

Hometown Service ... Hometown Pride!

Thoughts From the President



Bill Wallace

After a long winter, we're finally seeing signs of spring—and not a moment too soon! We're excited to share that phase one of our Three Oaks location

overhaul is nearly complete. As our oldest operating lumberyard, this project is a big milestone. We've acquired an adjacent lot, built a new drive-through storage building, and repurposed existing structures on the property. The new building is already being stocked, allowing us to clear out and demolish an older building.

Phase two is also underway and is expected to take most of 2025 to finish. This phase includes a complete showroom remodel, a fresh exterior, and the construction of an 8,000-square-foot Design/Selection Center, which will also feature offices and storage space. While this will be a challenging year for our Three Oaks team, the results will be well worth it. As one of our busiest locations, this investment will ensure we continue to serve Southwest Michigan customers well into the future.

In addition, we're celebrating the 10th anniversary of our acquisition of Stevenson Lumber in Adrian, Michigan this May! Transitioning through an acquisition always brings challenges, but this was one of the smoothest I've personally experienced. We are proud that most of the original staff, including General Manager Aaron "Stew" Stewart, remain with us today. Over the past decade, we've made significant improvements inside and out, all while maintaining the quality

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22nd Annual William & Gladys Foley Scholarship Recipients Announced

Since 2004, the William & Gladys Foley Scholarship Award has benefited the children of full-time Big C Lumber employees in the memory of late owners William and Gladys Foley. When we first started this scholarship, it was for two applicants each awarded \$2,000. For 2025, due to the rising costs of education, we decided to increase the amount to \$6,000. We are proud to announce two new recipients of this award for 2025: Kylie Currin and Max Hazen.

Kylie Currin, daughter of Keith Currin (Granger) and his wife Beth, will be attending Purdue Fort Wayne to obtain a bachelor's degree in Biology. After obtaining her degree, she will apply for the physician's assistant (PA) program for her clinicals and master's degree.

Max Hazen, son of Tiffiney Sweezey (Mishawaka Window & Door), will be attending Purdue West Lafayette to obtain a bachelor's degree in Engineering. He has shown interest in this field since he was a child. After obtaining his degree, he will pursue his master's degree.

Past recipients eligible for renewal include: Brendan Kerr, son of Mike Kerr (Granger) and his wife Lori, Catherine Wright, daughter of Mike Wright (Schoolcraft) and his wife Sheli, Jenna Trimberger, daughter of Dan Trimberger (Granger) and his wife Joellen, and Parker Lee, son of Jeff Carroll and his wife Tracy.

Congratulations to all of the recipients!



Kylie Currin



Max Hazen

"...and so I came toward the end of high school. As I have said previously, I was determined to make a life for myself - and the time for making that was approaching. An education seemed far and away the best way to make this wish happen - but money was a problem."
(William Foley autobiography)

Outside Sales Meeting

On January 30th, our outside sales team and managers joined together at Revel & Roll in Kalamazoo, MI to learn new processes at Big C Lumber, as well as hear from our vendors on new products for our customers. After the meeting, the team enjoyed lunch and split off into groups for bowling, axe throwing, and indoor mini golf. Meetings such as this keep all of our outside salespeople connected and promote a cohesive culture, much like our other employee outings such as baseball games and camping trips. The team looks forward to coming together again for the 2026 meeting.



Brandon Magor giving a presentation to the outside sales team



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

DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS - Barry Frost (Component Estimator), Austin Ottman (Production), Robert Perault (Production), and Gage Ward (Component Estimator)

We're glad to have you with us!

ROSELAND



Mark Young filmed in Roseland showroom

Lights, camera, action! A new Big C commercial, focusing on our kitchen & bath design

services, was filmed in the updated design showroom located in Roseland. The spokesperson, Mark Young, has been featured in many Big C commercials for nearly 40 years. We plan to film two additional commercials this year focusing on decking and windows in the early spring.

THREE OAKS

Behind the main showroom of our Three Oaks location lies a barn, which held



Three Oaks barn halfway through teardown

various materials ranging from trim to insulation. With a visual overhaul on the horizon, it was time to begin the process of removing the barn from the yard. On March 18th, demolition crews arrived to remove the back half of the building, and reveal the concrete foundation it sat on since the 1920's.

Once this process is completed, construction of a new building will follow. It is planned to be completed by early 2026, and we look forward to seeing the final result.

