Family Adventure Day held Saturday - MiningGazette.com | News, Sports, Jobs, Michigan...

COPPER HARBOR - Intermittent stormy weather kept crowds at bay during the annual Family Adventure Day Saturday, but organizers are still excited about future events in the series.

Stewards from each site's owners and students from Michigan Technological University were stationed at the Paavola Wetlands (Keweenaw Land Trust), Redwyn's Dunes (Michigan Nature Association), Brockway Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary (Copper Country Audubon Club), Hunter's Point Park (Grant Township) and Eislindt Pines (Michigan Nature Association). The sites were picked from those listed in the new book "Walking Paths & Protected Areas of the Keweenaw."

The event is put on annually by the Western U.P. Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education.

Nobody had come to Hunter's Point specifically for the activity, said Dick and Sharon Powers, representing Grant Township. However, they'd had plenty of visitors from a concurrent geocaching event.

"We even had one guy who walked over to Portage Island," Dick Powers said.

One couple from Wisconsin had come to the Brockway Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, said Michelle Miller, outdoor science investigations field Trip coordinator at the Western U.P. Center.

The event is the kickoff for the Family Adventure Program, which one Saturday a month will feature sites from the guidebook. The first site to be spotlighted will be the Mary McDonald Preserve at Horseshoe Harbor. Brian and Rina Carlson will be the guides at the site, which is owned by The Nature Conservancy.

"We're hoping families will come and participate," Miller said.

While Miller had hoped for a higher turnout, she found a bright spot to the event.

"It was nice to be out anyway, and I brought my daughter along, so she spent the afternoon outside," she said.

Garrett Neese can be reached at gneese@mininggazette.com.
The “pathways” book is excellent. What a wonderful addition to local information, especially since it consolidates all the various conservancy trails into one book instead of having to search various sources. Hats off to Joan Chadde and all of the other contributors to this great publication. I think the Family Adventure Day is a wonderful idea and hopefully will continue through the summer months where more people will be in the area to enjoy all of these special places.

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