Pumpkinvine Trail Talk™
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# Love makes the bicycle wheels go round

*By Lynda Hollinger-Janzen*

My dad, Wilmer Hollinger, loves people, and he loves bicycles, so helping the community as a volunteer mechanic on the annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride is a natural fit for him. He has traveled about 2,000 miles on the roads that weave in and out from Goshen to Middlebury to Shipshewana in the 13 years that he has changed flat tires and repaired broken gear cables for Pumpkinvine riders.

Having owned a bicycle shop in Goshen for 38 years, Wilmer has repaired almost anything that can go wrong on a frame with two wheels and pedals; however, at 82, he doesn't have the energy to continue this profession on a daily basis.

"However, once a year [on the Pumpkinvine ride], I get to be out-of-doors and be with interesting people," he said. "I love the excitement of people getting together to do something they like to do."

Wilmer admires the spirit of hospitality behind the Pumpkinvine's efficient organization.

"No one is greedy or trying to make a name for themselves. They all just want to welcome people into our community, and make it a better place," Wilmer said.

In recent years, there has been a team of four mechanics available to Pumpkinvine riders on the road. Calls for assistance come into a lead mechanic, who then checks with the other three to determine who is closest to the breakdown. Many years, Wilmer served as the go-to-guy. This year, however, Ryan Hochstetler, took on that responsibility.

"Ryan did a great job," Wilmer said. "He has all the necessary mechanic and leadership skills."

As well he should, since Ryan learned bike mechanics at Hollinger Bicycles, as did Paul Reimer, another one of the bike mechanics on this year's ride. The fourth mechanic, Kerm Garber, was part of the team at Lincoln Avenue Cycling and Fitness in Goshen.

"I really have fun working with the other mechanics and comparing notes," Wilmer said. "We learn from each other."

Cell phones have made the mechanics' job a lot easier. Prior to cell phones, mechanics continually circulated along the bike routes looking for people who needed a helping hand.

*Bill and Donn Spillman await Wilmer Hollinger's verdict on their broken axle on the June 20 Pumpkinvine Bike Ride.*

Wilmer delights in the challenge of figuring things out. This year he diagnosed his first call as a broken axle. Pumpkinvine mechanics don't have the capacity to repair axles.

"There are dozens of different kinds of axles," Wilmer said. "It would be impractical to carry them all."

So, Wilmer helped Bill Spilman load the tandem that he and his dad, Donn, 85, were riding. Father and son had begun biking together about four years ago, when Donn's macular degeneration made it impossible for him to bike alone.

Wilmer apologized for not being able to fix the Spilmans' bike problem.

"I really want to get people back on the ride as fast as possible," he said.

However, Donn and Wilmer redeemed the disappointing breakdown with an animated conversation in the pickup's cab as we drove toward Pumpkinvine Cyclery, the closest bike shop. Upon arrival, Donn jumped out of the cab and announced to Bill and me, who had been riding in the back of the truck with the tandem, "We've been getting acquainted!"

During the ride, Wilmer and Donn, who had worked as a dentist in Osceola and surrounding areas for 47 years, discovered they had mutual friends.

The rest of Wilmer's calls this year were to repair tires for cyclists from Goshen, South Bend and Indianapolis. All of them were on their first Pumpkinvine ride and, without exception, said that it wouldn't be their last. They remarked on the friendly helpfulness of the volunteers, the well-oiled organization and the beauty of the countryside.

# Board of Directors

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

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Email contact: Friends@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*

## Miles to go

At the Friends of the Pumpkinvine annual dinner in April, I told two stories about people I had encountered recently in connection with the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail; one was on the trail and the other was by email.

The email was from a couple in Michigan who wanted directions from the Goshen airport to a motel in town. They were flying in to Goshen with their bikes, just to ride on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail.

