

**Hometown Service...Hometown Pride!**

**Thoughts From the President**



**Bill Wallace**

August 30th will mark the 20th anniversary of our Broadview Lumber acquisition which included the Fort Wayne, Kendallville, and Auburn locations.

Due to an electrical easement which would have limited our covered storage needed for smooth operations, we had to sell the Auburn location several years later.

It was our largest acquisition to date and the only one in my tenure which included more than one location. To say that it was difficult to integrate those locations into the Big C family all at once would be an understatement. We had a talented team working on all the normal conversions like accounts payable, receivables, and purchasing. The integration of our computer operating system proved to be the most difficult since that was the only customer facing change. We selected three Big C employees, Kelly Parker, Mike Senesac, and Kevin Zygmunt to work in each of the three locations for the first several months to assist in the transition. Though there were still many bumps in the road, their assistance helped mitigate any difficulties.

The purchase included what we now call the Fort Wayne Mill. Although it sits on the same property as the lumber yard, we operate it as a standalone facility. When purchased, the mill operated in two separate buildings and was not very efficient, so we constructed a building that would house both the millwork and cabinet operations under one roof. With the new building also came several pieces

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**Shipshewana Wins Spring Inspection**

After weeks of deliberation by our Executive team, the 2024 award for Spring Inspections goes to our Shipshewana location!

"The attention to detail, cleanliness, and organization in our revisit were impressive and, in fact may have been even a step above where they were during the first visit over a month ago." said Bill Wallace. "Many of the locations could have been selected, but we felt that Shipshewana was a touch ahead of the rest."

Congratulations to all of the Shipshewana team for this amazing accomplishment. We look forward to seeing who will take the title of cleanest store in the spring of 2025!



**The Shipshewana team celebrating their win at 523 Tap & Grill in Elkhart**

**Brandon Magor & Caitlin Stone for LBM 40 under 40**

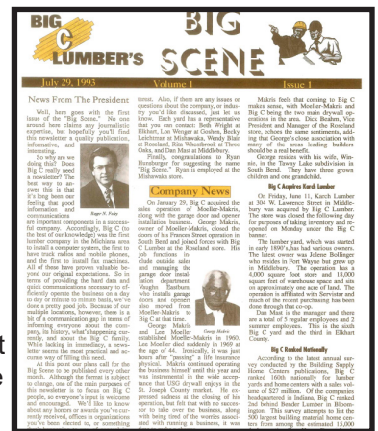
We are excited to announce that our own Brandon Magor and Caitlin Stone have been named to the 40 under 40 - 2024 class by LBM Journal. This program is intended to recognize the growing group of strong and talented leaders in the LBM Community.

One area of similarity that they both share is the importance of culture. "Embrace the culture - when you find a company where you feel like you belong, then plant your roots and begin to invest in your future by seeking out opportunities to learn and grow." Brandon explains. "Surround yourself with a positive culture and a work environment where you're motivated to contribute and make a difference. When you find yourself excited to get involved, supported by your coworkers, and inspired to help improve the workplace, you'll know you've found the right fit." Caitlin says. Thank you both for making Big C proud!



**31 Years of The Big Scene**

On July 29th, 1993, the first edition of The Big Scene was released. Originally written by Roger Foley, it was created to help improve the communication of events and history of Big C Lumber throughout the multiple locations. Since then, there have been 181 publications and a handful of stores added to our company. Even though the communication lines amongst people are becoming more instant by the day, we continue to uphold this tradition to showcase what is happening in our company that might otherwise go unheard.



**Cover of first Big Scene issue**



We'd like to welcome the following new associates to the Big C Lumber team:

- ELKHART:** Nathaniel Droste - Driver, Rodney Evans - Driver
- THREE OAKS:** Orion Evans - Yard & Warehouse
- ADRIAN:** Christian Bailey - Yard & Warehouse, David E. Boehmer Jr. - Driver
- GRANGER:** Joseph A. Oppman - Driver
- LAPORTE:** Austin D. Morford - Yard & Warehouse, Patricia Segovia - Inside Sales
- SCHOOLCRAFT:** Ronald D. King - Driver
- KENDALLVILLE:** Carson Ihrre - Yard & Warehouse, Everett Wehri - Yard & Warehouse
- FORT WAYNE MILL:** Brian Bair - General Manager

We're glad to have you with us!

