

Be Noble

Noble County Economic Development



Merry Christmas!

December 2022



Melanie Kellogg

Kellogg leads Be Noble

Be Noble Inc., Noble County's local economic development organization, has announced the hiring of a new executive director. Melanie Kellogg assumed the role

on November 28. She filled the vacancy left when Gary Gatman resigned from the position in October.

[Read more](#)

Mayor Handshoe not running again

SuzAnne Handshoe, Mayor of Kendallville since 2003, will not run for re-election. Her current term ends in December 2023. Handshoe made the announcement at a press conference on November 10.



SuzAnne Handshoe

Handshoe cited her health as the primary reason for stepping back. She was diagnosed with multiple myeloma seven years ago. She will have served 20 years as the city's mayor when her term ends. Lance Waters, currently Kendallville's police chief, recently announced he will run for mayor in 2023.



Contact Drug Free Noble County

Free NARCAN® training for employers available

Drug Free Noble County offers free training and other support service for employers as part of the mission to reduce the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Noble County. Learn how to be prepared to save a life in a drug-related emergency. For more information, contact Becky Calhoun at (260) 636-2320.

Free, 30-yr lease offered by Indiana Landmarks

The former home of [Visit Noble County](#), the historic "Sower House", is available for use and could be adapted for a small vacation rental, office use, or tourism-related

small business. The property is located at the start of the Fishing Line Trail next to the Gene Stratton-Porter



1888 Sower house available for tourism-related business or office.

State Historic site in rural Rome City, near Sylvan Lake.

This extraordinary opportunity features a free, 30-year lease with Indiana Landmarks in exchange for completing the historic house's rehabilitation and regular maintenance. The property offers 2,000 square feet of indoor space. Rehab needs will vary, based on how the house is utilized. (Restrictions may apply.)

See photos, floor plans, and a study on the lodging needs of Noble County [here](#). For more information or to arrange a showing, please contact Todd Zeiger, tzeiger@indianalandmarks.org, 574-232-4534×4.

Noble County government vacancies filled

Gary Timmerman was selected by Republican caucus to serve the remainder of Dave Dolezal's term as a Noble County Commissioner. Dolezal passed away unexpectedly on November 14 following a successful bid for re-election earlier in the month. Timmerman hails from Avilla and is a "semi-retired" businessman. Natasha Zizelman, also from Avilla, was selected by the caucus to serve as Noble County Treasurer. Shelly Mawhorter vacates that office to assume the role of Noble County Auditor, a seat she won in the November election. Zizelman has worked for four years in the Noble County Assessor's office.

Walk-in clinic opening in Kendallville

Fastpace Health, a walk-in clinic featuring multiple exam rooms, X-ray, and an on-site lab, has opened on the west edge of Kendallville on US 6. Fastpace Health's newest location is one of a network of clinics in over 180 communities in five states. Urgent treatment for a wide range of illnesses, primary care, and preventive health services are offered. Scheduled services for behavioral, telehealth, and occupational health needs are also available. For more information, call (260) 544-8054.

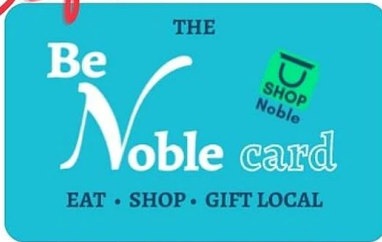


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Bruce Richman, an Albion native and Price Risk Manager for Ceres Solutions in Wabash, has been named 2022 Petroleum Professional of the Year by CountryMark. The award was announced at the company's awards banquet on November 19 in Indianapolis.

Albion and Kendallville park departments are currently supporting community efforts to raise funds to add skateparks to their recreational offerings. The Albion Skatepark Project is currently seeking tax deductible donations, eligible for a dollar for dollar match up to \$50,000 through February 2023. The new park is set to be constructed at Hidden Diamonds Park. The cost of the Albion project is \$160,000. More information is available at www.albionparks.com. A Kendallville group is looking to raise \$300,000 to build and endow a new skatepark at the Kendallville Outdoor Recreation Complex. Fundraising for this project will begin soon. An account has been set up by the city to receive donations.

The Community Foundation of Noble County has announced an incentive to contribute to grow local endowment funds. Donations to endowment funds held at the Foundation will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000 per fund now through May 1, 2023, or until \$50,000 total has been matched. The matching gifts offer an opportunity to help create a more thriving community by allowing all community members to pitch in.

Kendallville City Council President Jim Dazey announced his retirement, effective at the end of his 2023 term. Dazey has served the community for 27 years. His departure

comes at the same time as Mayor SuzAnne Handshoe, who announced she will not seek re-election.

Noble Countians came together for Power of the Purse, raising over \$29,000 to make a difference. In partnership with local businesses, Crossroads United Way made this event possible. More than 200 people attended the annual event and bid on 51 purse packages.

Four Parkview Health hospitals, including Parkview Noble, have received an "A" in the Leapfrog Group's fall 2022 Hospital Safety Grade. The "A" grade. The new result marks an improvement for the Kendallville hospital since the spring grading period, evident of continuous improvement efforts.

Hosler Realty's Christmas Tree Jubilee raised more than \$22,500 for Helping Hands, the Orange Township food (and more) pantry. The event was the second hosted by the locally owned business in their headquarters on Main Street in Kendallville. Helping Hands serves about 70 families each week.



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