The second encounter was in the parking lot at the Middlebury Dairy Queen when a gentleman approached me with questions about my bike. He soon turned the conversation to the Pumpkinvine and told me how much he and his family enjoyed riding it, driving 24 miles from their home in Three Rivers, Mich., solely for that purpose. His only complaint was the one-mile plus gap in the trail between Middlebury and Goshen. I handed him my Friends of the Pumpkinvine business car and pointed to the web address where he could make a contribution to help fix that problem.

Those two encounters capture the state of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail in the summer of 2015: it has become a destination that people will drive (and even fly) to enjoy. At the same time, there's a gap in the trail that forces users onto county roads, and many visitors are uncomfortable to ride there. Meanwhile, and we need a lot of money to close that gap.

How much will it cost to close the gap County Road 33 and County Road 20? We hired an engineering firm to give us an estimate, and it was over $840,000. And although we had received a generous $300,000 matching grant from the Elkhart County Community Foundation, Elkhart County Parks has pledged $75,000 toward the project and the Friends of the Pumpkinvine received a $35,000 grant from the Department of Natural Resources Bicentennial Nature Trust to purchase the land, we still needed to raise $135,000 to match that grant.

As I write this article in late July, the Friends have raised about $55,000 toward matching the $150,000 we hope to raise this year, which would be half the Elkhart County Community Foundation two-year grant. We need to do a lot better than that if we are going to be able to match the foundation grant. We're asking our sponsors and households to consider making this project a priority for charitable contributions this year.

We also ask for your patience. Because the route through this section is (of necessity) mostly off the old railroad corridor, the purchase, surveys, engineering and construction are extremely complicated. It takes many meetings and discussions with the landowners to determine a route that is satisfactory to everyone.

But the reward will be significant: a Pumpkinvine Nature Trail that is off-road, safer, continuous, and consistent.

# Reflections on the 2015 Pumpkinvine Bike Ride

*By Danny Graber, Ride Director*

Those of us who plan the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride often get suggestions for improving it, like how to make it easier to follow the routes on the ride. We discussed this issue in detail in preparation of the 2015 ride and came up with two changes to insure that no one would miss a turn. First, we made the turn arrows that we paint on the road much larger, and second we put "upright visual markers" at every corner where a turn is required and some at key straight-ahead intersections.

We placed approximately 80 of these professionally designed, bold, black-on-white, three-foot-high signs at every turn over our entire route system. These signs would help everyone, we were sure.

Shortly after the ride, I happened to meet one of our 100-miles riders. As a 100-mile rider, he would have passed through every intersection on the entire route. He was very complimentary of our ride, in particular how helpful the new, larger road arrows were: they were easy to see at a distance and could not be missed. I was delighted to hear that our changes had worked.

Then I asked him if he had any trouble following the various routes. He was quick to reply that he encountered no difficulties, and again he mentioned the big arrows on the road.

"Well," I said, "You know that we placed bold, black-on-white signs at every corner, too. Did those help you any?"

He looked at me a little funny, and quizzically asked, "I didn't see any signs. Were there some there?"

"At every corner," I replied.

"H-h-m-m-m," he grinned, "I surely don't remember seeing any."

The morale of the story is that no matter how hard we try to anticipate rider needs, someone will miss the obvious. It goes with the territory. I am sure the bike ride committee will forge ahead with more surefire, problem-solving ideas for the 2016 ride.

*Not everyone on the ride saw the new signs designed to make sure riders did not miss a turn.*

I want to thank the volunteers and the riders for making this year's ride a success. Both are indispensable and give this ride a special character. Together the two groups somehow blend into a smooth, whirring motion. The riders pedal, shift gears, perspire due to exertion and eat food. The volunteers, without hesitation, "pedal" just as hard, shift even more gears, perspire due to worrying about getting their work done and eat leftovers.

Together, it works.


## 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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# 2015 PUMPKINVINE BIKE RIDE

We appreciate your enthusiastic participation!