**ELKHART**



Home showcased by Jeremy's Construction

On June 15th and 16th, the Builders Association of Elkhart County held its annual Parade of Homes event. A total of 17 homes were showcased, with 13 being new construction, 2 currently under construction, and 2 that were remodeled. Jeremy's Construction won 4 awards presented by Surf Internet for Kitchen, Unique Feature, Floor Plan, and Best of Show. Thank

you to everyone who took the time to attend!

**THREE OAKS**

Mike Padgett has moved from our Laporte location to our Three Oaks store. He will continue his previous role of Inside Sales, and he is a great addition to the Three Oaks team. Congratulations Mike!



Mike Padgett

**CROMWELL**

Evan Yoder (son of Brent & Lorie Yoder) graduated from Purdue University on May 10th. Evan has a degree in Virtual Product Integration, and recently was awarded our William & Gladys Foley Scholarship. He is currently employed with SAIC in Bloomington, IN. Great job Evan!



Brent, Evan, and Lorie Yoder

**SHIPSHEWANA**



Newly constructed baseball barn

Big C Lumber and Ramco Supply recently contributed materials to build a new shed for the Shipshewana Youth Baseball Program at the fields adjacent to our Shipshewana store.

Program leaders are looking forward to continuing improvements by adding batting cages in the near future.

**KENDALLVILLE**

Noah Shephard and his wife recently welcomed their first child, Rhett. Congratulations to the Shephard family!

Many customers got to attend the product event on June 20th hosted by our Kendallville store. Several different suppliers were in attendance including: Milwaukee Tools, Wincore Windows, and Boss Hammer Co. Thank you to 95.5 The Hawk for live broadcasting the event!



Bill Wallace speaking with Boss Hammer Co. representative

**DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS**

After 17 years, Andres Brito has retired from Big C Lumber. Throughout his time, he has had a wide variety of jobs from truss stacker to a floor and roof truss builder. His eagerness to work and help out will surely be missed by the Big C Lumber team. We wish Brito a healthy and safe retirement!



Dallas Austin, Andres Brito, Wendall Whitaker

## Birthdays

Best wishes to the following people who will celebrate birthdays in August and September!

### ROSELAND

Jayden Semak September 2  
Chris Baker September 23

### THREE OAKS

Jordan Wojdula August 21  
Tim Shott September 29

### COLOMA

Forrest Loihle August 1  
Kaden Jonjevic August 27  
Adam Trapp September 24  
Hannah Falor September 27

### MISHAWAKA

Kade Stone August 2  
Jake Stahl August 6  
Jay Strozewski August 24

### ADRIAN

Dave Noffsinger August 23  
Brian Follis September 27

### EAU CLAIRE

Jason Elston August 17  
Ken Branham September 21

### GRANGER

Brice Voorde September 11

### CROMWELL

Brent Yoder August 14  
Kevin Mertz August 27

### LAPORTE

Nick Hamill August 2  
Bob Lisak August 10  
Steve Tolch August 15  
Patricia Segovia August 19  
Tim Van Overberghe September 7  
Matt Wrobel September 18

### MISHAWAKA WINDOW & DOOR

Heath Rhodes August 16  
Alan Guerra September 3  
Tiffiney Sweezey September 12

### SHIPSHEWANA

Alan Skrzypiec August 30  
Amos Lambright September 7

### SCHOOLCRAFT

Dave Kronwetter August 13  
Rob Gustafson August 23

### FORT WAYNE

Matt Schimmoller August 7  
Steve Torrez September 13  
Kyler Bills September 14  
Jeff Sims September 26

### DELTON

Scott Newberg August 27

### DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

Yasmin Escamiroso Nanco August 8  
Brandon Eichel August 15  
Toni Clanton August 19  
Kevin Vandenburg August 21  
Ashley Vandenburg August 22

## Birthdays

### DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

Luke Whitaker August 22  
Derrick Newby August 30  
Max Howe August 30  
Marquez Lyons August 31  
Brandon Younger September 6  
Adam Freyenberger September 11

### GRANGER CORPORATE

Eric DeCraene August 2  
Brayden Baumann August 11  
Chris Roelandts August 12  
Blake Upham August 25  
Matt Magor September 15

### FORT WAYNE MILL

Brandon Nissley August 5

## Anniversaries

Congratulations to all who will be marking their anniversaries with Big C Lumber in August & September. Those with at least five years of service are recognized.

