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## **ABR Ski Trails Preserved into Future Generations with Formation of**

### **Anderson Bluff & River Trail Foundation Inc.**

*Eric Anderson & Angela Santini Donate to an Outdoor Legacy*

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For almost a quarter of a century husband and wife team Eric Anderson and Angela Santini have been running ABR Ski Trails Inc., the Midwest's premier Nordic ski destination. ABR was recently awarded 4<sup>th</sup> place in a national honor by USA Today – 10 Best (<https://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-cross-country-ski-resort/> ). In order to secure the legacy of ABR for future generations, Eric Anderson and Angela Santini (owners of ABR) formed Anderson Bluff & River Trail Foundation Inc. (non-profit 501(c)(3)) on June 3, 2019. The Foundation's vision is to:

***“SUSTAIN ABR LEGACY AS THE MIDWEST’S PREMIER NORDIC SKI DESTINATION FOR GENERATIONS TO COME; AND CONNECT ABR TRAILS TO THE LARGER COMMUNITY”.***

ABR will continue to operate as previously enjoyed. Skiers will enjoy a seamless transition in the future for their silent sports and start their skiing at the existing ABR warming cabin/trailhead. Angela and Eric still maintain ownership of ABR and operate the ski trails with daily activities as in the past. Goals for the future are to connect the ABR trail system to the larger trail community such as the Miners Memorial Heritage Park, the Iron Belle Trail and Wolverine Nordic Trails. The River frontage and the connectivity of these trails/parcels and parks will be a very valuable asset to the community and enhance future development of outdoor recreational activities.

The first board meeting was convened July 13, 2019, with a nine person board. Eric opened the meeting with a challenge to the board to sustain the skiing experience and let families enjoy all Ironwood, Michigan, has to offer for the next 100 years. The Anderson Bluff & River Trail Foundation is a non-profit (501(c) (3)) organization with a mission to “Create & sustain the organizational foundation to ensure a lasting legacy for Nordic skiing in the Ironwood area”. The Foundation plans to form a future outdoor and environmental interpretive center and expand educational programs focused on silent sports activities.

Dave and Eric Anderson started ABR in 1995 supported by their spouses, Helen and Angela, with a vision to let families enjoy Erwin Township. Eric stated “My relatives the Andersons, Highhills (Korkiamakis), Hovens, Toijalas raised their families in Erwin Township and Angela and I want to leave this Anderson legacy for all to enjoy”.

Anyone interested in more information to participate/volunteer or donate to the non-profit Foundation can visit the website at <https://andersonbluffsrivertrailsfoundation.org/> or contact the Foundation at [AndersonFoundation13@gmail.com](mailto:AndersonFoundation13@gmail.com).



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