

# Pumpkinvine

Volume 23 No.1

February 2014

## Trail Talk



## Pumpkinvine brings increased business to local bike shop

By B. Harry Dyck

With the coming of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, more bicycle shops are springing up throughout the Elkhart and LaGrange counties, while established shops are seeing more business. One of the latter is the County Line Bicycle Shop located at 5305 S on CR 1200 W, just north of Millersburg.

“The Trail has had a great impact on sales,” owner John Mullet said. “Before the trail was built, people were satisfied to ride to the neighbors or even to the store with their old junkers, but now that they have a trail of 10 or 20 miles to cycle, they want bicycles that are, not only newer and in good repair, but also nice looking.” The result is that “local bicycle users bring in their older bicycles—oft in need of repair—as trade-ins on brand new units that will take them the distance in either direction -- for shopping and especially for pleasure riding on the Pumpkinvine.”

On ‘Sales Days’ in April, Mullet often brings in the entire family and even in-laws to help with customers who come in for both new recumbents, tricycles, step-throughs and standard models or newly repaired, more economical units. And when women come in for a bike upgrade, Mullet has a variety of models and colors to meet their preferences, too. Mullet’s primary brands are the Bacchetta Recumbent, Fuji and Jamis, but with the many trade-ins, other brands become available as well.

As a result of the increase in bicycles being traded in, Mullet has developed a rather unique method of recycling them—one that benefits his customers and the wider community: he donates them to good causes. “We have donated as many as 30 bicycles to other shops and fundraising causes in the interest of our primary purpose – to serve our customer base while helping other agencies to serve theirs,” Mullet said.

His donations help his customers by allowing him to give more floor space to the new bikes they’re looking for. “Since most trade-ins require service and take up more floor space than is profitable, we need to move them out as soon as possible,” Mullet said. “I try to make bicycles both clean



and road worthy – with good brakes, good wheels, and good seats. And if I take in a good lady’s bicycle and bring it up with those features, it will not be here long.”

“We’ve had some not-for-profit bicycle shops like Chain Reaction in Goshen come looking for older bicycles, and we were ready to donate some of our stock in order to make room in our shop for the new ones we bring in. We also donate bicycles for fundraisers and auctions for friends and neighbors. It is good for business, and it helps the community, too,” Mullet added.

In a strange twist of fortune, increased business has cut into his riding time. “Now that we have the Pumpkinvine, more cyclists want better bicycles to ride these trails,” he said. “But as a result, my wife and I have less time to ride the trail ourselves. And there are so many more customers who want service on their schedules and often come after our closing hours. But there are times when we just have to close shop a little earlier so we can get some riding in, too.”

Mullet and his wife Dorothy purchased the bicycle business from a previous employer some nine years ago. He sells between 250-300 units annually. He finds customers often want a bargain, “but,” he said, smiling conscientiously, “as long as I continue to provide good service and good prices, they will come back to do business here.” Of that there is no doubt.

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See back issues of this newsletter at:  
[www.pumpkinvine.org](http://www.pumpkinvine.org)

Email contact: [Friends@pumpkinvine.org](mailto:Friends@pumpkinvine.org)

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 Follow our blog, Along the Pumpkinvine:  
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Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. are cyclists, hikers and naturalists who are working with area park departments to create a linear park and greenway on the former Pumpkinvine corridor between Goshen, Middlebury and Shipshewana, Ind.

Newsletter layout: Sties Design Agency, LLC



## From the president

# You save money and the Friends of the Pumpkinvine receive \$25

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. are always looking for new ways to help fund trail maintenance and expansion. We seek grants, donations from loyal supporters and corporate sponsors and also sale trail-related items like t-shirts, caps and jerseys. The June bike ride is another source of income.

Through this newsletter, our website and Facebook, we're promoting a unique fundraising opportunity that not only helps generate funds for the trail, but also pays dividends for our supporters.

This opportunity comes from Energizing Indiana, a cooperative venture of the Indiana energy companies designed to help homeowners save on their utility bills and at the same time generate contributions to a nonprofit organization, like the Friends of the Pumpkinvine.

Energizing Indiana will donate \$25 to Friends of the Pumpkinvine for each household that completes a free home-energy assessment and designates the Friends of the Pumpkinvine as their beneficiary. The assessment can lower your home's energy consumption, improve your home's air quality and increase your home's value.

The best way to schedule an energy assessment with Energize Indiana is through a link to the Energizing Indiana website on our website homepage: <http://www.pumpkinvine.org/>. This link will take you to the Friends-of-the-Pumpkinvine scheduling page. It gives you the opportunity to schedule the assessment at your convenience and select the best appointment time. Here are the steps in the process.

