

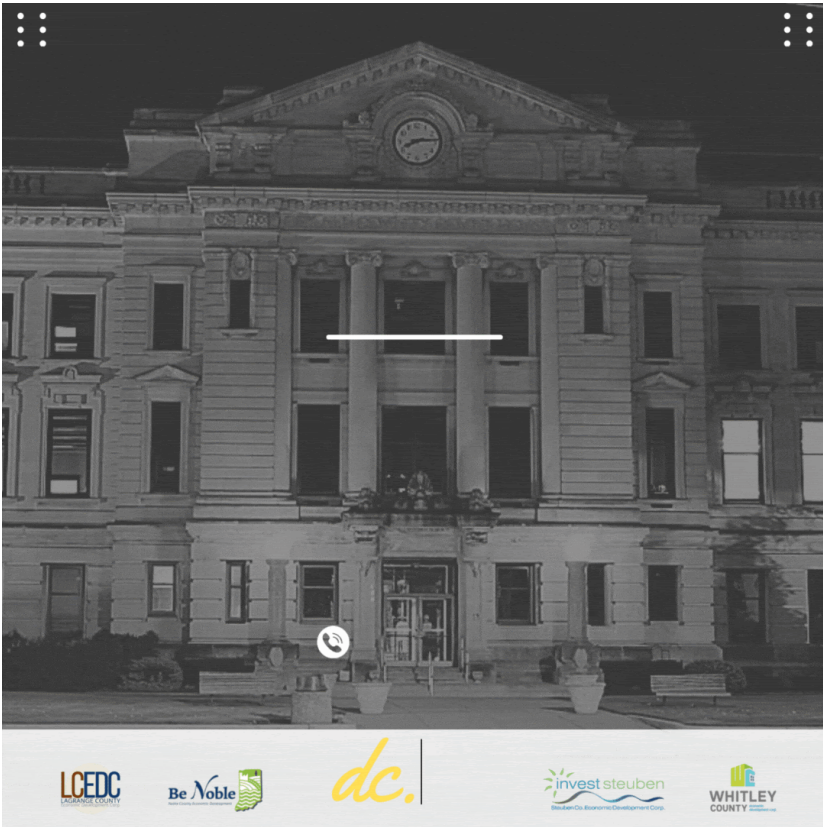
# Be Noble

*Noble County Economic Development*



November 2022





## Kids "loved" inaugural Manufacturing Experience 2022

Manufacturing Experience 2022 took place on October 29 in the iSMART Lab and Freedom Academy classrooms at the Community Learning Center in Kendallville. Nearly two dozen young learners from area public, private, and home schools participated in a series of hands-on learning opportunities focused largely on skills related to autonomous systems, including AC/DC electrical systems,

circuits, programmable logic controllers (PLCs), soldering, 3D printing, and more. to explore facets of modern-day manufacturing including electricity, circuits, programmable logic controllers (PLCs), 3D printing, soldering, and more.

***"Thank you for having this camp today!"  
said one parent in an email message to  
organizers just hours after the camp  
concluded. "My boys absolutely loved it  
and have not stopped talking about it!"***

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**Kids learned how to solder, a process used to provide reasonably permanent, yet reversible, electric wiring connections like those used in electronic devices during Manufacturing Experience 2022 in Noble County.**



[More about campaign](#)

## County invests in child care

Noble County's Board of Commissioners took a major step recently, one that may be the first of its kind in Indiana. The county appropriated \$50,000 to support a pilot program to address child care affordability. Noble Thrive by 5 developed the "Tri-Share Program" based on similar models in Michigan. The program improves the affordability of child care for families by splitting costs



[Learn more](#)

into thirds. One third is paid by the county, one third by the employer, and a third by the family. The program is set to launch in 2023. Jenna Anderson, program coordinator, is now seeking employers willing to opt in. For more information, contact Anderson at (260) 445-3369 or email her at [jenna@noblethriveby5.org](mailto:jenna@noblethriveby5.org).



**Mike Troup, GM**

[Press Release](#)

## **Troup named GM at LigTel**

LigTel Communications announced several personnel promotions recently, including that of Mike Troup to General Manager. Troup formerly held the position of Network Operations Manager and Marketing for the company. Josh Wentworth, formerly Network Operations Supervisor, has been promoted to Chief Technology Officer. LigTel is engaged in several expansion projects in Noble County and Northeast Indiana, with capital expenditures for that will surpass \$30 million during 2022-2024, according to a press release.