### ELKHART

August 30 Brian Voorde 20 Years  
September 1 Beth Danley 38 Years  
September 29 Dave Shireman 10 Years

### THREE OAKS

August 1 Brenda Zeiger 47 Years  
August 21 Ben Nelson 7 Years  
September 7 Mike Padgett 20 Years

### COLOMA

August 17 Jason Ferrier 18 Years

### MISHAWAKA

August 1 Chris Rice 30 Years  
August 11 Cliff Williamson 20 Years

### GRANGER

August 14 Mark Young 46 Years  
August 18 Ron Felix 38 Years  
August 26 Mike Kerr 28 Years  
August 29 Garrett Baumann 12 Years  
August 31 Keith Currin 18 Years  
September 14 Mark Remus 9 Years

### CROMWELL

August 24 Rob Springer 12 Years  
August 27 Kevin Mertz 12 Years  
August 30 Jennifer Baker 20 Years  
September 5 Tim Sheets 7 Years

### MISHAWAKA WINDOW & DOOR

August 22 Joe Leichtman 40 Years  
September 25 Jeff Hanyzewski 6 Years

### FORT WAYNE

August 30 Mike Spratt 20 Years  
September 20 Matt Schimmoller 17 Years

### KENDALLVILLE

August 30 John Wagner 20 Years

### EDGERTON

August 28 Allen Hubbell 7 Years

### DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

August 15 Jake Roy 8 Years  
August 19 DJ Killarney 5 Years  
September 16 Ashley Vandenburg 5 Years  
September 19 Adam Freyenberger 26 Years  
September 30 Terry Sundstrom 11 Years

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**Thoughts from the President (cont.)**

of equipment, and we recently added more which will help us run more efficiently and allow us to better serve our customers.

Over the last 20 years, we've retained six original members still working today: Jennifer Baker - formerly of Kendallville, now in Cromwell, John Wager – Kendallville, Mike Spratt – originally from Auburn now in Fort Wayne, Steve Strole and Tim Lange – Fort Wayne Mill, and Dora Knuth – recently retired from Fort Wayne.

This acquisition established our presence in the greater Fort Wayne market, our largest market to date. We take great pride in our achievements over the past 20 years, recognizing that none of this would have been possible without the dedication of our employees, customers, and vendors who have supported us throughout this journey.

Finally, continuing to celebrate the 20th anniversary of our Value Statement, we focus on our next two values:

#7 – Community: We will support the communities where we earn our living with our time and contributions.

#8 – Advocate: We will serve as an advocate for our customers by finding the answers to their questions, recommending alternative products, and helping them to become more profitable.

*Anniversaries* (cont.)

**GRANGER CORPORATE**

August 20	Roger Foley	56 Years
September 4	Ryan Brady	12 Years
September 7	Bridget Brady	31 Years

**FORT WAYNE MILL**

August 27	Daniel Bradtmueller	6 Years
August 30	Tim Lange	20 Years
August 30	Steve Strole	20 Years

**Caught in the Act**

In an effort to increase awareness of the Values which guide our daily actions we have introduced a new peer recognition program called "Caught in the Act", which enables employees to recognize their colleagues when their actions exemplify any of our 13 core values. In this issue we would like to showcase James Taylor's submission for Neil Ackerson.

"I would like to recognize Neil for Community, Impression, and Advocate! As a service technician, he is a prime example of these in his daily work. While in and out of people's homes, he is an Advocate for our company and sets positive Impressions with people in the Community. His professional character leaves a good impression on customers. Glad we have him on our team."

**A History of our Logo**

While we have been a company since 1921, the name Big C Lumber (the C stands for Cashway) was first used in 1967. The new name called for a new logo, and it was originally in the shape of a triangle with the "C" taking center. This logo lasted until 1979 when we opted for a drawing of our store sign. Nine years later, the final major change happened when we removed the store sign and instead opted for the iconic lumber behind the "C" that we all know today.



Logo from 1967-1978



Logo from 1979-1987



Logo from 1988 - Current



Former Broadview Lumber sign at our Kendallville location.

**INDIANA**

CROMWELL • ELKHART • FORT WAYNE • GRANGER  
LAPORTE • MISHAWAKA • ROSELAND •  
SHIPSHEWANA • KENDALLVILLE

**MICHIGAN**

ADRIAN • COLOMA • EAU CLAIRE  
SCHOOLCRAFT • THREE OAKS • DELTON

**OHIO**

EDGERTON

**MANUFACTURING**

CUSTOM MILLWORK & CABINET FACILITY  
WINDOW & DOOR FACILITY  
STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS FACILITY

NEXT ISSUE IS SCHEDULED FOR

September  
30th, 2024

The Big Scene is a bi-monthly publication. Submit stories to [news@bigclumber.com](mailto:news@bigclumber.com) or contact Alec Evans at the corporate office.

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