



June 25, 2021

Annual Meeting downloads available

Nearly 60 area business leaders and elected officials attended the annual meeting of the Noble County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) on June 23 at Sylvan Cellars Event Center. Attendees were welcomed by Mayor SuzAnne Handshoe, President, before hearing a keynote presentation on Industry 4.0 delivered by Josh Meinika, Robert Bosch Motor Systems. EDC Director Gary Gatman provided insights on the latest data and state of the local economy. Slides from the keynote and a full State of the Local Economy report, including the latest data, are now available for download.



[Read more, get downloads](#)

Next Level Jobs 5.0: Employer Training Grants announced

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has confirmed the Employer Training Reimbursement Program, a component of Next Level Jobs, is returning for 2021.

Reimbursements of up to \$5,000 per person or \$50,000 per employer will be available for approved training. The application will be live on the NextLevelJobs.org website beginning July 9th. Prior to that, on July 7th, the DWD will conduct a virtual townhall to learn more and ask questions.

[Register for July 7 virtual townhall](#)

[Application opens July 9](#)



Small Business Recovery

New grant application open now!

Albion, IN - A new round of COVID-related funding to assist small businesses operating in Noble County has been announced.

The Noble County Economic Development Corporation will administer the Noble County COVID Recovery Grant Program and distribute nearly \$200,000 in small business grants.

[Read more...](#)



[Read full press release](#)

Region ready for READI grant

The Northeast Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) has announced intent to apply for Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) Program funding on behalf of the Northeast Indiana region. The RDA will formally submit intent to apply to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation before the July 1 deadline.

Please Join Us



Next Level Jobs Employer Training Grant

News, Updates, and Q&A with Kim Tempel of Northeast Indiana Works

Various days and times available for your convenience

July 19

11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Community Learning Center—Reception Room

401 E. Diamond St., Kendallville

RSVP due by July 14



Questions or to RSVP

Contact

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Woenker heads to Avilla

Albion's loss is Avilla's gain. Tena Woenker, who served as Albion Town Manager since December 2019, will succeed Avilla Town Manager Bill Ley upon his retirement as Avilla Town Manager. Woenker will begin working in Avilla on July 6. The Albion Town Council has tapped Corey Miller, street department superintendent, to serve as interim town manager beginning July 1.



Add a button link here

Sample application

Manufacturing Readiness Grant program extended

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) has announced the extension of the state's Manufacturing Readiness Grant program, in partnership with Conexus Indiana, for another two years. The program supports technology-based capital investment by Hoosier manufacturers. Since launch, nearly \$7 million has been awarded to 87 companies to modernize operations, including Internet of Things, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and cobots. Another \$20 million has been appropriated to extend the program. Applications are open now.

Ribbon cuttings held in Kendallville

Two more businesses celebrated new location openings in Kendallville in early June. El Mariachi Grill, a popular downtown eatery in Albion, opened their second location on US 6 in the plaza where Tractor Supply is located. A ribbon cutting was held there on June 8 to

mark their opening. Just a few days later a ribbon was cut at Hosler Realty on Main Street downtown in Kendallville. Hosler has been a part of the community since 1938 but recently purchased and remodeled the former Weible Paint and Wallpaper storefront at 106 S. Main Street to serve as their new office. Both ribbon cuttings were coordinated as a service of the Kendallville Chamber of Commerce.



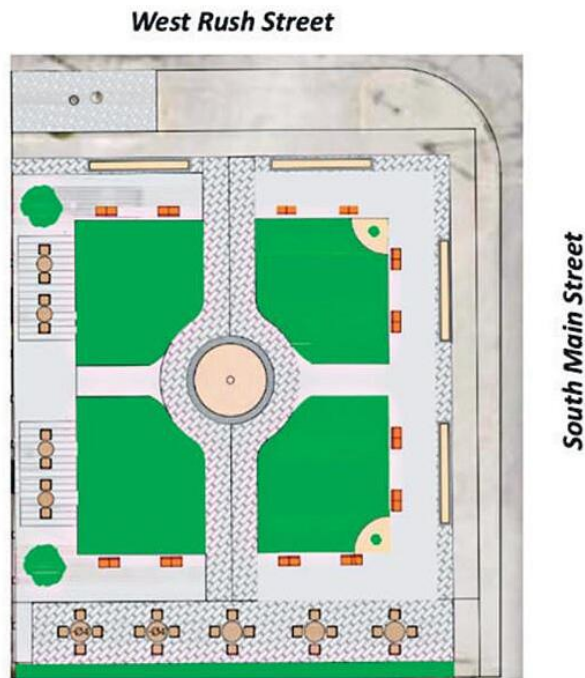
[Download the Resource Guide](#)

Workforce development guide

Created by the USDA Rural Development Innovation Center, a new Resource Guide has been published that includes a comprehensive matrix of various loan and grant programs as well as case studies. The guide is aimed at helping for-profit and non-profit entities develop, in rural communities, in a variety of areas including customers; workforce development planning; infrastructure and equipment; industry and employer engagement; entrepreneurship; education, training, and apprenticeships.

More development coming to Kendallville

Four new facade grants have been approved by Kendallville Redevelopment Commission, as well as a \$25,000 investment in a new downtown park. The Commission approved, in early June, grants totaling over \$37,000 for owner updates to the Young Family Funeral Home, Carla's 5 Bucks Antiques and Such, Splash-N-Dash Car Wash, and the former Blue Heron ice cream parlor. The Commission's approved investment in a new pocket park downtown will help spur revitalization of a now vacant lot at the corner of Main and Rush Streets.



Conceptual drawing of pocket park shared with permission from KPC Media. Image contributed.



Each month we celebrate the accomplishments and achievements of Noble County's people and places. Congratulations!

Central Noble Food Pantry has completed the remodeling of a building at 601 N. Orange Street in Albion and relocated to the new site. The pantry will be open every Friday from noon to 2 p.m., or until the last person has been served. The move provides more space and parking to serve, on average, about 35 families each week in the community.

A vacancy on the Noble County Board of Commissioners has been filled by **Dave Dolezal**. Dolezal will fill the remainder of Justin Stump's term as Stump leaves to become executive director of Noble County Emergency Management, a position Mick Newton retired from in June. Dolezal is not new to the Board, having served as Commissioner previously. He was defeated by Stump in the Republican Primary after serving from 2011 to 2018. Dolezal and his wife have lived in Ege for 42 years.

Joanna Claudy will lead the Noble County 4-H and youth development programs. Claudy replaces Doug Keenan following his recent retirement after 30 years of service. Claudy was a 10-year member of 4-H in Steuben County and is a graduate of Prairie Heights High School. She graduated from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in animal science, and from Ohio State University with a master's in extension education.

COVID-19 RESOURCES & UPDATES



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