Pumpkinvine Trail Talk™
Volume 25 No.3
November 2016

# Plans for closing CR 33-to-CR 20 gap move forward
## Environmental agencies visit trail site

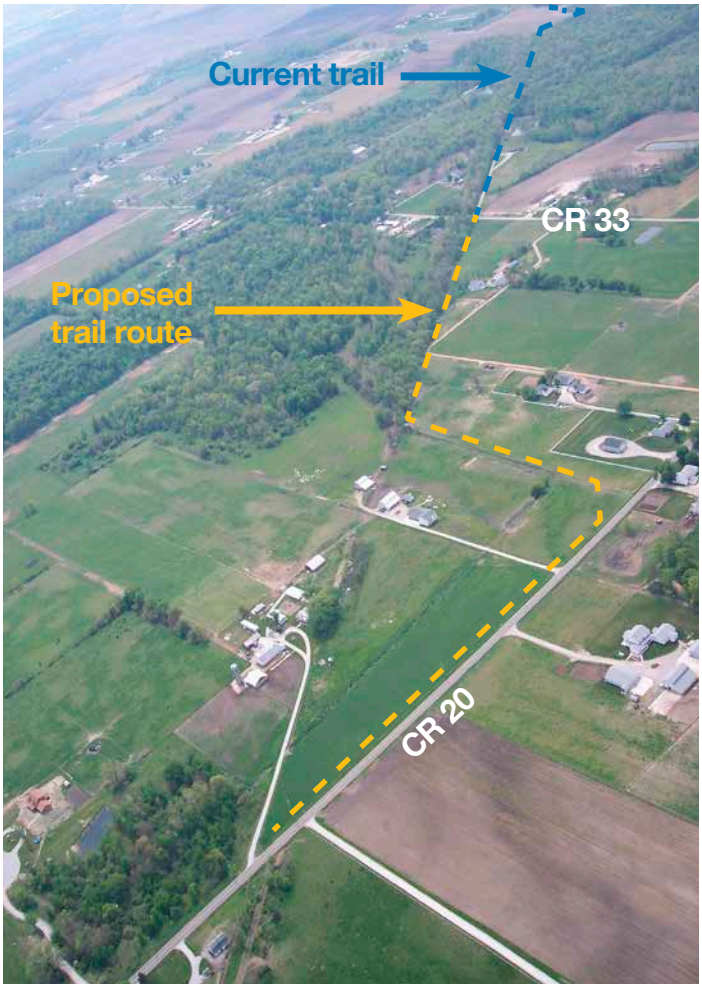
Plans for closing the gap in the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail between County Road 33 and County Road 20 have passed another major hurdle, but minor changes to route of the trail near a wetlands area and acquiring the necessary permits mean that construction is probably a year away.

On Oct. 4, representatives from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (INDNR), Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), and the Army Corp of Engineers walked the proposed trail route with Bernie Cunningham and Nick Steele from Elkhart County Parks, Larry Neff from the Friends of the Pumpkinvine, Qasim Asghar of DLZ (consultants) and Steve Schweisberger liaison from the county surveyor's office to the county drainage board.

They looked at an area where the proposed route was close to wetlands and the proposed realignment of the South Fork of Pine Creek, a change the Friends of the Pumpkinvine suggested to maximize the available land for one of the farmers along the trail. However, IDEM, the Corp of Engineers and INDNR rejected the creek realignment, claiming that it would destroy habitat for rare plants, but, they gave tentative approval to a slightly different route that would work.

"It took over three years to negotiate a route for the trail in this section with five farm families," said John Yoder, Friends of the Pumpkinvine president, "but the result is an excellent route for trail users and one that respects the wishes of adjacent landowners. These five farm families see the benefits of the trail for the community, and we are grateful for their community spirit in allowing us to purchase this land to make a safer trail."