1. Schedule your energy assessment through the link at [www.pumpkinvine.org](http://www.pumpkinvine.org).
2. After you schedule the energy assessment, Energizing Indiana will contact you by phone to set up a time to make the assessment.
3. Then a representative of Energizing Indiana will come to your home and make the assessment. It takes about an hour. On that visit, they will inspect your home's exterior, attic, furnace and water heater and appliances for ways to reduce your energy bills. They will also bring an energy savings kit that includes 20 compact florescent light bulbs, energy-efficient faucet and showerheads and insulation for water-heater pipes — **all installed for free**.
4. Finally, the Energizing Indiana representative will give you an energy-assessment report outlining weatherization steps that could improve your homes energy efficiency. You may or may not follow up on their suggestions at your own expense.

In short, the assessment and the energy saving kit are free, further weatherization is up to you, and for every assessment made through our website, Energizing Indiana will donate \$25 to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine.

There are a few limitations to the program: your home must have been built before Jan. 1, 2010 and have had no utility sponsored energy assessment in the past three years.

I hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to save on your energy bills and at the same time support the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc.



## Friends of the Pumpkinvine receive two awards

On Dec. 5, 2013, the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc., received the “2013 Community Service Award” from the Goshen Chamber of Commerce at the chamber’s annual dinner. The award was in recognition

of the Friends “contribution to Goshen’s Quality of Place.” In accepting the award, John Yoder, Friends’ president thanked the Goshen community for taking the lead in supporting the Friends in their efforts to create the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. It is very gratifying to receive the award, he said, “but the greatest satisfaction comes from seeing so many people enjoying the trail.”

On February 25 at the Indiana Greenway Foundation’s annual luncheon in Indianapolis, the Friends received the foundation’s “Outstanding Trail Group” award for 2013. The Greenway awards are presented “to those individuals, communities, corporations and projects that have exhibited outstanding excellence in advancing greenways, or multi-use trail development throughout Indiana. Categories include Outstanding Public Official, Trail Advocate, Trail Group, Corporation, Trail Project and Local Government.”

## Pumpkinvine jerseys and caps for sale

You can show your support for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail in many ways, including wearing a Pumpkinvine jersey.

Four bike shops in Elkhart County have Pumpkinvine Jerseys and caps for sale: Elkhart Bicycle Shop, Family Bike Center, Lincoln Avenue Cycling and Fitness and Pumpkinvine Cyclery. Both items also will be available at the June 21 Pumpkinvine Bike Ride.

Features of the jersey include:

- Three deep pockets in the back
- A three-quarter zipper in front
- An elastic band on the bottom to keep it from riding up
- Polyester fabric that wicks away moisture.
- Men’s and women’s sizes.



The jerseys sell for \$62 and the caps for \$15



1. How many riders registered for the first Pumpkinvine Bike Ride?
  - a. 150
  - b. 225
  - c. 410
  - d. 494
2. What was the highest registration for the ride?
  - a. 916
  - b. 1025
  - c. 1238
  - d. 1313
3. What pie flavor is the only kind that has been served at the ride every year?
  - a. Apple
  - b. Pumpkin
  - c. Cherry
  - d. Flat Tire
4. Roughly how many directional arrows does it take to mark all the roads on all 10 routes of the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride?
  - a. 225
  - b. 375
  - c. 450
  - d. I’ve never counted them. I was counting buggies instead.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

We would like to thank these local businesses that supported the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. and Pumpkinvine Bike Ride

### GOLD SPONSORS



### SILVER SPONSORS



Goshen Hospital



### BRONZE SPONSORS



Elkhart Bicycle Shop



# Friends of the Pumpkinvine 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner

DOOR PRIZES

# 4.22.14

OPEN AT 6PM

## Shipshewana Event Center

You are invited to the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Friends of the Pumpkinvine Annual Dinner. This year the dinner will be at the Shipshewana Event Center, 760 S. Van Buren Street (SR 5), Shipshewana on April 22. The theme is "Closing the Gaps: Past and Present."

The past year has been an exciting one for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail: two new sections of trail opened in Middlebury, closing two major gaps in the trail. Join us for this dinner to hear about the possibility of closing other gaps in the trail.