LAPORTE

Laporte, along with our Three Oaks location, held a booth at the Builder's Association of Laporte County's 30th annual Home & Lifestyle Expo. Held at Blue Chip casino in Michigan City, IN, the event featured 70 vendors specializing in all aspects of home ownership. The event had a great turnout from the public, and many attendees vocalized their interests in kitchen remodel as well as home additions. Their locations are excited for the 2026 show!



Michael Riggerbach and Mike Padgett

MISHAWAKA WINDOW & DOOR

Gaie Lynne Leer celebrated her 25th anniversary with Big C Lumber. Gaie Lynne has been an essential employee at our Window & Door facility. Bill Wallace remarks, "Gaie Lynne has helped our sales team quote and sell millions of dollars worth of windows and exterior doors. Without her support, I can confidently say our program would not be anywhere near where it is today."



Bill Wallace and Gaie Lynne Leer



Bill Wallace and Mike Wright

SCHOOLCRAFT

Mike Wright celebrated his 25th anniversary with Big C Lumber. Mike started at the counter in Schoolcraft and developed into one of

the most successful Outside Salesman today. In the words of some of his customers, "Mike is a machine!". Congratulations on 25 years, Mike!

EDGERTON

After over 40 years of service in the building materials industry, Allen Hubbell announced his retirement. Allen started with Big C in 2017, and worked as a cabinet designer in Edgerton. His passion for woodworking, along with his calm demeanor, were truly great assets that customers appreciated. He was always willing to help out wherever he could, even if it wasn't directly cabinet related. His customers and colleagues will miss his caring personality at the Edgerton location. From all of us at Big C Lumber, we wish Allen the best in his retirement.



Ben Chambers and Allen Hubbell

DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS



Owen with his 2nd place trophy

Out of the four districts competing. Afterwards, he competed in the individual competition for his school district, and once again placed 2nd out of the 19 students that were competing. After these achievements, he was chosen to compete in the Cloverleaf Spelling Bee, which is comprised of 42 students from 14 different school districts between Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren county. As a 6th grader, this was quite the accomplishment. Great job Owen!

Owen Killarney, son of Devon Killarney, competed in the Cass County Spelling Bee on February 19th. He and his teammates finished in 2nd place

Birthdays

Best wishes to the following people who will celebrate birthdays in April and May.

ROSELAND

Mike Kieffer	April 5
James Taylor	April 5
Kevin DeMaegd	April 6
Scott Bunkelman	May 16

ELKHART

Will Mounts	May 31
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THREE OAKS

Nick Woerdehoff	April 9
Brenda Zeiger	April 9
Ted Zebell	April 21

COLOMA

Bruce Hilliard	April 14
Rolando Mancera	April 30

MISHAWAKA

Andy Williams	April 11
Brandon Snider	May 27

ADRIAN

Danny Vansickle	April 5
Alex Cramer	May 3

EAU CLAIRE

Justin Vandenburg	April 27
Shawn Williamson	May 2
Chris Everett	May 12

GRANGER

Ryan Beck	April 18
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CROMWELL

Jesse LePrie	May 29
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LAPORTE

Nicholas Krcilek	April 16
Randee Radloff	May 8
Wendy Church	May 31

SCHOOLCRAFT

David Glerum	April 2
Nico Kronewetter	April 25

FORT WAYNE

Drew Hart	April 15
Dora Knuth	April 19
Jason Allen	April 29

DELTON

Josh Johnson	May 7
Dave Bilek	May 9
Kelly Parker	May 26

KENDALLVILLE

Chad Ihrie	May 14
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EDGERTON

Kim Binder	May 9
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DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

Jacob Beach	April 22
Emily Whitaker	April 26
Katelyn Owensby	April 27
Tim Craig	May 3
Michael Berry	May 11
Jonah Brethauer	May 12
Brandon Magor	May 21
Devon Killarney	May 22

Birthdays

GRANGER CORPORATE

Brandy Cox	April 6
Holly Oshinski	April 9
Mike Jurgensen	April 11
Jenny Szucs	April 21
Chuck Goethals	May 19
Roger Foley	May 31

FORT WAYNE MILL

Donna Miller	May 11
Steve Strole	May 22

Anniversaries

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

ROSELAND

April 18	Mike Swartz	23 Years
May 22	Kevin DeMaegd	6 Years
May 31	Chris Baker	22 Years

ELKHART

April 30	Dewayne Gangwer	33 Years
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COLOMA

May 1	Forrest Loihle	8 Years
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MISHAWAKA