The county drainage board plans to clean the creek near the trail this winter. Meanwhile, the engineering consultants will move forward with construction documents for the trail, while waiting on final approval of their plans from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Construction on this section is possible by summer 2017.




*The proposed route (looking southwest) for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail between County Road 20 and County Road 33.*

# Board of Directors

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*See back issues of this newsletter at:*
www.pumpkinvine.org

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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.

*From the president*

## The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is part of regional active-transportation plan

At the Friends of the Pumpkinvine annual dinner in April, James Turnwald, the executive director of the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG), outlined how the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail fits into the recent trend in transportation planning called "active transportation." He defined active transportation as "human-powered transportation that engages people in healthy physical activity while they travel from place to place. Additionally, active transportation is necessary to support public transit to allow for more accessibility within and among communities."

The forms active transportation takes—biking and walking to work, for example—are not new per se, but what is new is that planners are emphasizing them much more than they have done in the past as viable transportation options. For example, MACOG's vision, as outlined in the document Transportation Planning 2040, states: "In 2040, the Michiana Region will boast an interconnected, safe, and accessible transportation network where all residents and visitors can travel from place to place without use of motorized vehicles. Through infrastructure, programs, and policies, walking and bicycling will become a common, enjoyable, and viable transportation and recreation choice that will lead to healthier lives, safer communities, and economically and socially vibrant region."

That last phrase, "socially vibrant region," is a key element of the plan. Active transportation isn't just about saving money on gas, cleaner air and less congestion on our streets and highways. It is a means for achieving a more livable and desirable community, a place where people want to move to. The plan's "quality of place" goal, Turnwald said, is to "create economically and socially vibrant communities, through the use of active transportation networks that attract resident to live, work and play in our region."

I've been to numerous public meeting in the past few years where speakers emphasized the fact that we are in competition with other communities to attract and keep talented young people, and the way to do that isn't necessarily going to be with a certain type of job. More and more young people look first for an attractive place to live—one with good schools, hospitals and one where it is easy to walk and bike—then they look for a job in that area. Consequently, if communities want to attract and retain young people, they need to build the type of community young people want, and that includes being a place that promote walking and biking

This emphasis on active transportation and how it helps create vibrant communities is a ringing endorsement of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail —a prime example of active transportation that promotes the quality of life in our region. In addition, I would like to think that it bodes well for the future of the trail, because the more we understand how important a well-maintained trail is to the quality of life in our area, the more likely it is that people will support the Friends of the Pumpkinvine when our emphasis shifts from closing the gaps in the trail to trail maintenance, the least glamorous part of a trail project.

# Recognition for $1,000 donors extended for helping to close the gaps

At the end of October, 383 households and organizations have contributed to the Campaign to Close the Gaps since Dec. 2014, including 72 that contributed $1,000 or more. That $1,000 figure includes contributions from individuals in Bristol, Elkhart, Fort Wayne, Goshen, Granger, Indianapolis, LaGrange, Middlebury, Orland, Shipshewana, Syracuse and Wannamaker in Indiana and from Harbor Springs, Mich., and Pinetop, Ariz.

The on-road gaps in the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail are between County Road 33 and County Road 20 and between County Road 20 and County Road 35.

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine board would like to thank all contributors for your support. Your generous contributions have helped the Friends of the Pumpkinvine match the $300,000 challenge grant from the Community Foundation of Elkhart County, but we still need to raise $50,000 to fully fund the construction of the trail, whose cost we estimate will be over $900,000.

In light of that need, we have decided to extend the period for giving recognition to a $1,000 donation to December 31, 2017. Organizations or households that contribute a total of $1,000 to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine in 2015, 2016 and 2017, will have their names recognized in the County Road 33-to-County Road 20 gap when that project is completed.