Our featured speaker, Jay Stankiewicz, is a professional engineer and the Transportation Project Manager for the Fort Wayne office of DLZ Indiana, LLC. Jay has over 15 years of trail and transportation experience with an emphasis on the funding, design and construction of trails. With DLZ, Jay has designed



Guest speaker, Jay Stankiewicz

portions of the Monon Trail and White River Greenway in Indianapolis, the Cardinal Greenway in Muncie, the Maple City Greenway in Goshen and the Tow Path Trail in Fort Wayne. DLZ is now preparing a corridor study for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail from County Road 33 to County Road 20. Jay will explain the challenges and hurdles for the construction of this critical segment of Pumpkinvine.

Door prizes include gift certificates to local bike shops and a Giant Sadona DX bike (men's or women's) donated by Family Bicycle.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. for viewing trail-related exhibits. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. There also is a vegetarian option. The cost per person, including tax and gratuity, is \$30.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Circle names that would like a vegetarian meal.
- Make checks payable to: Friends of the Pumpkinvine.
- Mail check and completed Reservation Form to:  
Friends of the Pumpkinvine  
P.O. Box 392  
Goshen, IN 46527-0392
- No refunds will be possible after April 15.
- You can download a longer registration form at [http://www.pumpkinvine.org/html/annual\\_dinner.html](http://www.pumpkinvine.org/html/annual_dinner.html).



Grand prize: Electra Townie 7D

If you cannot attend the meeting, consider sending a tax-deductible donation in your place. For questions, please do not hesitate to contact John Yoder at [friends@pumpkinvine.org](mailto:friends@pumpkinvine.org) and 574-533-4943.



*Kurt Neufeld*

## Neufeld elected to board

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine board of directors elected Kurt Neufeld to the board at its February meeting. He will assume the responsibilities of Friends' treasurer in April.

Neufeld is a 2011 graduate from Goshen College, majoring in accounting and minoring in environmental science. After graduation, Kurt took a year-long sabbatical from Goshen, his hometown, and moved to Asheville, North Carolina. During this year, he spent his time with eclectic combination of hiking in the Appalachian Mountains, passing the CPA exam, working at a small pepper farm and driving box-trucks to triathlons throughout the country.

In the fall of 2012, Neufeld returned to Goshen and

began employment as an auditor at Crowe Horwath LLP, an accounting firm with an office in Elkhart. In his free time, he enjoys running, biking and spending time with his group of college friends that remain in the Goshen area.

Neufeld said his interest in being on Friends-of-the-Pumpkinvine board of directors stems from his "appreciation of the trail system throughout the Elkhart County community, as well as a desire to contribute to the preservation and extension of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail."

"We're delighted to have Kurt join us," said Rhonda Yoder, Friends treasurer. "He brings a much needed young-adult perspective to our board, and his background in accounting and environmental science is a wonderful bonus for our organization."

## Spring wildflower walk is April 27

Seeing a variety of wildflowers is one of the great joys of walking or riding the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail in the spring. Wildflower enthusiasts John and Joann Smith have identified over 30 spring wildflowers along the trail, including Spring Beauty, Trillium, Puttyroot, Bishop's Cap, Bellwort, Yellow Violet, Jack in the Pulpit and Common Blue Violet

However, since wildflowers tend to be much smaller than domesticated flowers, they are not always easy to spot. A guide can be very helpful.

For the past several years, the Smiths have been those guides, leading a spring wildflower walks on the Pumpkinvine and helping others discover and identify the flowers, giving some background on their distribution and how they are related to other plants.

This year the walk will be on April 27, starting at 3 p.m. and last approximately one hour. Because of limited parking at the wildflower area west of County Road 33, participants are encouraged to bike to the area. Bikers should meet at Abshire Park at 2:15 p.m.

If you have questions about the walk, contact Smiths at [johnjs@goshen.edu](mailto:johnjs@goshen.edu) or call 533-9496.



*Spring Beauty*



*Common Blue Violet*

# 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PUMPKINVINE BIKE RIDE: JUNE 21, 2014

REGISTER  
EARLY AND  
\$AVE!

MAIL CHECK AND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM (ON FACING PAGE) PRIOR TO MAY 31 TO RECEIVE DISCOUNT.

The annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride has something for everyone. The routes will satisfy bicyclists who want a light or vigorous workout. You can ride on an off-road trail or low-traffic county roads. Bicyclists have the opportunity to experience horses with buggies, farm animals in fields, flower gardens, country schools, quilt gardens and small towns. The acclaimed SAG stops provide refreshments at no extra cost.

