

## Milford

# New bicycle trail to end at park, but is source of pride

By **KORIE WILKINS**  
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

Cyclists, walkers and runners have a new way of entering Kensington Metropark: the Milford Trail, a 4-mile paved path that starts in the village and continues through the township.

A ribbon cutting Saturday will officially open the trail.

Milford Village's portion is a 1-mile path running from Hubble Pond Park near Peters Street and Commerce Road to the Ford Dam. It cost about \$400,000 and was funded through a state grant and private donations.

The township's 3-mile portion merges with the village's trail at the dam and runs along General Motors Road to Martindale Road, ending near the entrance to the park off South Milford Road. It cost about \$3 million and was funded by state funds, private donations and a 0.1-mill proposal passed in 2004.

"It is really cool," said Holly

## If you go

### CEREMONIAL OPENING

A ribbon cutting for the Milford Trail is to be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Kensington Metropark's group campsite on Martindale Road. For information, call the township at 248-685-8731 anytime..

### ROAD RACE

The village is set to hold the Milford Criterium, a road cycling race on a short, closed-circuit track on Aug. 22. Racers are to cycle at speeds up to 25 m.p.h. The Criterium course begins and ends on Main Street, snaking through downtown Milford.

A group of residents led by avid bicyclist Joe Dolan helped draw the event to Milford. For information, go to [www.milfordcrit.org](http://www.milfordcrit.org) or e-mail [info@milfordcrit.org](mailto:info@milfordcrit.org).

Brandt, recording secretary for the Milford Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

While those taking the trail into Kensington will have to travel about a mile on the shoulder of the main park road to the 8-mile paved trail in Kensington, that could change soon. Denise Semion, chief of communications for the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, said a \$315,000 state grant has been awarded for a connector, which will cost \$450,000. The metropark will cover the difference for the connector, which is in the planning stage.

"It's a real asset to the community," Semion said of the trail system.

The trail also is a source of community pride.

Avid bicyclist Joe Dolan, who is organizing a bike race to be held in downtown Milford in August, said he hopes the area will become a hub for biking.

"The word is out there," Dolan said. "It truly is a 'build it and they will come' type of effect."

CONTACT KORIE WILKINS: 248-351-5186  
OR [KWILKINS@FREEPRESS.COM](mailto:KWILKINS@FREEPRESS.COM)