The list below represents all those who contributed a total of $1,000 from Dec. 14, 2014 to October 2016. **If you made such a contribution and are not on the list or if your name isn't represented correctly**, let us know by email at **friends@pumpkinvine.org**

*This plaque at Abshire Park in Goshen recognizes the households and organization that gave $500 toward the purchase of the Pumpkinvine corridor in 1993. Donors who give $1,000 to help close the gaps in the Pumpkinvine between CR 33 and CR 35 between Jan. 1, 2015 and Dec. 31, 2016 will be recognized in this section of the trail.*

**Individuals:**

Rebecca and Paris Ball-Miller
Keith and Diana Barkow
Mike and Thomas R Bontreger
James R Brotherson
Andrew Brubaker Alison Gotwals
Robert and Janice Carrico
B. Harry and Lois Dyck
Dale and Judy Eash
Ron and Lisa Fenech
Glenn and Mary Gilbert
James and Barbara Nelson Gingerich
Cal Graber and Jean Mann Graber
Samuel Abe Graber
Robert and Christine Guth
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Michael and Karen Lemmon
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B.J. and Carolyn Miller
Kent and Susan Miller
William and Phyllis Miller
R. Wayne and Beth Morton
Lowell and Diane Nafziger
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Lynn Schram and Mary Michalak
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Ted and Marlene Springer
Robert and Barbara Steury
Ora and Mary Troyer
Anne Wilson
Doug and Janette Yoder
Gordon and Esther Yoder
John D and June A Yoder

**Organizations:**

Aluminum Trailer Co
Anonymous
Bike Michiana Coalition
Bike the Bend, Inc
CIBA Foundation
Community Foundation of Elkhart County
Dairy Queen
DLZ Indiana
E&S Sales
Elkhart County Convention & Vistors Bureau
Everence
Greenways Foundation
Jayco, Inc
Lagrange County CVB
Lionshead Specialty Tire and Wheel
Martin's Super Market
Michiana Bicycle Assoc.
Miller Poultry
Parkview LaGrange Hospital
Raymond James and Associates
Transport Properties LLC
Well Foundation
Ziggity Systems, Inc

## Brittany Short elected to Friends of the Pumpkinvine board

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine board has elected a Middlebury native to the Friends board of directors. Brittany Short, co-owner with her husband, Spencer, of Pumpkinvine Cyclery in Middlebury, joined the Friends' board in November. Short attended Indiana University South Bend and graduated from Goshen College with a degree in organizational leadership in 2010.

A frequent user of the Pumpkinvine herself and, as the owner of a bike shop, Short sees the positive impact the trail has had on the community. "I use the Pumpkinvine for running, biking, and commuting to work when I can (nearly all on path!)," she said. "I think it's a wonderful asset for cities' public health and wellness. I can't count how many times I've heard people say that before the trail went in, they wouldn't have even thought about riding a bike, and now that it's finished they use it multiple times a week! Dedicated walking and biking trails are confidence inspiring for those who just don't feel safe on the road, which opens the door to incorporate more healthy habits into our daily lives. Additionally, as a business owner I see the many economic benefits our trail system has had on our community. Bike tourism is alive and well in our area because of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, and I look forward to the things it will do for the local economy going forward."

"We are very pleased that Brittany has joined the board," said John Yoder, Friends president. "She has wonderful connections to the Middlebury community and can represent it well. Her involvement in a bicycle business near the Pumpkinvine will give us feedback on the trail from a broad spectrum of trail users."

Short joined the board in part because she knows that keeping the trail in good shape doesn't happen without effort. "I recognize that the Pumpkinvine Nature trail took enormous effort and dedication to develop, and it will take similar dedication and effort to maintain and improve," she said. "I'm optimistic that I can bring energy and a fresh skill set to the table. I have vested interest in seeing the trail succeed, and am dedicated to seeing its economic impact and usability maximized."

