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Jack, Alicia and Ariana Zhang of Okemos plan to make the DALMAC bike tour a family affair on the Labor Day weekend. COURTESY

Girls age 6 and 12 to join father on DALMAC bike tour on Labor Day weekend

While Labor Day weekend may seem like a long ways off for most, hundreds of cyclists are focused on preparing for the annual Labor Day DALMAC event, including Jack, Alicia and Ariana Zhang of Okemos.

DALMAC is the Dick Allen Lansing to Mackinaw epic, end-of-summer bike tour sponsored by the Tri-County Bicycle Association (TCBA). More than 1,000 people have already registered for the trek from Lansing to Mackinaw City on five-day, four-day, three-day and two-day route options.

Jack and his older daughter, 12-year-old Alicia, have ridden two DALMACs together. This year 6-year-old Ariana is planning to ride for the first time with her "veteran" sister and father.

A last-minute broken arm just before

the 2018 DALMAC prevented Alicia from riding last year, a major disappointment after having ridden hundreds of miles over the summer in preparation.

Jack said: "I am thrilled to have my two girls ride with me. My younger one said, 'Can't wait for DALMAC!' She already biked over 800 miles with us. I feel she is going to make it for the whole DALMAC."

Information regarding routes and how to register until July 31 can be found at dalmac.org. DALMAC is an entirely volunteer-run event with proceeds going to the TCBA and the DALMAC Fund. The DALMAC Fund provides grants to promote and improve bicycling throughout Michigan.

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