**The countryside is beautiful, the ride well organized, the drivers courteous and the food is good. The ride gives me goals to train for."**

*—Mike Lancaster, Three Rivers, Mich. (1st yr., 100 miles)*

**We enjoy riding in Amish Country; we enjoy the people, and the food was excellent. It makes a fun day, and we look forward to doing the ride.**

*—Sandy Wysong, Wawaka, Ind. (3rd yr., 33 miles)*

**I really like the 27-mile route, and the weather was great.**
*—Terry Martin, Goshen, Ind. (4th or 5th yr., 27-mile route)*

**It gets better every year. The volunteers are great and the food is excellent and there is plenty of it. The routes were better – no new chip and seal.**
*—Dale Patten, New Paris, Ind. (12th yr., 100-mile route)*

Mark your calendars now!

June 18, 2016

17th Annual Pumpkinvine Bike Ride

2015 PUMPKINVINE BIKE RIDE

## Pumpkinvine Ride Statistics

| Year | Number of Riders |
|---|---|
| 2000 | 225 |
| 2001 | 245 |
| 2002 | 405 |
| 2003 | 484 |
| 2004 | 615 |
| 2005 | 651 |
| 2006 | 780 |
| 2007 | 885 |
| 2008 | 826 |
| 2009 | 1025 |
| 2010 | 823 |
| 2011 | 916 |
| 2012 | 1313 |
| 2013 | 1238 |
| 2014 | 1079 |
| 2015 | 1060 |

200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400

2015 PUMPKINVINE BIKE RIDE

**I enjoy the scenery. There is plenty of time to stop and look around.**

*—Birdie Mollet, Fort Wayne, Ind. (23 miles)*

**I went to see the murals. I'm from the city and I enjoy the rural scenery. It's just a fun ride.**

*—Elaine Buttenberg, Huntertown, Ind. (4th yr., 23 miles)*

*Editor's note: A "Dollar Per Rider" Moeller refers to means the Friends of the Pumpkinvine contribute $1 to the League of Michigan Bicyclists for every registered bike rider from Michigan. In exchange, the Friends of the Pumpkinvine receive enhance visibility in the League of Michigan Bicyclists' publication listing all Michigan-Indiana bike rides.*

June 21, 2015

Pumpkinvine Ride Committee
Friends of the Pumpkinvine Trail, Inc.
PO Box 392
Goshen, IN 46527

Dear Ride Committee,

For the past 9 years as Executive Director of the League of Michigan Bicyclists I have appreciated your support as a "Dollar Per Rider" event. Your event always intrigued me, but it was on the same weekend as one of LMB's events so I could never take part. This past December I retired and moved to Indiana to be closer to family.

The past weekend I took part in my first Pumpkinvine Bicycle Tour along with my son and grandson. We were all tremendously impressed. From your volunteers, to the general ride organization to the food at the SAG stops everything was first class. Having organized events for over 45 years I know how much work goes into the event. I can not compliment your volunteers enough.

My grandson who is 4 had been looking forward to this event for over a month, all he could talk about was the pie and ice cream at the end of the ride. He rode 36 miles on the back of my tandem. (He choose the cherry pie.) I saw that you had photographers along the route. I would really love it if someone got a picture of us on the tandem. We were riding the white Cannondale. If so I would be happy to pay for it, if not, no worries.

My son and grandson had an excellent time and I am sure we will be back next year. I have enclosed a small contribution to help with the excellent work you are doing.

Thanks and keep up the good work.