## PUMPKINVINE TRIVIA

### The Closing-the-Gaps edition

1. Why are there gaps in the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail?
   a. Construction costs were too high to complete the trail in these areas.
   b. The gaps were not included in the deeds the Friends of the Pumpkinvine got from Penn Central.
   c. The railroad sold these sections to adjacent landowners before the Friends of the Pumpkinvine was formed.
   d. These sections were easements that reverted to the adjacent landowners when Penn Central abandon the corridor.

2. What is the primary reason for closing the gaps?
   a. To make the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail consistently off-road.
   b. To make the trail more attractive for local users and visitors who do not feel safe on country roads.
   c. To eliminate a major hill on CR 33 and CR 20.
   d. All of the above.

3. Closing the gaps will change the overall length of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail from 16.5 miles to 16 miles. Since the miles of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail are calculated from Goshen, won't that make the mile markers east of CR 33 incorrect?
   a. Yes, but the change in miles isn't that great, so the markers will stay where they are.
   b. No. In anticipation of the possibility of closing the gaps, the mile markers east of CR 33 were not set in concrete and can be moved.
   c. There are mile markers on the Pumpkinvine?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

# Naturalists' Corner

*By John J. Smith*

## The Pumpkinvine is home to numerous invasive species

The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is an invaluable green corridor. Herbaceous (not woody) plants, woody vines, shrubs and trees thrive along the 16.5 miles. Many squirrels, chipmunks, wild turkeys, deer and groundhogs, over 90 species of birds and insects depend on diverse plant species as they move along the trail.

Both native and introduced plant species thrive on the Pumpkinvine. Some introduced plants are invasive, that is, they out-compete native plants. When the Pumpkinvine Railroad was built in the 19th century, there were few introduced plants. Now the best preserved natural area of The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is near mile marker 4.5 where forests remain on both sides of the trail; relatively few invasive plants have established here. Small pockets of woodland remain near mile markers 1.0, 11.5 and 12. Both native and non-native trees are scattered along the trail.

After settlers cut down the woods and drained the wetlands, many introduced plant species invaded the corridor. Three of the most invasive woody plants are white mulberry trees, honeysuckles and oriental bittersweet vines. Since the introduction of mulberry trees to feed imported silkworms in the 1600's, birds have spread the seeds throughout eastern and plain states. Many mulberry trees grow near mile marker 16.0 and at numerous other spots.

*White mulberry sapling, Moraceas, east of mile 16.*

*Amur honeysuckle*

*Oriental bittersweet near mile 8.*

*Garlic mustard near mile .5 1*

*Bellwort, tiny white Bishops Cap flowers and Wild Blue Phlox near mile 12.5 are three of the many non-invasive species of wildflowers on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail.*

Several non-native bush honeysuckle species are popular in home landscaping. While their sweet-smelling flowers and red fruits are attractive, they spread quickly to form dense thickets that eliminate most native plants. You won't go far along the trail without seeing honeysuckle.

Oriental bittersweet vines grow rapidly, quickly suffocating anything in their path. They crossbreed with the less common native bittersweet to create an even more aggressive invasive offspring. Oriental bittersweet covers many trees near mile marker 8.0 and elsewhere along the trail. I haven't yet found any native American bittersweet along the trail.

The most problematic herbaceous species is garlic mustard. It only invaded our area in the 1960's, but has since out-competed many native species. This mustard has no natural enemies except humans, so from time to time the Friends of the Pumpkinvine will organize groups of volunteers to remove invasive plants; we can slow their spread, but not eliminate them. Invasive plants will continue to share the trail borders with diverse native plants, as the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail continues to excel as a vibrant, green linear park where thousands simultaneously exercise and immerse in nature.

# Goshen second graders learn about change

*By Andrea Wagner Thompson*

At Chamberlain Elementary School, learning expeditions are central to the curriculum. Teachers encourage students to be curious and engage in their own learning, as they participate in long-term studies that include hands-on research, critical thinking skills and problem solving. These real-world projects build character and academic skills, with a focus on literacy.

