees down on the trails

**48** Hours after the storm trails were open

**150** Volunteers contributed to the storm cleanup

**1,000** Volunteer storm cleanup hours logged

**\$30,000** Cost of trail cleanup to date

**∞** Infinite amount of community support to cleanup efforts!

## IN PICTURES



## Unparalleled

Following the storm on Sunday, August 2, area trails were rendered impassable due to hundreds of downed trees. Volunteers worked tirelessly to clear the trails immediately after the storm — within 48 hours the trails were open. Thank you to everyone who pitched in. It takes a village to maintain a trail network.

**Thank you all!**

## Join the Crew!

Volunteers are the heart and soul of TART Trails. While this summer storm response was a showcase of community support for trails, volunteers work year-round to make the trails great. You can join this hearty crew and learn more about ongoing projects and programs from our website:

[www.traversetrails.org](http://www.traversetrails.org)



## Looking Down the Trail

On Sunday, August 2nd, the largest windstorm in recent history ripped through our area. In its wake the storm left striking devastation with thousands of trees down and landscapes changed for years to come. Neighbors helped neighbors clear debris, provide comfort and lend a helping hand, and the trails experienced a similar hand up. Within 48 hours after the storm, the trail corridors within the TART Trails' network were up and operational. All done by volunteers. On Monday, August 3rd, volunteers were out all day on the trails, and folks who had worked their normal eight hour day were out on the trails that night working until it was too dark to continue. For the next four weeks volunteers would spend days on the trail cutting up logs, chipping large debris and tackling trees that continued to fall weeks after the storm. TART Trails' volunteers supported Grand Traverse County, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Traverse City and collectively we cleared and cleaned up a trail system that people still needed and wanted to use.

The storm damage is what people talk about, but it is the power of community that left a mark with me. The incredible work and investment individuals put into storm recovery on the trails is humbling –over 150 volunteers logging more than 1,000 hours of storm clean up and over \$20,000 of in-kind support. The storm was a weather anomaly, but the volunteer and community support the trails received is not. The trails were built because you wanted them to be built. They are maintained because you go out and help or support their maintenance.

Trails, bikeways, and pedestrian ways will grow and thrive and make more connections to people and places because you invest in them and in us. TART Trails is a volunteer-driven and donor-based organization. This year you gave over 3,400 hours of volunteer support to the organization and you provide 99% of our revenue. You understand the critical role a connected network of trails, bikeways, and pedestrian ways play in improving our economic, social, and



Julie Clark  
Bill Lancaster Photography

environmental health. You know a connected, active, and healthy community isn't an easy or necessarily inexpensive goal to accomplish. But it thrives here because of you. Trails and their connections are a reflection of the values we hold as a community. Clearly you value a strong, active and healthy community. And we are grateful for your support.

## The Three Amigos

Dick Kelly, Dave Fisher, and Dave Monstrey are three tireless volunteers working year-round to keep the trails in tip top shape. This year in particular their efforts were amazing. When the snow melted in spring they used the new tractor to cut back vegetation and mow the entire 17 miles of the Leelanau Trail. Dick, Dave, and Dave are the first responders with chainsaws when a tree is down blocking the trail. Then when the storm of the century struck on August 2nd they dedicated themselves nonstop to getting it cleared and open. After

### *Dick, Dave and Dave Work Wonders on the Trail*

their initial storm recovery efforts, they continued working for weeks to remove all the debris along the trail. Once that was accomplished they turned their efforts to crack sealing the trail to extend the life of the asphalt. In past winters they volunteered to keep the trail clear of snow. They did such an amazing job the City of Traverse City hired them for their snow removal efforts. Chances are you have seen them working on the trail. Please show your gratitude by slowing down and giving them a high five.



Dick, Dave and Dave having some fun on the job.

