

January
2018

NEWSLETTER



Construction Committee

Agra Pavilion

- Agra and J & J Lee are working to finish the exterior
- Overhead doors and windows are installed
- Patio doors will be installed
- Interior & exterior wiring, outlets & lights will be done by Systems Technologies & Steve Strasman
- Plumbing and bathroom construction by J & J Lee and Bob Weaver
- Design concept and budget bids being developed by the newly formed Interior Committee

Park Street Overlook

Repair of existing concrete wall in spring.
Concrete resurfacing of river access in spring.

Construction Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12:00 pm at the Agra Pavilion, South Park Street on the trail.



Construction Committee members and friends took advantage of the nice fall weather to work on the berm east of the Park St. parking area. Railroad ties were secured. Evergreens and ornamental grasses will be planted in the spring.

The River District Development Foundation Board meets the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the Chamber.

Friends and Marketing

The Friends/Marketing Committee is continuing to raise money for the Agra Pavilion interior.

New signs have been installed on the trail including History of Merrill, Native Americans, August Stange and the First Merrill Cemetery.

A presentation was given at the Rotary meeting on the new extension of the trail. This and a power point on the River Bend Trail from the beginning to 2017 are available for viewing.

A group is meeting to discuss ideas for art on the trail including murals.

The Friends/Marketing Committee meets the 1st Monday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Lower Level of Johnson's.



2018 Calendars still available for \$10.00
Monthly photos of the trail by local photographers
Pick yours up at
Johnson's Downtown
1st St. Coffee Station
Ace Hardware
Courtside Furniture

Proceeds go to the bathroom fund

Real Estate Committee

Planning Phase 3 of the trail which will extend to the Walmart area – Cooper St. to Logan St. to Sturdevant St. to Hwy 64 to Big Eddy plan. The committee is discussing possible trail routes and future route issues.

- Priorities 1) trail to Walmart area
2) Hwy 64 to MARC
3) Prairie River Route

Real Estate meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at the New Pine Ridge.

Capital Campaign Committee

A Cellcom grant was received to remove invasive species and replant with native plants. Work will be done in the spring.

Members are collecting data about the trail and working on the focus for future grant writing.

Members met with the city regarding a Memo of Understanding between the RDDF and the City of Merrill for use of the Agra Pavilion when it is completed.

Capital Campaign meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Chamber.

Notes

Visit our GoFundMePage to help raise money for the Agra Pavilion Interior

<https://www.gofundme.com/merrill-river-bend-trail-pavilion>

Please share with all your friends.

January meeting– ELECTION of BOARD and OFFICERS Contact Shelley if you are interested in any positions
shersil@co.lincoln.wi.us

March – Goal setting Meeting for 2018 with Art Lersch UW Extension Area Director.

Visit our website
Riverbendtrail.org to find out more about the trail.



Friends of the River Bend Trail
Facebook page
Invite your friends

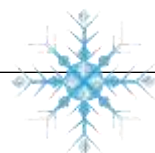
The River District Development Foundation of Merrill provides resources, initially through the creation and upkeep of the River Bend Trail, that encourage residents and visitors to enjoy the natural beauty and precious spaces of the city's river corridors.

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Plan a winter
walk.
Meet your
friends on
the trail!



Eastern portion of the trail in 2017 and how it looked in 2015 when we started blazing a trail.

Trail construction to the east has been completed making the River Bend Trail a beautiful 3 mile walk or ride.

Work on the interior of the Agra Pavilion continues. Insulation, walls, lights, fans, ceiling, flooring, heating and electrical will all be needed. If you can help us finish this building send your donation to:

to:

Friends of RBT
POB 561
Merrill, WI 54452
Attn: Pavilion

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Agra Pavilion Donors in 2017 and those who helped us REACH the \$20,000 goal to add bathrooms :



Agra Construction
J & J Lee
Bob & Judy Weaver
Steven Strasman
Marshfield Clinic
WPS Foundation
Merrill Admin Association
Randy Osnes
Chad & Tami Travis
Brian Sladek
Merrill Fire Dept. Charities
Richard & Sharon Schmidt
Robbie & Trina Johnson
Sierra Pacific
O'Tannenbaum Tour

Faye Semling
Chips
Hugo's
Barleyfest
Social Topics Club
Brickners Park City
Wisconsin Automobile and
Truck Dealers Assoc.
Jack & Helene Ader
Fall Festival Fundraiser
Calendar Fundraiser
1st St Coffee Station
Randy & Kathryn Pophal
Kathleen Swope
Scott & Karen Nelson
Tess & Scott Klug



Kelly Zagrzebski
WPS Foundation



Jim & Maria Brickner
Brickner's Park City &
WI Automobile & Truck
Dealers Association

Sharon Anderson, Gene Bebel, Betty Hartwig, Greg Harwig, and Larry Hampel accept the Barleyfest donation to the River Bend Trail from Becky Roberts and Dan Wendoft.

For more information about the trail, to make a donation or to become a Friend of the trail contact the Merrill Chamber Office at 715-536-9474 or e-mail Sarah Williams, sarahj724@gmail.com or Gene Bebel, kbg607@charter.net.