This year, three second-grade classes are studying the portion of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail that is close to their school in Goshen. In their studies, they are employing a four-step process derived from the Stanford School of Design: Feel (what bothers you), Imagine (a way to make it better), Do (the act of change) and Share (telling the world your story).

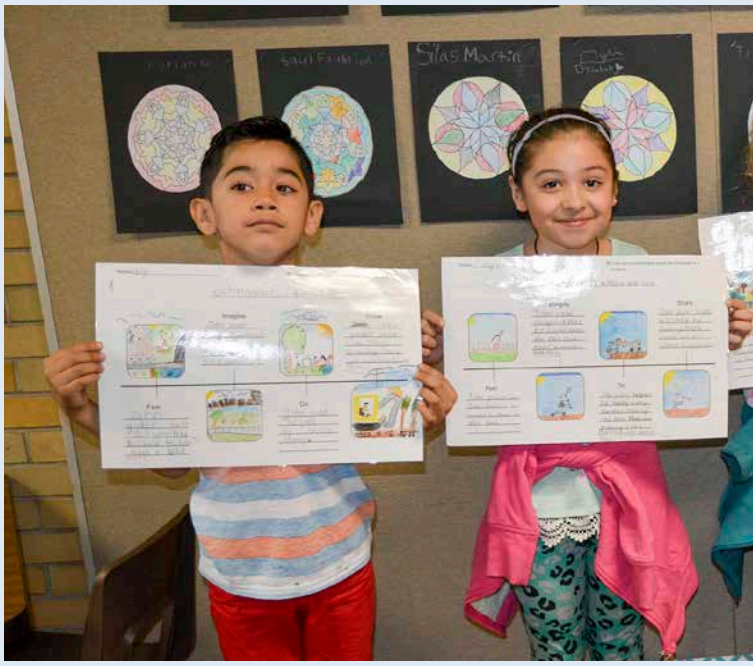
At the beginning of the school year, John Yoder, one of the founders of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail met with the second-grade classes of Kaylene Ediger, Deanna Cunningham and Brittini Whetstone to explain how the trail began. He answered their questions, such as, "Why did you want the trail?" and, "How did you get people to help you?" From John's visit, the students learned how he felt about wanting a bike path, how he imagined a way to solve problems in launching it, what he did to help form the path and how and why he shares his story with other communities. Using this information, they created timelines of the creation of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, complete with hand-drawn illustrations.

Once their timelines were complete, the students went on to participate in a physical challenge on the trail, using grit, courage, integrity and compassion, important qualities in helping the kids build character. Some students have taken up running, often going a mile-and-a-half in a single outing.

During parent-teacher conferences, the students gave a presentation to their parents describing their experiences during their Pumpkinvine Nature Trail Expedition. Second grade teacher, Kaylene Ediger said some parents were, "shocked" to find out that their child could run a mile. She went on to say, "Some of the kids are even dragging their parents onto the path with them now."

Following John's Feel-Imagine-Do-Share example, the class has recently begun to discuss possible ideas to make the trail better. Additionally, they will be surveying families to discover why they don't use the trail to find out what can be done to entice more people to use the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. In January, the class will be sharing their best ideas and solutions with the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, the Parks Department and the community during their Showcase Night.

Through this whole experience, the kids are learning that they can do more than they ever thought possible, becoming real contributors in making their community a better place.



*Chamberlain students created timelines to highlight the key events in the development of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. From left: Darey Briones, Raquel Chiquito, Mylie Dzialak, Ashley Ramos*

*Chamberlain Elementary School, second grade teachers Deanna Cunningham, Kaylene Ediger and Brittini Whetstone taught how change happens using the creation of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail as an example.*

# during a Pumpkinvine Nature Trail expedition

*John Yoder, one of the founders of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, answers questions about how the trail got started for a second-grade class at Chamberlain Elementary School in Goshen.*

*Second graders from Chamberlain Elementary School in Goshen run down the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail in Goshen as part of their physical challenge related to the Expedition Curriculum they are studying.*

# Frequently Asked Questions
## About the Campaign to Close the Gaps

**How many gaps were there in the original purchase of the Pumpkinvine corridor?** There were six gaps in Penn Central's deed of the Pumpkinvine corridor to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine in 1993. The Friends have closed three, which leaves three gaps.