Sincerely yours,

Rich Moeller
Chris Moeller (son)
Alex Moeller (grandson)

*We were able to find a photo of Rich Moeller and grandson on their Cannondale tandem.*

**BIKE RIDE PHOTOS AVAILABLE.** You can view and order photos of the 2015 Pumpkinvine Bike Ride at the following links: https://2015pvbikeride.shutterfly.com/or the bike ride home page: http://www.pumpkinvine.org/PBR_html/post_PBR.html

# BIKE RIDE VOLUNTEERS

### Bike Ride Committee
Danny Graber, Co-director
Tim Drescher, Co-director
Bob Carrico
Georgia Gingerich
Mark Gingerich
Trudy Herkenroder
Devon Hoffman
John Nafziger
Lois Nafziger
Renee Springer
Cosette Torrance

### Food Coordinators and Sorting Detail
Lois Nafziger, Coordinator
Renee Springer, Coordinator

### Friday Food Preparations
Danny Graber
Tim Drescher
Bill Kercher
Bill Miller
Lois Nafziger
Mike Sanders
Jane Short
Renee Springer
Tyler Torrance

### Goshen Logistics
Bob Carrico
Tim Drescher

### Goshen Registration
Janice Carrico, Lead
Bob Hatch
Carolyn Lichti
Tim Lichti
Lois Longenecker
Phyllis Miller
Willard Roth
Lauren Stauffer
Miriam Stauffer

### Goshen SAG
Bob Hess, Lead
Brenda Hess, Lead
Tim Ashley
Donald Clemens
Marie Clemens
Stacey Darr
Carl Dintaman
Darlene Dintaman
Stephen Fakoyejo
Haiam Gendi
Miriam Gendi
Camry Hess
Orie Schrock
Miriam Schrock
Barb Smucker
Tom Stump
Linda Stump
Diane Ummel

### Goshen Parking
Rod Recla, Lead
Roy Hertzler
Bill Kercher
John King
Al Longenecker
George Smucker

### Goshen Direction Assistants
Trudy Herkenroder
Joe Miller
Rich Plank

### Goshen Mechanic
Danny Jones

### Shipshewana Logistics
Georgia Gingerich
Chuck Thompson

### Shipshewana Registration
Cosette Torrance, Lead
Candace Meert
Linda Thompson
Bonnie King
Stan King
Sherry Wenger
Linda Thompson

### Shipshewana SAG
Jeanie Martin, Lead
Greg Martin, Lead
Amos Burkholder
Anne Burkholder
Lois Bare
Lynn Diener
Jen Drescher
Sadie Drescher
Ed Herr
Delia Herr
Henry Mullet
Vera Mullet
Debbie Riegsecker
Joe Riegsecker
Carl Rutt
Lovina Rutt
Katie Yoder
Roger Yoder

### Shipshewana Parking
Dwight Grieser
Maynard Lehman
J Steiner

### Shipshewana Direction Assistants
Fritz Hartman
Richard Miller

### Shipshewana Bike Repair
Spencer Short

### Middlebury Logistics
Larry Neff

### Middlebury SAG
Elma Chapman, a.m. lead
Gary Chapman, a.m. lead
Chuck Spencer, p.m. lead
Judy Spencer, p.m. lead
Carol Birkey
Dawn Blessing
Mary Cripe
Sheryl Graves
Vivian Kaiser
Ann Kauffman
Ned Kauffman
Judy Keener
Les Keener
Judy Kolb
Dierra Lehman
Cathy Miller
Karen Miller
Susie Neff
Ruth Schrock
Tom Schrock
Barb Shembab
Karen Sommers
Phyllis Stutzman
Anne Wilson
Becky Yoder
Byron Yoder

### Middlebury Direction Assistants
Merritt Lehman
Mike Miller
Chuck Long
Francis Shembab
David Shenk
Curt Wenger

### Twin Lakes SAG
Glenn Gilbert
Mary Gilbert

### Bonneyville SAG
Ellis Bontager
Ruby Bontrager

### Forks Church SAG
Jim Byron, a.m. lead
Pam Byron, a.m. lead
Jack Fuller, p.m. lead
Sally Fuller, p.m. lead

### Forks Church Direction Assistants
Miranda Cripe
Larry Miller

### Truck Driver (food/equipment)
Tyler Torrance
Vernon Graber

### Merchandise Sales
Chet Peachey
Ruthann Peachey

### Friday PM Dinner Ride
John Yoder, Lead
Jim Bare
Andy Butsakone
Cal Graber
Jean Mann Graber
Roy Hartzler
Chet Peachey
Ruthann Peachey
June Yoder

