

**The**

# **OHIO TO ERIE TRAIL**

**Summer 2013**

**Newsletter #48**

## **Trail Map Available This Summer**

The map of The Ohio to Erie Trail has been delayed for several reasons, including funding. The good news is that these issues have been resolved and the map project is moving forward again.

The Ohio to Erie Trail Fund, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and American Electric Power (AEP), will be printing a new map of The Ohio to Erie Trail. The map will be easy to carry on a bike and include turn cues for both northbound and southbound travelers.

All donors to the project will receive a copy of the map. Please send your donation to:

**The Ohio to Erie Trail Fund  
Trail Map  
118 Graceland Blvd., #146  
Columbus, OH 43214**

## **Route 62 Tunnel Construction Underway**

A new tunnel under U.S. Route 62 in Holmes County is now under construction and as a result, U.S. 62 is temporarily closed near the Knox County line. A county road at Brinkhaven will take you within sight of the tunnel project and bring you back to U.S. 62.

A tunnel along The Ohio to Erie Trail will connect the Mohican Valley Trail with the unfinished southern section of the Holmes County Trail. Tunnel construction began on April 1, 2013. U.S. 62 will remain closed at this location for 45 days.

The 260-foot lighted tunnel and approximately 1000 feet of trail are the first installments in a larger trail project to link Brinkhaven to Killbuck. The Ohio Department of Transportation has granted \$547,000 for the project.



*Photo: Construction of U.S. 62 tunnel in Holmes County taken last month. Photo Carolyn Lewis*

## **Great Food & Lodging Along OTET**

Just 75 feet from The Ohio to Erie Trail in Cedarville, Ohio sits the well-placed Hearthstone Inn & Suites, owned and managed by Stuart & Ruth Zakarek.

Recently our Ohio to Erie Trail Fund President Tom Moffitt and his riding companion Sandy Sanders took cover overnight at the Hearthstone during severe weather just northeast of Xenia. Tom and Sandy enjoyed a quiet and comfortable night's rest at the Inn and started the next day with a great breakfast! They highly recommend the Hearthstone to any Ohio to Erie Trail traveler. For more information, contact Stuart & Ruth at 1-877-644-6466 or visit [www.hearthstone-inn.com](http://www.hearthstone-inn.com).

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*Photo (L-R): Sandy Sanders, OTETF President Tom Moffitt and Hearthstone Inn owner, Stuart Zaharek*

On the way back to their original starting point in Morrow, Tom and Sandy stopped for lunch at the newly opened Treana's Folks & Spokes Cafe in Spring Valley just off the OTET on West Main Street.

Owner Treana Woodland has done a beautiful job with the charming décor and lots of food options (donuts to ice cream to subs and more). Treana's even carries a respectable supply of most basic bike necessities - from tubes to mirrors to saddles!

Treana's is open daily right now, Mon-Fri, 7 to 7. Their phone number is 937-317-5042.

If you stop in, be sure to tell Treana you read about it here!



*Photo (L-R): Chef Nick Brown and server Crissy Havens pose for a picture at Treana's Folks & Spokes Cafe just east of The Ohio to Erie Trail in Spring Valley, Ohio.*

*Photo by Sandy Sanders*

## Trailside Development To Help Cleveland's Slavic Village

In Cleveland, Zaremba Homes, through a public-private partnership is building 95 houses, townhouses and cottages on a former industrial site along The Ohio to Erie Trail.

Construction is under way in the Slavic Village neighborhood, located just east of I-77, southeast from downtown Cleveland.

The project, Trailside Slavic Village, represents a social and economic push to bring housing back to one of the city's economically struggling neighborhoods.

Zaremba Homes, a Cleveland-based builder, is working with the city, the nonprofit Slavic Village Development group, the Clean Ohio program, and Third Federal Savings & Loan. The lender's headquarters sits next to the project site, at Aetna Road and East 71st street.