1. The first gap is between County Road 33 and County Road 20 in Elkhart County.
2. The second is between County Road 20 and County Road 35 just north of the first one.
3. The third is between where the trail ends at County Road 850W and downtown Shipshewana.

**Which gap is a priority?** The gap between County Road 20 and County Road 33. This gap is a priority because it is the most complicated to resolve and because the Friends of the Pumpkinvine own only a small fraction of the corridor and must purchase the rest from willing sellers.

**Why is it important to close these gaps?** The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail attracts many riders who do not feel comfortable riding on busy county roads. Since traffic on County Road 20 and County Road 35 travels at a high rate of speed, a trail will allow users to avoid these county roads and make their trail experience safer.

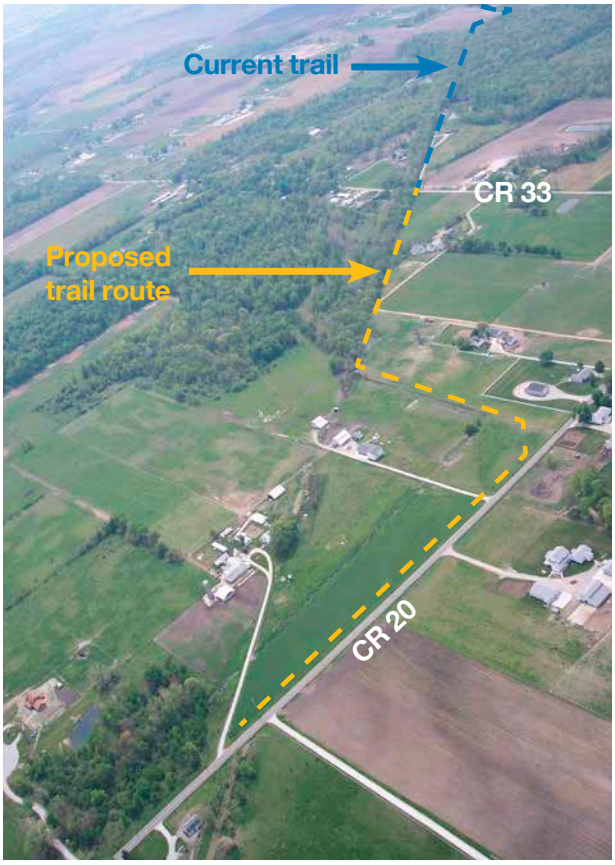
**Who is buying the land?** The Friends are buying the land and will then donate it to Elkhart County Parks who will build and manage the trail.

**What will it cost to build the trail?** Our consultants estimate it will cost $685,000 to build the trail and an additional $229,000 for land acquisition, engineering, surveying, fences and closing costs for a total of $932,000.

### HOW CAN WE HELP CLOSE THE GAPS?
**Donate to the Campaign to Close the Gaps**

Individual, families and organizations that contribute $1,000 between Jan. 1, 2015 and Dec. 31, 2017 will have their names displayed on a plaque in this section.

**Make checks to:** Friends of the Pumpkinvine,
PO Box 392, Goshen, IN 46527-0392



*The proposed route (looking southwest) for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail between County Road 20 and County Road 33.*

**Where will funds come from to buy and build the trail?** The Friends of the Pumpkinvine received a $35,000 matching grant of from the Indiana Bicentennial Nature Trust to purchasing the land and a $300,000 matching grant from the Elkhart County Community Foundation to build the trail. Elkhart County Parks has pledged $75,000 toward the project and received a $200,000 grant from the Recreational Trails Program of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources for trail construction.