## New in 2014

- **New trail section** - See the 1.4 miles of new trail built in 2013 in Middlebury. The ride routes will enter Middlebury on the trail through a new tunnel under U.S. 20.
- **New location for the Middlebury SAG** - The SAG in Middlebury will be downtown in Memorial Park, one block east of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. Ride routes departing from Middlebury will pass through Krider Nurseries World's Fair Garden.
- **Quilt Gardens** - The 2014 Quilt Garden pattern at Krider Nurseries World's Fair Garden in Middlebury will feature a *Water Wheel* pattern. In Shippshewana the patterns will be *Dutchman's Puzzle* at Mennohof and *Goldie's Basket* at the Farmstead Inn. Both of these gardens are across Van Buren St. from the Shippshewana Flea Market.

**Cost:** The 21-, 32-, 49-, 54-, 65- and 102-mile routes are \$25 by May 31 and \$35 after May 31. The Trail Ride is \$20 before May 31 and \$30 after May 31. T-shirts are \$12.

Check our web site: [www.pumpkinvine.org/PBR\\_html/annual\\_PBR.html](http://www.pumpkinvine.org/PBR_html/annual_PBR.html) for more information and maps of all the routes, or contact Bob Carrico at (574) 266-1362 or [rjcarrico1@frontier.com](mailto:rjcarrico1@frontier.com).

Proceeds from the ride support the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc., in their efforts to convert the entire 17-mile Pumpkinvine corridor into a linear park and greenway.

### Friday Dinner Ride, June 20, 4:45 & 5:15 pm (limited registration)

Enjoy a Thresher's Dinner at an Old Order Amish home on Friday evening. The menu includes roast beef and chicken, homemade bread, apple butter, mashed potatoes, gravy, homemade noodles, vegetables, salad, coffee and pie. The cost is \$25, which include tax and tip.

- You also must be registered for the Saturday ride and register for both rides by May 31.
- You may start at the Shippshewana Flea Market or Abshire Park in Goshen. You do not have to choose the same starting location that you choose for Saturday's ride.
- The round trip from Goshen (with hills) is 24 miles and from Shippshewana is 16 miles without hills. The ride from Goshen leaves at 4:45 p.m.; the ride from Shippshewana will leave at 5:15 p.m.
- No change in starting location on the day of the ride.
- **Note: Please do not sign up for this ride unless you can ride at least 10 mph for an hour.**

# 15th Annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride Registration Form\* - June 21, 2014

- One person or one family with the same mailing address per application (you may photocopy this page).

<b>Name (Please print)</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Please mark your choices.</b>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 & under or; <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & older	<b>I want to start in Goshen (see map on back)</b>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 & under or; <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & older	<input type="checkbox"/> 32 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 49 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 65 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 102 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Ride 10 mi.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 & under or; <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & older	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Evening Dinner Ride 28 mi.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 & under or; <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & older	<b>I want to start in Shipshewana (see map on back)</b>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 & under or; <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & older	<input type="checkbox"/> 21 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 32 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 54 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 65 mi. <input type="checkbox"/> 102 mi		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 & under or; <input type="checkbox"/> 14 & older	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Evening Dinner Ride 16 mi.		
<b>Street address:</b>				
<b>City:</b>		<b>E-mail address:</b>		
<b>State:</b>		<b>Zip Code:</b>		<b>Home or Cell Phone#:</b>
		<b>Emergency contact phone#:</b>		
<b>Entry Category</b>		<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Per Unit Price By May 31</b>	<b>Per Unit Price After May 31</b>
• Children age 13 or under are free				<b>Total Fee</b>
Individual(s)			\$25.00	\$35.00
Individual - Trail Ride			\$20.00	\$30.00
Friday Dinner Ride, must be registered for Sat. ride			\$25.00	Not available
<b>Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail membership:</b>		Individual - \$30		Family - \$40
PBR T-shirts – His and Hers	<b>Indicate number ordered for each size:</b>			
	S:	M:	L:	X-L:
PBR Jersey – <b>For Her</b> ***	S:	M:	L:	X-L:
PBR Jersey – <b>For Him</b> ***	S:	M:	L:	X-L:
				Total T-shirts X \$12.00
				Total Jerseys X \$62.00
				Total Jerseys X \$62.00
*Mail registration to: <b>Bob Carrico, 52829 Wildflower Lane, Elkhart, IN 46514</b>				<b>Grand Total**</b> No refunds after May 31, 2014.
** Make checks payable to: <b>Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc.</b>				
***For jersey sizing information: see <a href="http://www.pumpkinvine.org/PBR_html/t-shirt.html">www.pumpkinvine.org/PBR_html/t-shirt.html</a>				

**Release of Liability:** I, the undersigned, know that participating in the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride (PBR) is a potentially hazardous activity and I participate in it out of my own free will and choice. In choosing to participate in the PBR and related events, I fully accept and assume all risks including without limitation, physical injury, mental injury or trauma, death, contact with other participants, equipment failure, inadequate safety equipment, the effects of weather including extreme temperature conditions, traffic, contact with motor vehicles of all types and descriptions, collision with other riders or fixed objects, the conditions of the road and participating in events along the route, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I examined PBR routes and recognize that they are on and across public roads without special bike lanes. I agree that PBR is not responsible for the conditions of public roads. I assume the risk of all conditions and occurrences during the PBR and its related events and waive all specific notice of the existence of either. I shall pay my own medical and emergency expenses in the event of accident, illness, or other incapacity regardless of whether I have authorized such expense.