LigTel Communications is a wholly owned subsidiary of Heartland Innovations, Inc. The company has been headquartered in Ligonier since 1896 and owned by the same family for 126 years.

## **Indiana shut out of USDA broadband funding**

Officials at LigTel Communications confirmed late last week that not only was LigTel unsuccessful in a recent attempt at federal funding for additional broadband expansion in Northeast Indiana, no one else in Indiana was successful either. The Agriculture Department announced \$759 million in grants and loans to enable rural communities to access high-speed internet, part of a \$65

billion push for connectivity from last year's infrastructure law. Forty-nine recipients in 24 states will receive funding. For a full list of awards, [click here](#).

## **New construction on US 6 east**

Demolition of the former Preferred Auto dealership at US 6 and Riley Street in Kendallville has cleared the way for a new, drive-thru coffee shop to come to town. Scooter's Coffee site construction plans illustrate a kiosk-style coffee shop with two drive-up lanes. Scooter's has locations in Nappanee, Logansport, and Portland.



Website

## **Request for tax break moves forward**

Carla Lowe, owner of Carla's 5 Buck Antiques, has received a recommendation for approval of her application for a tax reduction to help launch a new business in two formerly vacant buildings on Kendallville's Main Street. The properties at 101 N Main and 103 N Main, formerly Relaxation Station and Rudy's Bar and Grill, are



undergoing renovations with plans to launch a restaurant/brewery sometime in the foreseeable future. Lowe's request will require final approval from Kendallville City Council.



**Shanower Building**

## **More facade improvements coming**

Two more buildings in Historic Downtown Kendallville, and another on Albion's Main Street, will be receiving upgrades funded in part by grants from the Kendallville and Albion Redevelopment Commissions.

In Kendallville, the "Shanower building", formerly occupied by Modern Printing, will be reimbursed a portion of costs to replace 136 panes of glass, by hand, that make up the building's large windows, as well as brick repairs. The former A&G Supply store on Kendallville's Main Street, which has already seen some work completed, was also approved for tuckpointing and cleaning work.

In Albion, the building at 108 E Main Street, owned by Josh and Arian Gunder and home to Reds Rusty Nail Boutique since July, will install outside steps and a deck as part of a renovation project that will ultimately create three new, second floor apartments within the historic structure.

## Leaders invited to discuss health and wellness in Noble County

The 2022 Activate Noble County Annual Workshop will be held on Wednesday, November 9 at the Reception Room (2nd floor) of the Community Learning Center in Kendallville. A light breakfast and networking will go from



REGISTER

8:30 - 9:00 a.m., with the workshop running from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Activate Noble County is inviting local business and organizational leaders to join the conversation to discuss health risks and problems within the community and create wellness goals for the upcoming year.

# SP TLIGHT

*on entrepreneurial ecosystem*

## Something new

On the heels of Be Noble's commitment to building an entrepreneurial ecosystem to serve Noble County, we offer this new e-Newsletter section where opportunities for those interested in starting a new business, growing an existing business, and supporting our local small business community will be featured. We welcome your content recommendations.



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Call (260) 636-3800 or drop a note to [info@noblecountyedc.com](mailto:info@noblecountyedc.com).



Citizens in Rome City donated funding to purchase a new message board for Gaff Park in Rome City. Ken and Meghan Cook, and Dr. Greg and Carolyn Johnson, supported the effort enabling the Rome City Park Board to erect the new sign featuring maps and visitor information

to enjoy the many recreational opportunities at and near Sylvan Lake.

Noble County has another option for people to give up an unwanted infant anonymously without fear of arrest or prosecution. A new Safe Haven Baby Box has been installed at the Ligonier Fire Station, 100 S Cavin Street. Indiana's Safe Haven Law, passed in 2000 and expanded in 2017, makes this service possible. Jeremy Weaver, Ligonier Fire Chief, is credited and applauded for taking the lead to complete the project. The Ligonier Baby Box is one of 89 in Indiana. Another is located at the Kendallville Fire Department at 304 E North Street.

Noble County Plan Director Teresa Tackett hosted a meeting of the Permitting Excellence Coalition at the Noble County Annex in downtown Albion recently. Members of the Coalition from across the region attended to work on creating consistency in permitting processes across the region to make projects easier for contractors, as well as sharing best planning and development practices throughout towns, cities, and counties in Northeast Indiana.

# VOTE

Voter status & location information.



Be Noble Inc., 110 S Orange Street, Albion, IN 46701, 260-636-3800

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