Additional funds must come from donations to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine from supporters, corporate sponsors and the annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride.

**How much money is still needed?** The Friends of the Pumpkinvine need $50,000 more than what we receive normally receive in a year from donations, corporate sponsors and the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride.

## Cross-country skiing is best at county parks, not on the Pumpkinvine

The best places to cross-country ski in this area are at the four Elkhart County parks where the trails are groomed: Ox Bow County Park has a 2.5-mile loop – trailhead begins at Fisherman's Camp Shelter. Bonneyville Mill County Park has a 3-mile loop – trailhead at the main parking lot and Briar Patch Shelter. Cobus Creek County Park has a 2-mile loop – trailhead at the parking lot. River Preserve County Park has a 3-mile loop – trailhead at Benton Spillway. None of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is groomed.

In addition, skiing on trails with an asphalt surface like most of the Pumpkinvine has the potential to damage the surface and the ski poles. Consequently, the only recommended place to cross-country ski on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is the limestone section of the trail from State Road 4 to County Road 28 north east of Goshen.

**Note:**

- You can rent cross-country skis at the Goshen Park Dept., 607 Plymouth Ave., Goshen. Phone: (574) 534-2901.
- Elkhart County Parks does not plow the parking lots at County Road 35 and County Road 37 and County Road 43.

| Pumpkinvine section | Here's how the managing agencies treat the trail when there is snow. |
|---|---|
| Goshen Park and Recreation | • The city plows the Pumpkinvine one plow-width wide from State Road 4 to County Road 28 (the limestone section) and from State Road 4 to the water plant on 5th St. That leaves the other half of the trail open for cross country skiing.<br>• The unplowed portion of the trail is not groomed for cross-country skiing.<br>• Plowing the trail is a low priority. |
| Middlebury | • The town plows half the width of the Pumpkinvine from York St. to the U.S. 20 tunnel.<br>• The trail is not groomed for cross-country skiing.<br>• Plowing the trail is a low priority. |
| Elkhart County Parks | Elkhart County Parks plows the Pumpkinvine:<br>• From County Road 28 to County Road 33. However, this section may not be plowed due to blowing and drifting snow.<br>• From the County Road 35 to the north side of the U.S. 20 tunnel.<br>• From York Dr. to County Road 1150W in LaGrange Co.<br>• The trail is not groomed for cross-country skiing.<br>• Plowing the trail is a low priority. |
| Shipshewana | Shipshewana does not plow the trail from County Road 850W to 1150W, and the trail is not groomed for cross-country skiing. |


# WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK

**these local businesses that supported the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. and Pumpkinvine Bike Ride.**

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### GOLD SPONSORS

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LionsHead Specialty Tire & Wheel, LLC. Established 1993

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# Friends of the Pumpkinvine FLASHBACK

>> Items from past newsletters <<

### Five years ago–Fall 2011

- On Oct. 8, six volunteers and three employees of Elkhart County Parks put a permanent deck on the bridge ease of County Road 43.
- On Oct. 20, the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail was officially connected to the MapleHeart Trail linking Elkhart and Goshen forming a 26-mile trail in Elkhart County. Goshen mayor Allen Kauffman and Elkhart mayor Dick Moore shook hands to symbolize the connection
- The Friends of the Pumpkinvine newsletter, *Trail Talk*, was printed in color for the first time.

### 10 years ago–Fall 2006

- Middlebury Town Council voted to apply for transportation enhancement funds to develop 1.2 miles of the Pumpkinvine corridor from U.S. 20 to Wayne St. John McKee presented the case for application.
- On November 20, the Shipshewana Town Council approved a contract with DLZ to build the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail in LaGrange County

### 15 years ago–Fall 2001

Coachman Industries, Inc. donated section of the Pumpkinvine corridor along Railroad St. in Middlebury to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine.