# TART TALES

## You Spoke and They Listened *Boardman Lake Trail Coming into View*



Boardman Lake Sunrise by Mike Eldredge

This summer many of you raised your voice in support of completing the development of trail along the west side of Boardman Lake and you were heard. Trail supporters contacted local government officials expressing support for finishing a project begun over thirty years ago. Today completing the loop around the lake is closer than ever to becoming a reality. Your hard work paid off in early June when the Traverse City Commission supported the trail as the top priority for the north

Boardman Lake Corridor development. The commission's support, along with assistance from Grand Traverse County and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, led to a successful Coastal Zone Management grant application. The grant that will help fund the conceptual design of the trail between its existing endpoints at 14th St. and Medalie Park near Logan's Landing. The proposed trail will connect NMC's University Center, parks and scenic vistas, and BATA's Cass St. transfer station, and

reaches many commercial, residential, and retail districts. The trail feeds into a system with more than 20 miles of existing trail and will one day connect to the 24-mile Boardman River Trail linking to places like Kingsley and the North Country Trail. Your voices will be needed in the coming months as we work with our partners at the City, Township, and County and begin to move forward with finishing Boardman Lake Trail. Stay tuned for more details in 2016 and thank you for your help.

## Volunteers Make Dune Dash a Great Success

The 4th Annual Dune Dash was held at the Sleeping Bear Dune Climb on Saturday, August 15th. The 4-mile/run walk started at the Dune Climb and followed the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail to Glen Haven where it turned around by the historic general store. Hundreds of runners participated in the event and Mother Nature cooperated offering an abundance of sun.

The event was held just two weeks after the big summer storm blew through on Sunday, August 2nd. The Sleeping

Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail were hit very hard by the storm. Thanks to the Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes volunteers and the National Park Service, the trail was cleared and reopened in time for the event. The aftermath of the storm was evident as you could see the remains of the big trees that had to be removed from the trail.

The Dune Dash is organized by Matt Ross (the creator of the TC Zombie Run) with support from the Sleeping Bear



National Lakeshore & TART Trails. 189 participants registered for the event raising \$2,423 to support the continued development of the Sleeping Bear Heritage Trail. That brings the running total to \$9,923 raised over the past four years.

