

December 2021



Catch the spirit. Share the Vibe.

NoblePalooza

An EXPO to Thrive!

"NoblePalooza" coming in March

Planning is underway for the first-ever "NoblePalooza, an Expo to Thrive", a free community event for all ages coming to the Community Learning Center in Kendallville on Saturday, March 12, 2022. The event is sponsored by Thrive Noble County, an organization committed to promoting the five pillars of a thriving community.

NoblePalooza aims to provide a free, fun, and interactive "neighborhood" to discover and learn more about businesses and organizations from all across Noble County and learn about their products, services, and needs.

Exhibitors and vendors from all sectors



WATCH (5:14)

NoblePalooza will emphasize how each of five pillars plays an important role in creating a thriving community. In this first of a series of five videos produced for NoblePalooza, learn how community investments, like those that launched Augusta Hills Learning, Recreation and Community Center, make a difference in the community.

and parts of Noble County are encouraged to participate in NoblePalooza to illustrate how they support Entrepreneurial Growth, Youth Engagement, Leadership Development, Community Investment, and/or Cultural Enhancement. The public is invited to attend to explore, learn, and engage in what they are most passionate about to help support a thriving community. Use the buttons below to request information about being an exhibitor or vendor (participation is free), and to register to attend (also free.)

[Ask to receive exhibitor info](#)

[Free registration to attend](#)



View from an adjoining property of a typical commercial solar field. (Photo contributed.)

Ordinance makes way for commercial solar projects

A new ordinance that was weeks in the making, requiring multiple rounds of revisions based on many meetings and public hearings, was ultimately, unanimously passed by Noble County Commissioners on November 22.

The new Noble County ordinance, which follows another recently adopted allowing residential and other non-commercial solar power installations, sets the stage for the county to entertain proposals for commercial solar field projects. Noble County boasts nearly 230,000 acres of property zoned for agricultural use and is home to more 1,000 acre farms than any other neighboring county in Northeast Indiana.

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Recovery center to occupy former nursing home in Albion

Hickory Recovery Network, with six other locations in Indiana, will soon open a 100-bed, in-patient drug and alcohol recovery center at the location formerly occupied by Northridge Village Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on Albion's north side. Hickory Recovery Center offers detox and residential recovery programs for drug and alcohol addiction, catering to specific substance abuse disorders for clients of all ages from a wide array of backgrounds. The company has begun recruiting and will look to fill 75-100 jobs over the next few months. Jobs are currently posted on Indeed.com.

DirectClinic opens in Kendallville

DirectClinic, a membership-based health care services provider, recently celebrated the grand opening of a new location in Kendallville. DirectClinic offers individuals, couples,

families, and employers direct access to services for a flat monthly fee, an alternative payment model for basic healthcare services. Reliable Tool and Machine

[Learn more](#)

Company and the City of Kendallville are currently members. Flat monthly fees provide access to a wide variety of options including telehealth, urgent care, lab services, x-rays, CT scans, pharmacy services, and more.



Grants make projects like the streetscape recently completed in Avilla possible.

\$2.74M for Noble road work

Community Crossings grants announced

Drivers will see the trend of street and road upgrades continue across Noble County as local communities have been awarded funding from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) in the latest round of Community Crossings grants. Successful proposals were submitted by

Albion, Avilla, Kendallville, Ligonier, Rome City, and Noble County.

HGTV special shines light on Kendallville

Kendallville, IN was not selected for a makeover by HGTV's Home Town Takeover with Ben and Erin Napier (the winner was Watumпка, AL). Even so, the city did earn recognition recently for its efforts, as evidenced by a Thanksgiving special that featured a handful of



WATCH (2:50)

contestant communities, including Kendallville. The special aired on HGTV, reaching millions of viewers. Learn more about Kendallville's revitalization efforts at kendallvillemainstreet.com. Click the button above to see clips from the show.

Patrick Industries a Top 100

Forbes' 2022 "America's Best Small Companies"

Forbes has ranked the top 100 of "America's Best Small Companies" and on the list is an employer with a presence in Noble County. Patrick Industries, which acquired SEI Manufacturing Inc. in Cromwell in 2020, is among those ranked based on earnings growth, sales growth, return on equity and total stock return for the latest 12 months and over the past five years. SEI manufacturers towers, T-Tops, hardtops, rails, gates, and other aluminum exterior products for the Marine market.



SEI Manufacturing Inc.

About SEI Manufacturing Inc.



Horizon Bank recognized

"Best Places to Work" list

American Banker magazine released its annual rankings of best banks to work for in 2021. Horizon Bank, with a branch in Kendallville, is one of three banks in Indiana recognized. The criteria that placed it in the Top 100 included employee surveys, reviews of employee benefits and policies, and hiring and retention strategies.



Give the 'Be Noble Card'

Eat, shop, and support local small businesses

The Be Noble Card is a community e-gift card like no other! The Be Noble Card is a gift to eat, shop, play, and support over 20 (and growing) of Noble County's most popular locally owned restaurants, retailers, health and wellness providers, entertainment venues, and hospitality partners. The Be Noble Card works like a Mastercard and may be used once, or multiples times, at participating locations until the balance is used.



[Learn more](#)

[Buy now](#)

Those who plan to spend \$1,000 or more on gifts for employees are eligible for discounts and other perks. The Be Noble Card is a product of SHOPNoble, the small business support arm of the Noble County EDC.



Noble County EDC, 110 S Orange St, Albion, IN 46701, 260-636-3800

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