

Mother of all garage sales

By JULIE SWIDWA - HP Staff Writer | Posted: Monday, July 20, 2015 6:00 am

Just cleaned house and have stuff to sell?

Looking for a unique item only Grandma could love?

Hungry for some homemade jam?

Then Michigan's Longest Garage Sale is for you.

The annual sale along U.S. 12 from New Buffalo to Detroit is set for Aug. 7-9.

Kris Martin, project coordinator for the U.S. 12 Heritage Trail, calls the sale "Americana at its best."

"Perhaps even more interesting than the treasures are the people you meet along the way," she said in a news release about the event.

Anyone interested in hosting a sale can register the site for free at www.us12heritagetrail.org now until Aug. 6. Sales registered online will be part of a list and map, which will be available to be viewed or printed from the new U.S. Heritage Trail website starting one week prior to the sale.

The website also offers a way to contact people who offer spaces to rent for sales, if someone does not have their own space along the trail. Visitors to the site can also register their location as a space to rent for the sale.

Michigan's Longest Garage Sale continues to grow in popularity, organizers said, with visitors from all over Michigan and surrounding states. It is held annually along the U.S. 12 corridor, stretching over 180 miles from New Buffalo to Detroit.

Sales can be found along the highway at homes, farms, businesses, parking lots and fields.

U.S. 12, the nation's second-oldest highway, was once an Indian trail. It is one of 16 Michigan State Scenic Byways, designated by the state Legislature to preserve the state's historic highways.

Michigan's Longest Garage Sale started in 2003 and takes place the second weekend of every August.

There are several community-wide garage sales held along U.S. 12 the same weekend.

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