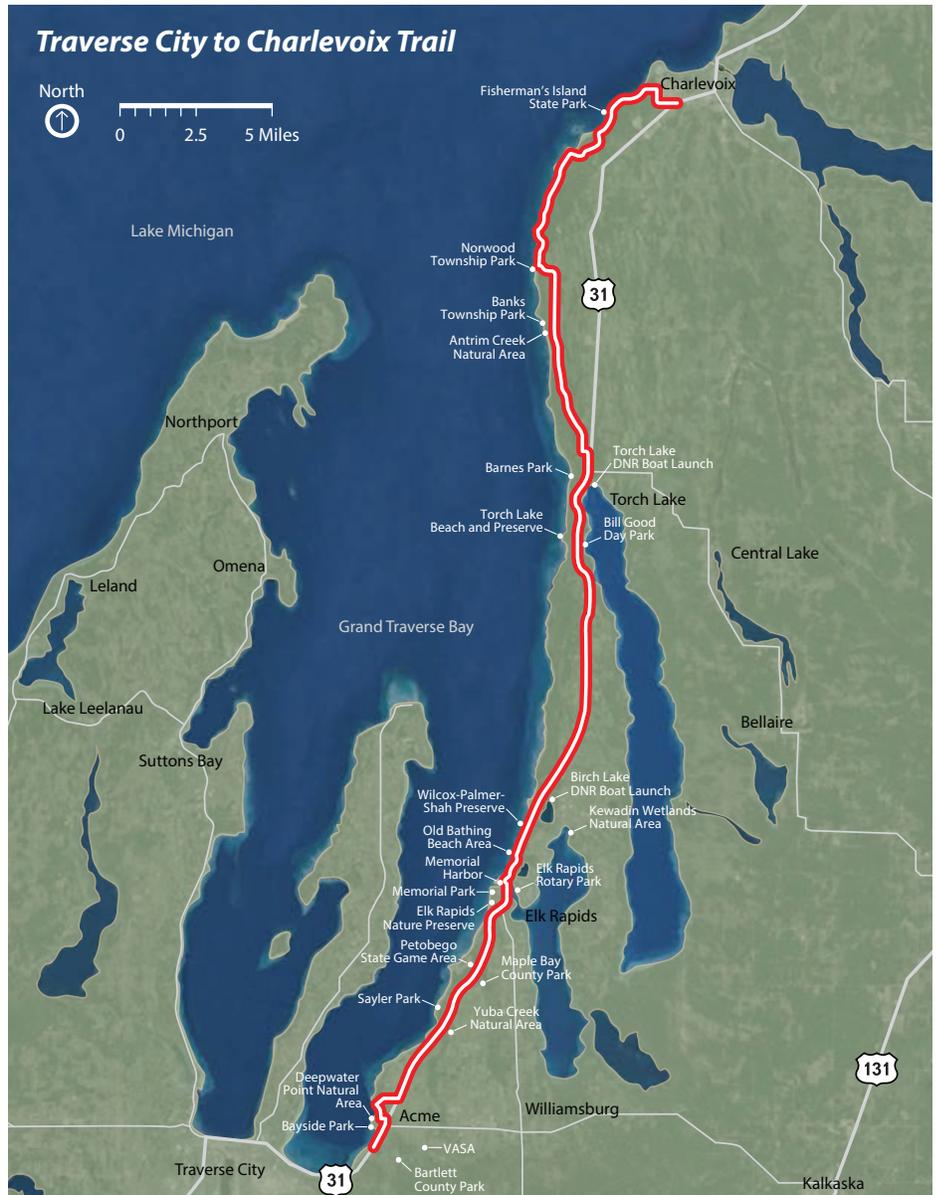


## Mapping It Out *Traverse City to Charlevoix Trail is on the Map*

Two years ago when the last section of the Leelanau Trail between Traverse City and Suttons Bay was paved the impact was immediate; Suttons Bay was full of bikes and trail traffic hasn't slowed down since. That watershed moment reminds us that trails are so much more than our recreational playgrounds, but real drivers of economic activity and quality of life. That's why we were thrilled to make some important headway on an exciting new project, the Traverse City to Charlevoix Trail.

With your support, TART Trails secured funding to help the effort along with Top of Michigan Trails, the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance program, the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy and Networks Northwest. Working together for nearly two years, the team has led planning committee efforts that have resulted in some exciting recommendations, including a proposed alignment for the trail. While much work remains to be done, we could not be more excited to begin connecting new places to the existing trail network. Places like the Grand Traverse Resort, Maple Bay, Elk Rapids, Eastport, Fisherman's Island State Park to name a few.

We are thrilled about where this project will go and the places this trail will take us.



For more information on this exciting trail development visit [www.traversecitytocharlevoixtrail.org](http://www.traversecitytocharlevoixtrail.org)

# TART TALES

## Corporate Partnership Revs Up Trail Efforts

*A Year Working with Hagerty's Crew*



TART Trails relies on volunteers in a myriad of ways. We were founded by a group of visionary volunteers who saw an opportunity to create something special in our region and today we are lucky to have over 300 active volunteers who help us with everything from trail maintenance and workbees, event support, office and administrative assistance, and so much more. Late last year Hagerty selected TART

Trails as their non-profit partner of the year, an awesome award that comes not only with a \$25,000 financial gift, but also with a commitment of support throughout the year from Hagerty staff hours. Hagerty teams have supported projects including development of interpretive trail panels, collection of on-site trail surveys, integrated technology services, human resource support, brand management and

marketing expertise, video production, database management, and much more. Hagerty's Annual Nonprofit Partnership is designed to leverage company resources to help advance a local non-profit's strategic mission. We feel so lucky to have been selected and to have had the chance to work alongside such amazing talent and tenacity. Thank you Hagerty!