I understand and agree that a situation may arise during the PBR which may be beyond the control of the sponsors, promoters or organizers and agree to ride so as not to endanger myself or others. I agree to abide by all traffic rules applicable to automobiles and recognize that failure to do so can put me and others in danger. I agree to be solely responsible for the condition and adequacy of my bicycle, safety gear and riding equipment.

Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of my entry acceptance, I for myself and anyone acting on my behalf, waive and release PBR sponsors and participating clubs, government agencies, communities and organizations, PBR officials, volunteers and their representatives, Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. and the officers, directors, employees, representatives, agents, and successors of all of the above (the "Released Parties"), from any and all claims of any kind I have, may have or may hereafter accrue against the Released Parties either directly or indirectly, including claims brought by third parties, arising out of or relating in any respect to my attending or participating in the PBR, including without limitation, damage or harm to me or my property which may be caused by any negligent act or omission by the Released Parties. I further agree to indemnify and hold the Released Parties from any and all losses, damages, claims and expenses, including attorney fees, arising from or relating in any respect to my participation in the PBR or related events. I further agree to abide by all PBR rules and regulations. I agree that photos and videos taken of me during this ride may be used in Friends of the Pumpkinvine newsletters, website or ride brochures.

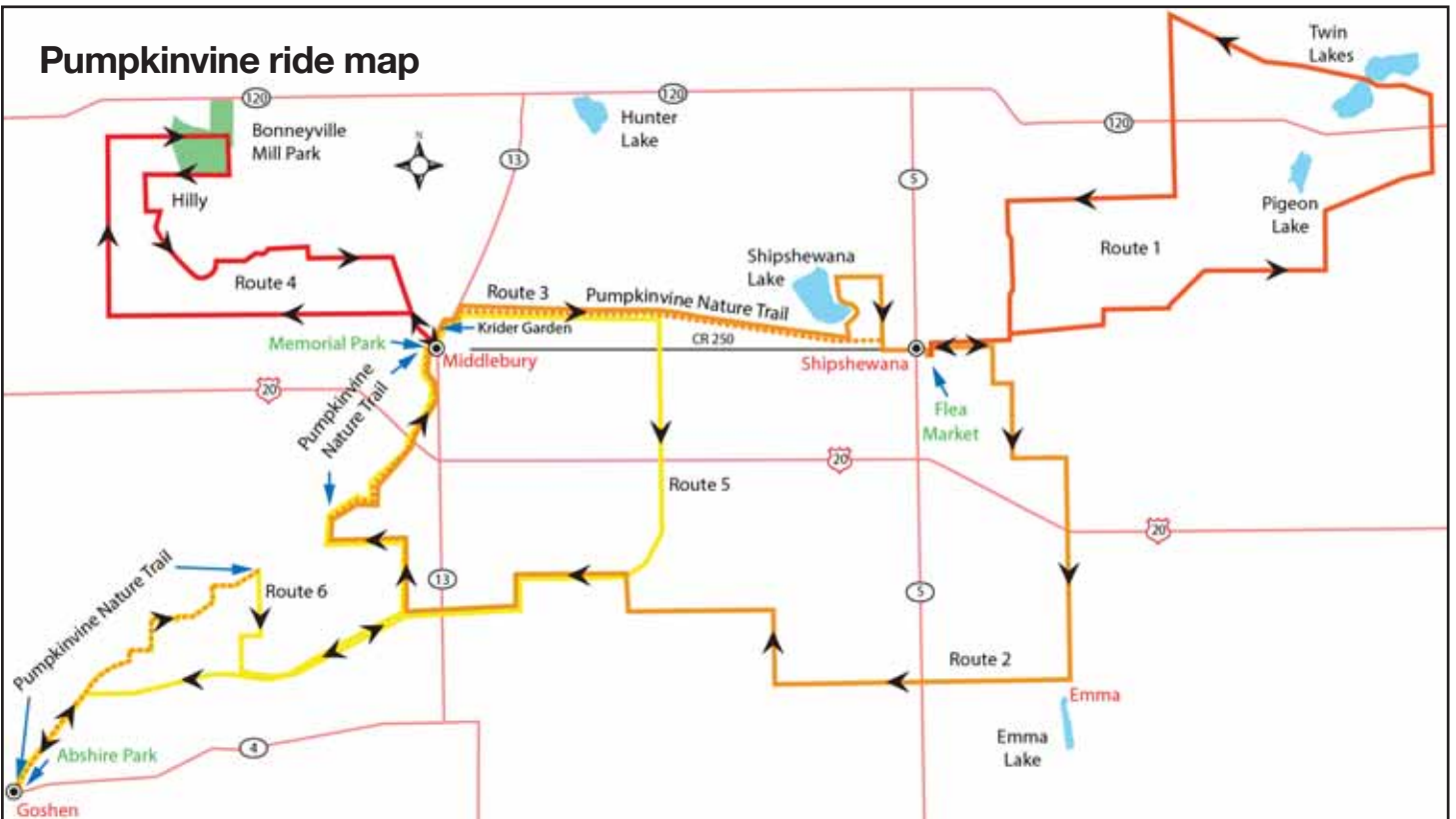
A parent or legal guardian must sign for anyone under 18      CPSC- or SNELL-approved helmets are MANDATORY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