### Roving SAGs
Ryan Hochstetler
Wilmer Hollinger
Kerm Garber
Paul Reimer

### Traffic Detail
Cal Graber
Ed Weske
Kevin Miller
Darrel Sommers
Bill Kercher
Claire Gisel
Julia King
Rod Schmucker
Steve Pletcher
Lee Hostetler

### Showers
Mike Bontreger
Bob McCoige

### Volunteer Coordinators
Danny Graber
Tim Drescher
June Yoder

### Maps
John Nafziger
Devon Hoffman

### GPS System
Devon Hoffman

### Road Markings
Bob Carrico
Jeff Chupp
Devon Hoffman
Merritt Lehman
Mike Sanders
Francis Shembab

### Treasurer
Kurt Neufeld
Cory Wilson

### Rider Data Base
Bob Carrico
Cosette Torrance
Tim Drescher

### Photographers
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Kay Rhodes
Stuart Meade
Jim Loomis
Jerry Shaw
John Yoder

### Thursday Grape Cleaning
Kim Kurtz
Lois Nafziger
Joshua Schrock
Steve Schrock
Kim Stucky
Kristy Yordy
Meiling Yordy

### First Aid Kits
Darlene Miller

### Paper Supplies
Anne Wilson, Coordinator
Dan Unternacher

### Tents
Bob Carrico
Fran Carrico
Devon Hoffman
Tom Watson
Chuck Thompson

### Signs
Bob Carrico
Tim Drescher
Danny Graber
Larry Neff
Chuck Thompson

### Sunday Cleanup
Bob Carrico
Fran Carrico
Janice Carrico
Tim Drescher
Danny Graber
Renee Springer
John Yoder

# Four join the Friends of the Pumpkinvine board

The Friends of the Pumpkinvine board of directors has elected four new board members.

**Andrea Milne**, a Goshen native, is the Benchmarking Program Manager for the Alliance for Biking and Walking. A 2003 graduate of Goshen College, she received a Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of Michigan in2010. "The Pumpkinvine, to me, is much more than a park," she said. "It is part of the transportation network connecting Northern Indiana communities. It is how families can explore outside of their hometown without getting in a car. It connects people to employment and entertainment and recreational opportunities beyond their own community. It creates opportunities for people from different backgrounds to bump into each other. It encourages healthy lifestyles."

**Vivian Schmucker**, a dedicated walker, is a 1980 graduate of Goshen College. She works in the IT department at Elkhart County Government as a computer operator. She serves as chairperson of the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee for Elkhart County government and is a member of the Transit Advisory Committee that meets regularly with the transit directors of Michiana Area Council of Governments, a group that reviews public transportation programs within Elkhart County.

"I look forward to contributing to the board by giving a walker's point of view. Walking has been my mode of transportation since I can't drive due to vision impairment." She regularly walks on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail and is a big supporter of The Maple City walk held each September. "Being a board member is a way of giving back to the Pumpkinvine Trail that has had such a positive effect on my life," she said.

**Jane Short** taught grades two to four for 27 years in Nappanee, Middlebury and most recently in Goshen. She retired in 2013. "The Pumpkinvine is an incredible asset to our community," she said. "It provides a beautiful and safe environment to exercise and interact with many different eco- systems and it connects small communities and cities with rural life. The Pumpkinvine has already had an impact on the community. People come from all over to ride the trail that connects our towns. Every time I ride I see friends riding, jogging, walking, and interacting and almost always they are smiling. Healthy, happy, and active people contribute to good communities. As more and more people use the trail, Goshen businesses become the recipient."

**Cory Wilson**, who grew up in LaGrange County, is a 2013 graduate of Indiana University Kelley School of Business with a double major in accounting and finance. He received a Master of Science in accounting from the Kelly School in 2014. He works as an auditor with McGladrey Accounting in Elkhart and is the new Friends of the Pumpkinvine treasurer.