April 22	Sean Wood	30 Years
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ADRIAN

May 6	Alex Cramer	6 Years
May 29	Cal Deline	10 Years
May 29	Josh Edinger	10 Years
May 29	Brian Follis	10 Years
May 29	David Noffsinger	10 Years
May 29	Randy Stewart	10 Years
May 29	Aaron Stewart	10 Years
May 29	Rufus Tovar	10 Years
May 29	Manuel Valdez	10 Years
May 29	Danny Vansickle	10 Years

EAU CLAIRE

April 15	Emily Feirick	6 Years
April 20	Justin Vandenburg	10 Years
May 31	Mark Demski	30 Years

GRANGER

April 2	Scott Dudeck	46 Years
April 19	Mark Manuszak	36 Years
May 7	Cyle Milewski	21 Years

CROMWELL

April 8	Brent Yoder	6 Years
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LAPORTE

April 22	Travis Coleman	6 Years
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MISHAWAKA WINDOW & DOOR

April 14	Tiffiney Sweezey	11 Years
April 24	Alan Guerra	29 Years
May 24	Kurt Gibson	26 Years

SCHOOLCRAFT

April 4	Cameron Genther	9 Years
April 8	Tom Klutts	12 Years
April 13	Chris Maze	10 Years

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Thoughts from the President (cont.)

and service their customers have come to expect. It's been incredible to watch the Adrian team adapt and thrive within the Big C family.

Wishing everyone a happy spring—until next time!

Anniversaries

SCHOOLCRAFT

May 10 Steve Waldron 21 Years

FORT WAYNE

April 30 Steve Torrez 13 Years

May 19 Chris Huffman 22 Years

KENDALLVILLE

May 15 Jason Wehri 8 Years

EDGERTON

April 13 Eric Culler 15 Years

DOWAGIAC STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS

April 3 Mike Dorman 19 Years

April 15 John Morales 12 Years

May 4 Logan Luthringer 5 Years

GRANGER CORPORATE

April 16 Holly Oshinski 10 Years

April 18 Randy Huff 9 Years

April 23 Mike Jurgensen 18 Years

April 29 Chris Cook 10 Years

May 7 Matt Magor 43 Years

May 9 Jenny Szucs 7 Years

May 20 Bill Wallace 23 Years

May 21 Blake Upham 7 Years

Cyle Milewski: President of HBASJV

Cyle Milewski was sworn in on January 24th as President of the Home Builder's Association of St. Joseph Valley. When Cyle transitioned into Outside Sales at Granger 15 years ago, he joined the HBA to help grow his connections with local builders. He has been Vice President of the HBA for several years now, and as President he will lead the appointed Board of Directors and various committees within the local HBA. A goal for the organization in 2025 is to construct and sell a spec home. In return, the



Cyle Milewski
sworn in

Cyle Milewski (cont.)

funds will help the HBA better support the local community and its members. The last home built for this purpose was in 2012. The HBASJV is celebrating their 75th year in operation. Congratulations Cyle!

Caught in the Act

In this issue of the Big Scene, we would like to feature Jonah Brethauer's submission for Mark Martin. "We had a load of roof trusses going down to Warsaw today and the delivery was already in progress. A half hour or so after our driver, Mark Martin, had left with the load, we received a phone call from Jennifer Baker with a request to add LVL's to this load. Her customer had reached out to see if this was possible because they were in a pinch. With not enough LVL in stock at her location to fulfill the order, she resourcefully reached out to us to see if we could help. Our amazing team in the office communicated the urgency of the situation. We called the driver to explain the situation, and without hesitation, Mark said he would be right back and that it wasn't a problem. We all appreciate positive attitudes when wrenches get thrown into the plan, and we feel Mark Martin deserves recognition for displaying Integrity, Urgency, Teamwork, and Caring!!!"



Mark Martin

WOOLF Expo

Several of our managers and salespeople attended the WOOLF Expo at Four Winds New Buffalo casino on March 12th. WOOLF, a distributor of building materials, held this event to showcase a range of product vendors, as well as conduct seminars for new products in our industry from brands such as Westbury, AZEK, and Benjamin Obdyke. Afterwards, the attendees were invited to enjoy a free buffet located in the casino.



James Taylor (Installed
Sales Coordinator) and
Alex Ivanovosr (Install
Crew Manager) at the
WOOLF Expo



Trusses painted green for
Saint Patrick's Day

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

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