Rides starting in Shipshewana	
Ride	Description
<b>21-mile</b>	Shipshewana east to Twin Lakes, return to Shipshewana
<b>32-mile</b>	Shipshewana to Middlebury, return to Shipshewana
<b>54-mile</b>	Shipshewana to Twin Lakes, return to Shipshewana, then to Middlebury and return to Shipshewana
<b>65-mile</b>	Shipshewana, Middlebury, Goshen, Middlebury and return to Shipshewana
<b>102-mile</b>	Shipshewana to Twin Lakes, Shipshewana, Middlebury, Goshen, Middlebury, Bonneyville, Middlebury again and return to Shipshewana

Rides starting in Goshen	
Ride	Description
<b>32-mile</b>	Goshen to Middlebury and return to Goshen
<b>49-mile</b>	Goshen to Middlebury, to Bonneyville returning to Middlebury and then return to Goshen
<b>65-mile</b>	Goshen, Middlebury, Shipshewana, Middlebury and return to Goshen
<b>102-mile</b>	Goshen, Middlebury, Bonneyville, Middlebury, Shipshewana, Twin Lakes, Shipshewana, Middlebury again and then return to Goshen
<b>Trail Ride 10-mile</b>	Trail to County Road 33 and return





# Study of area trails shows economic impact

By Evan Bontrager

Readers of this newsletter instinctively know the Pumpkinvine is valuable for recreation and transportation, but is it possible to quantify its economic value and the value of other area trails? And while we love the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, is

it more valuable by being connected to other trails where you can access yet more communities?

These are some of the questions we wanted to answer when we did surveys of area trail users between July 30 and Oct. 28, 2013. In addition to eight electronic counters placed along the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, the MapleHeart, Millrace and Winona trails that counted trail users, volunteers stationed along the trails also administered over 300 surveys to trail users to find out why they were using the trail.

When we asked trail users what they were doing that day, many said recreation, but when we asked where they were going and what they were going to do when they got there, we discovered other activities as well.

Biking was the most common activity, but only 42 percent of users were just biking for the sake of biking. Eleven percent of trail users were also shopping or going to get food while using the trail. That number helps us understand the trails economic impact. In fact, spreading the estimated spending across all trail users, it averaged \$17.29 spent per trip. We further asked about spending for the purpose of using the trail, for example, on bicycles or accessories. In the previous year, the average trail user had spent \$259.24 for the purpose of using the trail, another dimension of economic activity the trail helps to generate.

Three percent of the trail users described their trail use as commuting to work or school, an activity that has an economic impact for the individual who would spend less on gas, for example.

## Activities on four area trails:

Biking	42%
Running	6%
Socializing	7%
Shopping	2%
Buying food/drink	9%
Commuting	3%
Travel to park	2%
Walking	7%
Walking pet	2%
Enjoying nature	10%
Blading	0
Event	0
Nature Study	2%
Sightseeing	6%
Other	2%

Responders could pick more than one category.



There were other benefits for our trails beyond money. Some recreation uses are simply round trips while others use the trails to travel to other communities. Another example was that 7 percent of those surveyed noted they used the trail for socializing with friends.

This data is but some of the early feedback from the study. A deeper analysis of the data is ongoing. For now you can be confident that the Pumpkinvine and other regional trails are worth building and using. It is an asset worth expanding.