Cory became interested in the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail through his interest in cycling, and because his brother and sister-in-law live near the Pumpkinvine in Shipshewana. "They also have an 18-month-old daughter who will certainly be using the bike path, so I have an interest in seeing the trail be a great place for them," he said. "The Pumpkinvine is a place that promotes healthier lifestyles while proving a place where families and friends can participate together."

# Walkers meet weekly to train for Maple City Walk

Organizers of the Maple City Walk are sponsoring free weekly community walks on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail every Thursday at 6 p.m. starting from the Abshire Park Cabin in Goshen. Walkers go from Abshire Park to CR 28 and back, distance of 3.5 miles but are welcome to turn back earlier or walk farther if they'd like. The first walk was May 21. The walks are open to everyone, especially those who want to prepare for the annual Maple City Walk which will be held Sept. 19 (#pvwalk).

The 7th annual Maple City Walk will include a choice of a 10K, half marathon and full marathon walk starting at the Power House Park in downtown Goshen, and continuing on to the Maple City Greenway and the Pumpkinvine Trail.

For more information about the Maple City Walk go to www.cityonthego.org , e-mail juliagautsche@goshencity.com , or call 574-596-1632.

# Dresher appointed director of Pumpkinvine Bike Ride

*Tim Drescher, left, will succeed Danny Graber as the director of the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride for 2016. It was Tim's idea to add directional signs at all the turns this year.*

At its July board meeting, the Friends of the Pumpkinvine appointed Tim Drescher as the director of the 2016 Pumpkinvine Bike Ride, succeeding Danny Graber. Graber, who started and directed the bike ride from 2000 to 2012, served as consultant to the ride in 2013 and 2014 and stepped back in as temporary director for 2015.

Drescher works for Goshen Community Schools since 2001 and as Student Data Systems Coordinator since 2004. He served in the 2015 bike ride committee and shadowed Graber during the planning for the 2015 Pumpkinvine Bike Ride in preparation for becoming director. Graber will continue as bike-ride consultant.

"The feedback I've gotten from the ride committee about Tim's work on the ride this year was extremely positive," said John Yoder, Friends president. "Danny and the bike ride committee set a very high standard for the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride, and I feel confident that Tim will continue that tradition."

## PUMPKINVINE TRIVIA

1. Ninety six people registered for the 2015 Thresher's Dinner bike ride on the Friday before the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride. How many of them came from Elkhart County?
   a. 4
   b. 15
   c. 30
   d. 55

2. Each month, representatives from the four agencies that manage the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail meet to discuss trail policies. The group goes by the acronym PAC. What does PAC stand for?
   a. Pumpkinvine Action Committee
   b. Pumpkinvine Advisory Committee
   c. Pumpkinvine Administrative Council

3. Which of these wild animals live in the Pumpkinvine corridor?
   a. Wild Turkeys
   b. Turtles
   c. Rabbits
   d. White Tailed deer
   e. Chipmunks
   f. Mallard ducks
   g. Ground hogs
   h. All of the above

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

# Friends of the Pumpkinvine receive MACOG Clean Air Award

*Friends' president, John Yoder, acknowledged the MACOG 2015 Clean Air Award at their April 29 luncheon in Elkhart.*

On April 29, the Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. received the Partners for Clean Air award from Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) at a dinner in Elkhart. MACOG is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the South Bend and Elkhart-Goshen urban areas, as well as rural planning organization for Marshall and Kosciusko counties.

Jeremy Reiman, MACOG environmental planner, gave the following explanation of the award. "Our Partners for Clean Air Awards are given to local public and private organizations making special efforts to promote clean air practices. The organization I work for, Michiana Area Council of Governments, and several of our partners select the award winners. Several members had mentioned the Friends of the Pumpkinvine's success with purchasing land for trail construction, prepping it, and turning it over to agencies to complete the Pumpkinvine greenway corridor, which opens up the opportunity for more sustainable transportation alternatives. We also heard word of your $300,000 grant to close the gaps on the trail. While we understand the primary focus of your group is the completion of the trail, our program recognizes the significance of getting more people out of their cars and on to their bikes."