*From left: Mark Salee, vice president of the Middlebury Park Board and liaison to Friend's board; Dana Snider, president of the Middlebury Tree Board; Lowell Miller, Middlebury Town Manager; C.J. Yoder, Friends treasurer; Chet Sanders, superintendent of Middlebury Schools; Rich Allen, Director of Corporate Communications for Coachmen Industries, Inc.; Gary O'Dell, president of the Middlebury Town Council; John Yoder, Friends president; and Kent Miller, Middlebury member of the Friends.*

### 20 years ago–1996

- On August 17, with funds from the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, volunteers cleared trees from the Pumpkinvine corridor north of State Road 4 in Goshen.
- The Friends of the Pumpkinvine granted an easement to Crystal Valley Manor permitting manor residents to access a parking lot at the east end of their building in Middlebury.

### Kroger shoppers can support the Friends of the Pumpkinvine by using their Plus card

Kroger shoppers, who also are supporters of the Friends of the Pumpkinvine, have generated $563.59 for the Friends of the Pumpkinvine in 2016 through the Kroger Community Rewards Program simply by using their Plus card when they shop. The Kroger Community Rewards Program donates a percentage of each purchase to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine when Kroger shoppers pick the Friends of the Pumpkinvine from a list of eligible organizations on the Kroger website. Instructions for how to sign up are at **pumpkinvine.org/html/kroger_rewards.html.**

## PUMPKINVINE TRIVIA

ANSWER KEY (from page 4)

1. **C & D are both correct. Some sections were sold and some were easements that reverted to the adjacent landowners.**
2. **D – All of the above.**
3. **B – The markers can be moved.**

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Medical emergency on the trail: call 911

**Do no call 911 about trail conditions.**

General information on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail
**Web:** www.pumpkinvine.org **Email:** Friends@pumpkinvine.org **Call:** 574-535-6458

Use the following emails and phone numbers to contact the agencies that manage the trail. The areas the four agencies manage are identified by the color of the mile markers: Goshen (blue); Elkhart County Parks (brown); Middlebury (green); Shipshewana (red). If in doubt, call 574-535-6458.

### Goshen Park and Recreation

State Road 4 to County Road 28
Tanya Heyde
574-534-2901
ParksRecreation@GoshenCity.com

### Middlebury Park and Recreation

US 20 to York Dr.
Tom Enright
574-825-1499 • Weekends: 574-533-4151
Parks@Middleburyin.com

### Elkhart County Parks

County Road 28 to U.S. 20 and
York Dr. to LaGrange County line
Weekdays: 574-535-6458
Weekends: 574-875-7422
nsteele@elkhartcounty.com

### Shipshewana-LaGrange County

Elkhart Co.–LaGrange Co. to CR 850 W
Mike Sutter
Medical emergency: 260-768-4310
Trail issues: 260-768-4743
Manager1@Shipshewana.org

## To schedule your 2017 event on the Pumpkinvine start with the Friends of the Pumpkinvine website

To assist non-profit organizations planning a biking, walking or running event on the Pumpkinvine, the Pumpkinvine Advisory Committee has prepared a Trail Event Guideline and Application packet. The goal of the guidelines is to assist those planning an event to have a safe and well-planned event.

**Event organizers are also asked to make a donation to the Friends of the Pumpkinvine for events that have a fee.** This donation will assist with the ongoing cost of trail maintenance, as well as assistance with the trail marketing through the Friends website. The goal is to keep this trail in top-notch condition.

The Event Guidelines and Application are available at the Friends of the Pumpkinvine website **pumpkinvine.org/html/trail_events-2.html**. If you have questions about whom to contact, email **friends@pumpkinvine.org**, and we will make sure that you are connected to the managing agency where your ride or walk is taking place.

Friends of the
Pumpkinvine™
Nature Trail

PO Box 392 • Goshen, IN 46527

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
**PAID**
Permit No. 172
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 **Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail**. 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 _____