We are grateful to Goshen College Professor of Economics, Jerrell Ross Richer, who had students from one of his classes analyze the survey data as a class project.

# Friends of the Pumpkinvine flashback

*Items from the past newsletters and Pumpkinvine's history*

## Five years ago—Spring 2009

- National Trails Day, June 6, 2009, was announced as the date for the grand opening of 3.4 miles of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail between CR 127 and CR 33 between Middlebury and Goshen.
- Grants to building the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail totaled \$3.4 million, the vast majority of which went to local companies.

## 10 years ago—Spring 2004

- The Friends' board appointed Jim Smith executive director and Bob Carrico trail operations manager.
- Town of Middlebury gave the Friends a plaque that read: "In appreciation to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine [Nature] Trail for outstanding contributions to the Town of Middlebury and Middlebury Park Board—Linear Greenway Park, 2004."

## 15 years ago—Spring 1999

- Jan. 14, 1999, the Friends donated 1.75 miles of the Pumpkinvine corridor between SR 4 and CR 28 to the city of Goshen.
- Bob Hatch and Mike Varner joined the Friends board.
- Friends of Pumpkinvine were debt free for the first time since 1993.
- Doug Mulvaney joins Jim Byron and Jim Brotherson on the Friends' legal team.
- A plaque inscribed with the names of the 91 trail Founders who gave \$500 or more to purchase the Pumpkinvine corridor will be placed at the trailhead in Abshire Park.

## 20 years ago—Spring 1994

- On Jan. 13, 1994, lawyers for the Friends, Jim Brotherson and Jim Byron, filed a quiet-title lawsuit in Elkhart County Superior Court No. 3 asking the court to resolve conflicting claims of land ownership between State Road 4 and County Road 28. Both lawyers are working pro bono because they believe the project is for the good of the community.
- March 18, 1994, the Friends sponsor a trail walk from



*Friends of the Pumpkinvine transfer land to the city of Goshen: C.J. Yoder, Friends treasurer; Larry Beachy, Goshen park board; Allan Kauffman, Goshen mayor; Rich Fay, Goshen Park and Recreation director; John Yoder, Friends president; Everett Thomas, Goshen City Council; Merritt Lehman, Friends secretary, Jan. 13, 1994.*



*C.J. Yoder cuts fence blocking trail, Mar. 18, 1994*

Abshire Park to CR 28 to show off the newly purchased Pumpkinvine corridor. Early in the walk, they encountered trail opponents blocking the trail with a barrier across the corridor constructed of a wire fence attached to railroad ties driven into the ground. The Friends used wire cutters to open a hole in the fence and proceeded to walk the trail from State Road 4 to County Road 28.



## Answers from questions on page 3:

1. b. 225 riders
2. d. 1313 riders in 2012
3. a. Pumpkin
4. b. 375

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Emergency on the trail: call 911

General information on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail  
 Check: [pumpkinvine.org](http://pumpkinvine.org)  
 Email: [Friends@pumpkinvine.org](mailto:Friends@pumpkinvine.org)  
 Call: 574-535-6458

**USE THE FOLLOWING EMAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS TO CONTACT THE AGENCIES THAT MANAGE THE TRAIL. THE MAP BELOW HIGHLIGHTS THE SECTION EACH AGENCY MANAGES.**

### Goshen Park and Recreation

State Road 4 to County Road 28  
 Sheri Howland  
 574-534-2901  
[ParksRecreation@GoshenCity.com](mailto:ParksRecreation@GoshenCity.com)