# Friends of the Pumpkinvine FLASHBACK

>> Items from past newsletters <<

### Five years ago – Summer 2010

- Work on the tunnel for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail under U.S. 20 was progressing slowly. Workers completed the south side of the tunnel in July but were slowed down on the north side because AT&T had not moved underground cables in that area.
- Bud Wulliman joins Friends of the Pumpkinvine board.
- The Pumpkinvine Bike ride started at Goshen High School for the first (and only) time.
- A violent windstorm went through the area the night before the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride, and blew down over 30 trees on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail. Danny Graber, bike ride chair, rerouted the trail-portion of the bike ride due to the downed trees. Participants in the first Thresher's dinner ride that Friday had to be shuttled back to Goshen in cars due to trees blocking the roads.
- Crews from Goshen and Elkhart County Parks, along with Bob Carrico, Bud Wulliman and John Yoder cleared the fallen trees from the storm in four days.

*Bob Carrico worked to clear the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail after the June 18 storm.*

### 10 years ago – Summer 2005

- In July, the town of Shipshewana received $1 million for construction of 5.3 miles of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail in LaGrange County.
- For the second year in a row, the Pumpkinvine Bike Ride had over 600 riders.
- Rhonda Yoder joins the Friends of the Pumpkinvine board.
- On Sept. 17, .65 miles of the Middlebury Greenway on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail between Wayne St. and York Dr. was dedicated

### 15 years ago – Summer 2000

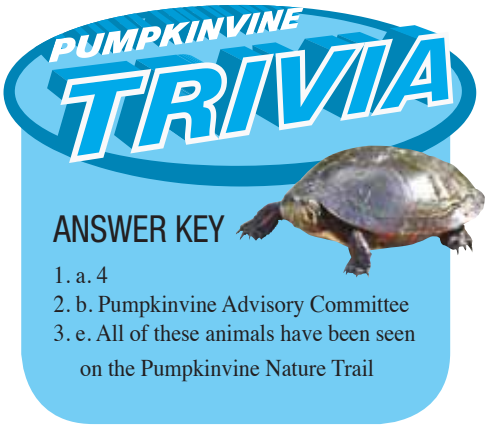
- The first Pumpkinvine Bike Ride drew 225 riders. It was the first and only ride held in May.
- The ribbon cutting for the first section of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail was held July 20 at Abshire Park.
- At the annual dinner, the Friends of the Pumpkinvine honored Jim Ingold, president of Cripe Title, as the volunteer of the decade for his research of all the Pumpkinvine corridor deeds that established ownership of the land and made pursuing purchase of the corridor feasible for a trail.

### 20 years ago – Summer 1995

- Bob Carrico joins Friends of the Pumpkinvine board
- On June 19 and 20, Paul Labovitz and Rory Robinson, staff members of the River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service, held two public meeting with residents adjacent to the Pumpkinvine corridor to discuss their concerns about the proposed trail.
- On July 7, attorneys Jim Byron and Jim Brotherson filed a quiet-title lawsuit on behalf of the Friends of the Pumpkinvine on all property owners adjacent to the Pumpkinvine corridor between U.S. 20 and CR 850 W. in LaGrange County. The purpose of the lawsuit was to counter claims of trail opponents that Penn Central and then the Friends of the Pumpkinvine did not own the Pumpkinvine corridor.

## Jones family donates bench for Pumpkinvine

The children and grandchildren of Levi and Mandy Jones donated a bench and trash receptacle to the Town of Shipshewana for placement along the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail "in loving honor of our parents & grandparents."



Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail™

PO Box 392 • Goshen, IN 46527

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**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 _____