The Morgana Run Trail, completed in 2007, connects Mill Creek Park, Slavic Village and the Washington Park neighborhoods and then on to The Ohio to Erie Trail. This new development is yet another community benefit resulting from OTETF's founder, Ed Honton's original vision to connect Cincinnati to Cleveland along railroad and canal corridors.

Situated right next to the Morgana Run Trail, the Trailside development will include single-family homes, townhouses and cottages. Priced from \$126,000 to \$132,000, the homes will carry 15-year property tax abatement. The first 10 buyers may be eligible for down-payment help from the city.



*Photo: The Morgana Run Trail at Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood*

## Wayne Roberts Inducted into Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

Wayne Roberts of Madison County, a major force behind The Ohio to Erie Trail, was inducted into the Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame on May 15, 2013. This prestigious honor was granted for Wayne's tireless work in Madison County for The Ohio to Erie Trail.



*Photo: Wayne Roberts (R) being congratulated by Madison County Commissioner David Dhume (L)  
Photo Jerry Rampelt*

A few years ago, The Ohio to Erie Trail through Madison County was a pipe dream. Now the Trail is a reality and former opponents have turned into ardent supporters. This achievement is due in no small part to Wayne Roberts' vision, persistence, energy and leadership. He excels at helping people reach consensus.

After his retirement Wayne focused his energies on making Madison County a better place to live and visit. Following the late Ed Honton's vision to build The Ohio to Erie Trail, Wayne held meetings in his home with interested local residents to discuss how to build a bicycle path running across the county using railroad rights of way. The Friends of Madison County Parks & Trails was born, with Wayne as the 'founding father' and first board president. He has since been re-elected to the board many times. He organized volunteers to clear trees, undergrowth and trash from the abandoned tracks, believing they would eventually connect Cincinnati and Cleveland for bicyclists and pedestrians. When finally completed, The Ohio to Erie Trail will be the longest cross-state trail in the nation.

Wayne was a catalyst in starting the Friends' Adopt-a-Trail and Trail Sentinel Programs while running the London Strawberry Festival Bicycle Tour for the last nine years.

## Captain Blue Hikes the Trail

This spring Andy Niekamp (aka Captain Blue) hiked The Ohio to Erie Trail and kept an informative blog about his twenty-day adventure. He found the trail "outstanding!"

He noted that the route is not hard to follow and he included his ratings of various stops along the trail. You can find his blog at:

<http://outdooradventureconnection.com/blog.php>.

## I Got A Bike on the Trail

IGotABike.com authors, Carolyn and Guy, rode The Ohio to Erie Trail in May 2013, blogging about their adventure. They also completed a similar trip in June 2012, which makes them experts on The Ohio to Erie Trail.

Carolyn and Guy have also authored a 51-page guide to The Ohio to Erie Trail that can be downloaded from their website, and costs \$14.99. You will find information about food, lodging, directions for navigating some of the confusing sections, and lots more.



*Photo (L-R): Guy, Carolyn and Jerry Rampelt on The Ohio to Erie Trail. Photo Toby Rampelt*

We have reached the point in the development of The Ohio to Erie Trail where people such as Carolyn, Guy, and Andy Niekamp are providing resources for others who want to travel The Ohio to Erie Trail. This is another positive step in the growth of our beloved trail.



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## The Ohio to Erie Trail Fund

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### Address Changes:

Email changes to - [ohioerietrail@gmail.com](mailto:ohioerietrail@gmail.com)  
Telephone Number changes to - 614-918-3636



## PRINTED MAP NEEDS SPONSORS

**W**e are looking for major sponsors for the creation and printing of a map of the entire Ohio to Erie Trail. The goal is to create a map that is user-friendly and can be easily carried when traveling. The design and printing of the map will cost at least \$15,000. Printing of a large multi-color map is expensive, and we want to distribute the map for free. We are working in partnership with The Ohio Department of Transportation in creating the map.

*Donations can be sent to The Ohio to Erie Trail office or made online at [ohioerietrail.org](http://ohioerietrail.org).*