### Middlebury Park and Recreation

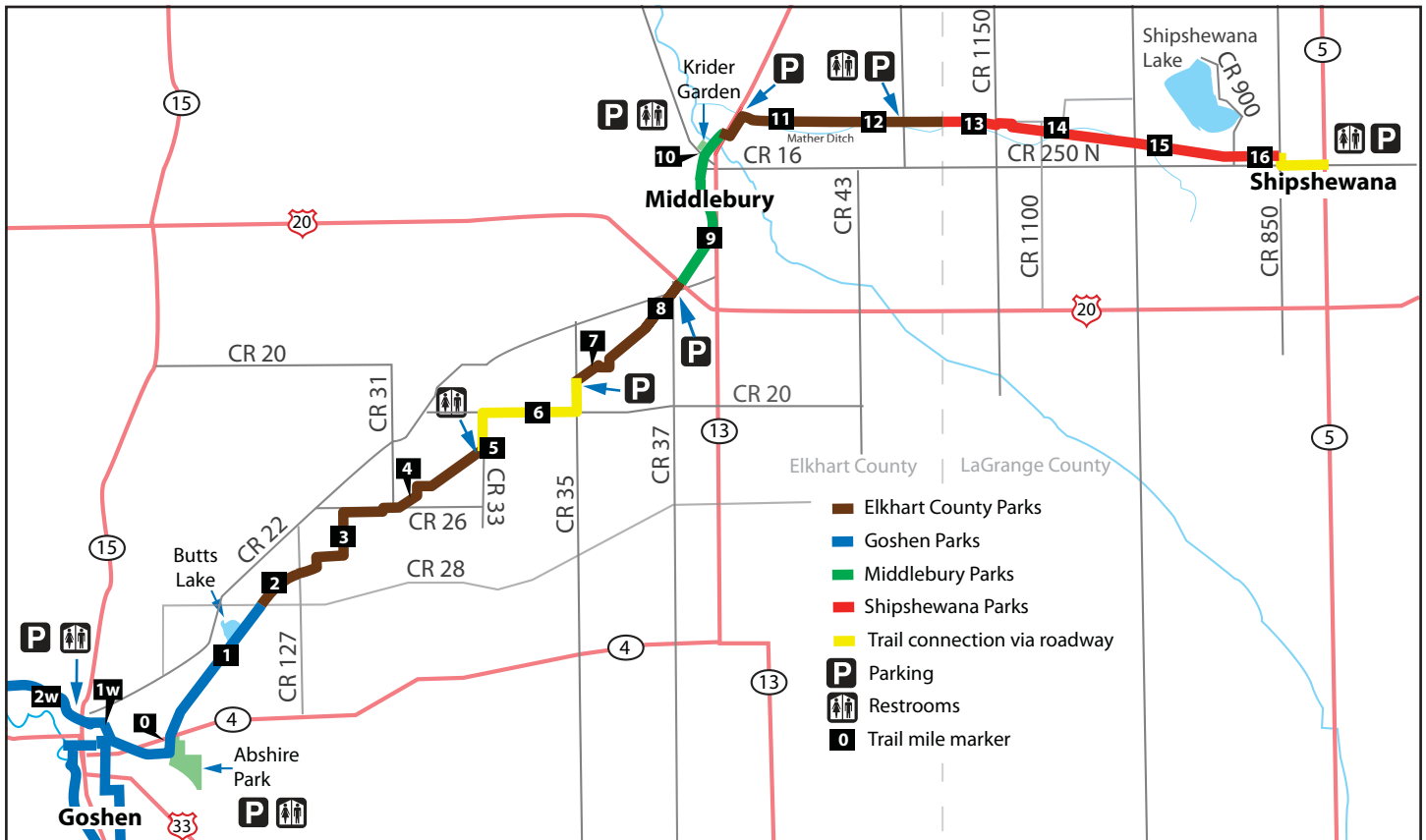
US 20 to York Dr.  
 Tom Enright  
 574-825-1499  
[Parks@Middleburyin.com](mailto:Parks@Middleburyin.com)

### Elkhart County Parks

County Road 28 to U.S. 20 and  
 York Dr. to LaGrange County line  
 Bernie Cunningham  
 574-535-6458  
[Bcunningham@ElkhartCounty.com](mailto:Bcunningham@ElkhartCounty.com)

### Shipshewana-LaGrange County

Elkhart Co.-LaGrange Co. to CR 850 W  
 Mike Sutter  
 260-768-4743  
[Manager1@Shipshewana.org](mailto:Manager1@Shipshewana.org)



Friends of the



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Goshen, IN 46527

You may become a supporting member of the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail or renew your membership by completing the form below. Your tax-deductible donation will be used to build and maintain the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail and goes toward paying the day-to-day expenses of the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. No board members receive remuneration. By showing your Friends' membership card, you are eligible for discounts on specified purchases at the following area bicycle shops: Elkhart Bicycle Shop, Elkhart; Family Bicycle, Elkhart; Lincoln Avenue Cycling and Fitness, Goshen; House of Bicycles, Osceola; and Pumpkinvine Cyclery, Middlebury.

### Has your membership expired?

You are receiving this newsletter because you have contributed to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine in the past five years. If the date on the label of this newsletter has passed, we hope you'll consider renewing your membership in the . Membership levels are::

- Individual \$30       Family \$40       Sustaining \$60       Contributing \$100       Patron \$250  
 Benefactor \$500       Benefactor Silver \$1,000       Benefactor Gold \$2,500       Benefactor Platinum > \$5,000

Send your membership payment to:

**Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail • P.O. Box 392 • Goshen, IN 46527**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_