## Lars and His Legacy

Lars Wigert, a longtime advocate for an active lifestyle and dedicated Vasa K supporter on the Vasa Pathway, made the decision to designate a portion of proceeds from a charitable trust to support the Vasa in perpetuity. TART Trails is thrilled to have Lars' gift and worked with the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation to establish a fund in his name. Youthful and energetic he credits the Vasa

Pathway for numerous friendships with fellow skiers and cyclists. Thanks to Lars' foresight the Vasa will enjoy his continued support forever. Phil Ellis executive director at the Community Foundation expresses the sentiment "Everyone in our region is a Lars Wigert. We all have our own passions and interests and we all have the opportunity to leave a lasting impression in a meaningful way."



Are you a passionate trail supporter who would like to create a trail legacy?  
Contact Pam Darling, Development Director, to learn more about how you can make a lasting difference.  
[pam@traversetrails.org](mailto:pam@traversetrails.org) // 231.941.4300



## Special Thanks to...

Tails to Trails participants both two legged and four legged, volunteers and sponsors: **Bay Area Pet Hospital, D.O.G. Bakery, Northwood Animal Hospital, Copy Central, Great Lakes Pet Memorials, Pet Sitters Network North, Inhabitect, Platinum Sound and Pure Water Works.**

Smart Commute program partners and sponsors: **BATA, Cherry Capital Cycling Club, Hagerty, MI Blood, Oryana, Werner Family, Blue Care Network, Ella's Fashion and Furnishings, Bay Area Recycling for Charities, Garan Luow Miller P.C., City Bike Shop, Munson Medical Center, Munson Community Health Center, Tom's Food Markets, Platinum Sound, The Kitchen, Disability Network, Northwestern Michigan College, Norte Youth Cycling, Bike-In T.C., Red Mesa Grill, Networks Northwest, Brick Wheels, Gerstner Development, Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, Lake Effect, Harvest and Inhabitect.**

Tour de TART's 600 riders, 70 volunteers and sponsors: **Blue Care Network of Michigan, Fox Grand Traverse, VI Grill, Gordon Food Service, Short's Brewing Co., Black Star Farms, Platinum Sound, Pure Water Works, Cherry Republic, City Bike Shop, Monstrey MacDonald, Morse Moving, GT Packaging, Steve Brown, Joey DiFranco, Village of Suttons Bay, Leelanau County Sherriff's Dept., Cherry Capital Foods and Bay Area Recycling for Charities.**

The inaugural sponsors of Chalk and Chocolate Traverse City: **Begonia Charitable Foundation, Grocer's Daughter Chocolate and Oryana.**

**Matt and Jennifer Ross** for planning the 7th annual Zombie Run to benefit TART Trails and to these sponsors: **Right Brain Brewery, Meijer, WKLT, Williams Honda, Interlochen Public Radio, The Treefort Collective, Allen Kent Photo, Crawford Art & Design, The Center for Plastic Surgery,**

**Norte! Youth Cycling, Cone Drive, Dr. Walt Noble & Dr. Susan Noble, Dr. Robert Dotterrer, Grand Traverse Oral Surgery, Patient Care Specialists, Great Lakes Plastic Surgery Center and Halloween Superstores.**

**Pure Water Works** for keeping us hydrated at all of our events.

**Cherry Capital Cycling Club** and **Ray Landfair** for organizing the 32nd annual Leelanau Harvest Tour, **Kim White, Darcie Pickren** and **Diana Raddatz** for coordinating food stops, and these food stop donors: **Naturally Nutty, Food for Thought, Pure Water Works, Oryana, Cherry Republic and Pleasanton Bakery.**

TART Trails' **Sustainer Circle Donors** for their continued support and also to these individuals and businesses that contributed to our annual Oktoberfest celebration: **Frank Noverr, Toni Tonda, Sara Harding, Monstrey MacDonald, Lancaster Photography, Catering by Kellys, Grand Traverse Pie Company, Black Star Farms, Moomer's Homemade Ice Cream, Joey DiFranco, Hoxie's Farm Market, Bell's Iceman Cometh, David and Kelley Peterson** and **Hagerty** volunteers.

Data entry volunteers **Gloria Veltman** and **Karen Mauro-Doren** who come in weekly.

