

Be Noble

Noble County Economic Development



June 2022

Have you submitted
your **FREE** employer
& jobs profile?

Work Noble



Promote Jobs Now!

Be Noble Inc. will be conducting a paid awareness campaign to promote full-time jobs in Noble County that pay \$15 or more per hour to jobseekers outside of Indiana in June. We urge all employers with eligible jobs to submit a free employer/jobs profile as soon as possible to enjoy the benefits of this campaign. Submit new or updated profile details at <https://nobleedc.wufoo.com/forms/submit-noble-county-jobs-profile/>.

Major step for Noble housing growth

Be Noble Inc., Noble County's local economic development organization, has taken a major step in an effort to launch housing initiatives that will meet local needs. The organization has signed a two-year contract with Housing Resource Hub (aka "the Hub") and will soon launch the Housing Coalition of Noble County, a group of stakeholders tasked with the development of a road map to put vision into action to enhance housing options across the county and grow the population.

This effort received the support of the Investment Trust Fund which is investing funds to cover the first year of work with the Hub. As more information becomes available it will be shared and updated on Be Noble's website at <https://www.onenobleco.com/housing>.



HOUSING RESOURCE HUB

[YOURHOUSINGRESOURCE.ORG](https://www.yourhousingresource.org)

[About Housing Resource Hub](#)

[Coalition Landing Page](#)

Noble County Parks & Recreation SUMMIT 2022

Wednesday, July 27

10 AM - 12 PM

Noble County South Complex - Dekko Room (lower level)
2090 N SR 9, Albion

Meeting of all partners and stakeholders in parks and recreation in Noble County, IN.

Join the Noble County Parks & Recreation Board of Directors for an opportunity to network, offer community and organizational updates, and share opportunities to collaborate, leverage funding, and more.

Open Q&A and discussion. Attendance is free! Light refreshments will be provided. **RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3wGsO7u>**



"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much."

- Helen Keller

<https://noblecoparks.wixsite.com/website>

Noble County called the definition of collaboration

Jenna Anderson, Noble Thrive by 5 Early Childhood Coalition coordinator, recently shared her views and why she believes "Noble County *is* collaboration" in a widely distributed blog post. Check out Anderson's blog (and voice recording) on the Noble Thrive by 5 website.

Noble Thrive by 5 blog



Noble Thrive by 5 Coordinator Jenna Anderson addresses a group of more than 30 Noble County leaders representing a wide variety of organizations. New Community Initiatives hosted the forum recently in Ligonier to examine solutions for child care challenges. (Photo contributed.)



Robby Morgan

CN names Morgan superintendent

Robby Morgan has been named the new superintendent of Central Noble Schools. Morgan served for the past six years as principal of Central Noble Primary School and, prior to that, was assistant principal at Prairie Heights Middle School and Goshen Community Schools. Morgan was also a teacher at West Noble Elementary. He will assume the new role on July 1 and succeeds outgoing superintendent Troy Gaff.

Medical manufacturing coming to Merriam

SSM Implants LLC announced plans to bring the production of bone plates and screws to an existing industrial building located in Merriam, south of Albion. Owners Jerry Busche and Wes Spiess explained to Noble County Council members that they purchased Single Source, Inc., a medical tool manufacturer in Liberty, Indiana, and will expand the company's capacity locally by adding multiple new precision CNC machines and upgrading real property. Investments of \$5,000,000 in new equipment and \$650,000 in property improvements were approved for five-year and 10-year tax abatements respectively by council members on May 2. The company expects to hire at least 25 workers initially with jobs paying an average of \$28.85 per hour and to ramp up production later this year.

Plans announced for trail expansion

Kendallville to Avilla

Representatives of Noble Trails addressed residents in Avilla recently to discuss the proposed expansion of the Fishing Line Trail from Kendallville to Avilla. The project would add 5.15 miles to the trail that already connects Rome City to Kendallville. Multiple options for crossing State Road 3 were shown on a map shared at the community meeting. After receiving public input, Noble Trails will need to get assistance through local donors in order to move the project forward. Cost estimates are not yet available.



[Noble Trails website](#)



Albion passes solar ordinance

The Albion Town Council has approved a new ordinance governing commercial, residential and business solar operations within its zoning jurisdiction, which includes two miles past corporation boundaries. The ordinance closely resembles the one passed by Noble County this spring in terms of set-backs and other distance considerations but is a bit more stringent on some items.

Fort Wayne Newspapers acquires KPC Media publications

Multiple northern Indiana newspapers, websites, social media platforms, niche magazines, phone books and other publications are among the acquisitions of Fort Wayne Newspapers from KPC Media. The companies announced the sale in mid-May saying the acquisition will mean all KPC publications will become products of Fort Wayne Newspapers. The Ogden Newspapers own controlling interests in the company. Editors and reporters will reportedly continue to work in and serve the communities currently served by KPC Media under the new structure.



Dr. Terry Gaff was recently honored the Outstanding Trail Advocate by The Greenways Foundation in recognition of his instrumental volunteer leadership and dedication to Noble Trails, a non-profit organization that continues to develop trails throughout Noble County and the region to enhance health, wellness, and quality of life.



CONTRIBUTED

These Impact Institute students earned medals at the SkillsUSA State Championship in Indianapolis April 9 at the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis. In the front row are Storm Williams, Justus Spriggs, Anthony Stevens, Nathanael King and Analise Sustaita. In the middle row are Mallory Mynhier, Catherine York, Lena Helbert, Isabelle Sims, Ben Teague, Saige Doan, Natalie Moore, Justice Golden, Hailey Bibbee and Sofia Colbert. In back are Dax Holman, Jeffrey Hosford, Zach Isaac, Hank Worden, Brody Sowles, Garrett Wymer, Hunter Cavanaugh, Logan Gipe, Domenik Crawford and Nolan Ogle.

Congratulations to **The Impact Institute students** who medaled in the SkillsUSA State Championship in Indianapolis in April, and to the gold medalists who will advance to compete at the National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta in June. Multiple students from Central Noble and East Noble schools represent the best career and technical education students in the county as they advance to showcase their skills in nurse assisting, criminal justice, collision repair technology, and welding fabrication. Learn more at <https://skillsusa-register.org/rpts/EventMedalists.aspx>.

Duane Leatherman is retiring after 53 years of service in Albion, his hometown. At 71 years of age, Leatherman announced he will step down from Leatherman's Body Shop. Leatherman has operated the automotive shop on SR 8 on the east edge of Albion, where his father and uncles once owned a Ford-Studebaker dealership, since the 1970's. Tommy Leatherman, his son, will continue operations there.



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