**Downtown Traverse City Merchants** and shoppers who supported TART Trails on Shop Your Community Day.

**Flight Path Creative** for layout of TART Tales.

## Save the Date!

Visit [www.traversetrails.org](http://www.traversetrails.org) for event details.

**Saturday, January 9** – Winter Trails Day

**Saturday, June 4** – Recycle-A-Bicycle Bike Swap

**Saturday, February 13** – North American Vasa; [vasa.org](http://vasa.org)

**June 6–10** – Smart Commute Week

**Saturday, April 23** – Trail Workbee

**Friday, July 22** – Tour de TART

**Saturday, May 14** – Tails to Trails

## Support TART Trails' Long-Term Vision:

Happy, active people enjoying a world-class trail system.



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Please send me/us email updates     I/we would like to volunteer

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\$50

\$100

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Sustainer's Circle

\$1000

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\$100 / Adult

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My/my partner's company will match my gift. I'll send the forms.

Contact me/us about making a planned gift or gift of stock

Please do not publish my/our name(s) as a donor.

## Thank You!

Mail form to: TART Trails, PO Box 252, Traverse City, MI 49685  
TART Trails is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization.

Support TART online at: [TraverseTrails.org](http://TraverseTrails.org)

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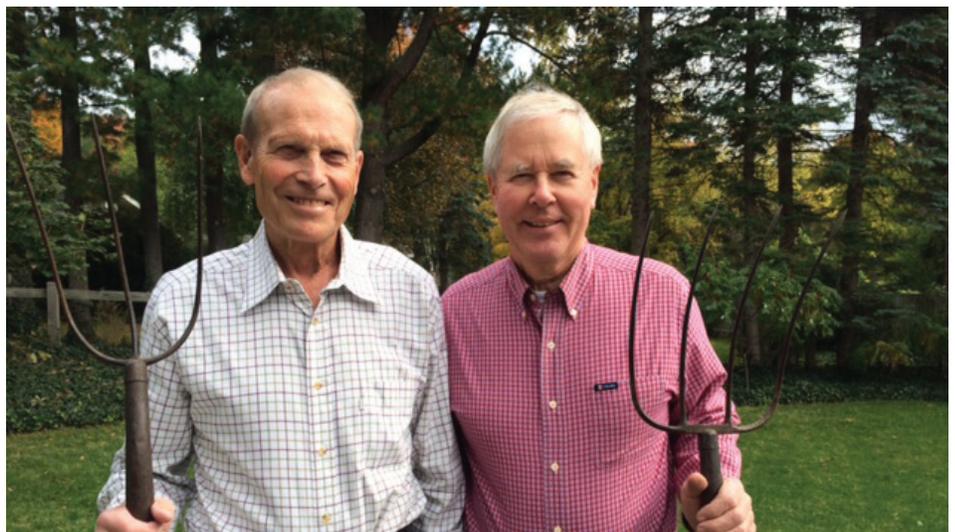
# TART TALES

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## Glenn & Woodburne Named 2015 Mudgett Trail Pioneers

Two men with long histories of involvement with TART Trails are this year's Jim Mudgett Trail Pioneers- Jerry Glenn and Jim "Woody" Woodburne. Both Jerry and Woody have worked for years on the Vasa Pathway and the North American Vasa ski race. They are avid cross-country skiers and enjoy giving back to the ski community. Jerry coordinated the replacement of the bridges along the TART Trail. He secured funding from Home Depot, recruited volunteers and even designed a tool for the removal of the old bridge decking. His volunteer work crews completed the work ahead of schedule and had fun too! Woody is passionate about removing invasive species along the Leelanau Trail corridor. He organized volunteer groups to tackle the problem of phragmites. Jerry



Jim Woodburne (left) & Jerry Glenn (right) are always ready to pitch in on whatever trail work needs to be done.

and Woody exemplify living healthy active lifestyles. We are grateful to both of them for setting a wonderful example

of how things get done by volunteering. Jim Mudgett would be pleased to know his legacy lives on in our community.