

Be Noble

Noble County Economic Development



April 3, 2023



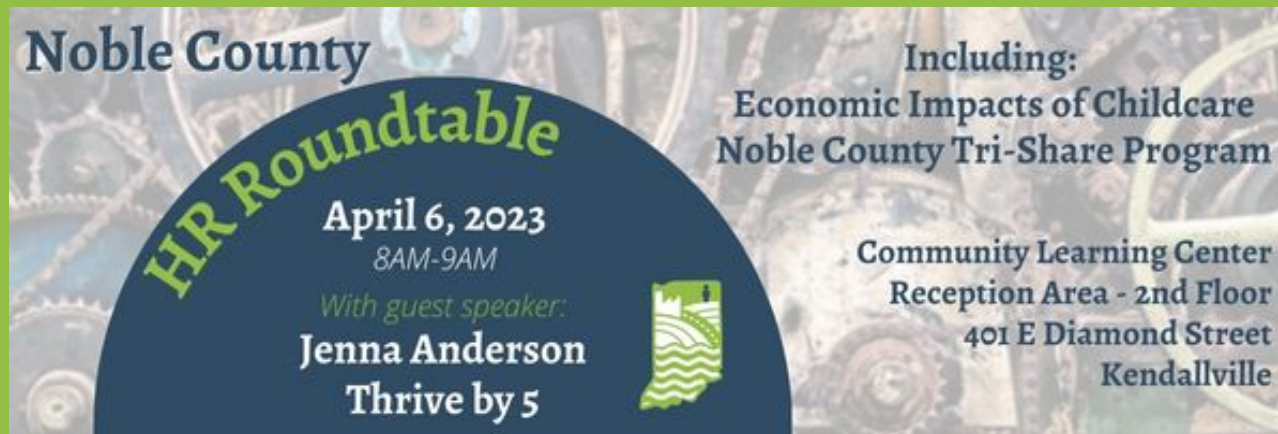
[Read more](#)

Ligonier lands major expansion

Ligonier has landed a major expansion project, according to Star of the West Milling Company. The company has operations in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, New York, Minnesota, and North Dakota. As a result of winning the project, the Ligonier plan will see the existing

flour mill expand its capacity from an output of 800,000 pounds of soft wheat flour to 2.8 million pounds produced daily, including 500,000 pounds of pathogen mitigated capacity.

HURRY! April 6 HR meeting:



Noble County
HR Roundtable
April 6, 2023
8AM-9AM
With guest speaker:
Jenna Anderson
Thrive by 5

Including:
Economic Impacts of Childcare
Noble County Tri-Share Program

Community Learning Center
Reception Area - 2nd Floor
401 E Diamond Street
Kendallville

RSVP to info@noblecountyedc.com or (260) 636-3800

2023 Employer Survey

To produce a 2023 Wage & Benefit Report for Noble County & NEI

As in years past, Be Noble Inc. is one of 11 counties in Northeast Indiana partnering to commission a survey to provide data regarding wages and benefits provided to employees in the region. The survey of benefits info is open through

2023 EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS SURVEY

Provide employment data
to help all local employers and
economic development efforts.



April 28, 2023. Employers in the following sectors are strongly urged to participate:

- Goods Producing & Logistics
- Professional, Finance & Information Services
- Construction
- Leisure, Hospitality, Retail and Businesses

[Learn more & get link to participate](#)



Noble County Housing Symposium

Friday, April 21, 2023

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Community Learning Center
401 E Diamond Street, Kendallville
Refreshments will be provided.



[MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION LINK](#)

SP  TLIGHT
on entrepreneurial ecosystem



Shared kitchen launched

Commercial incubator

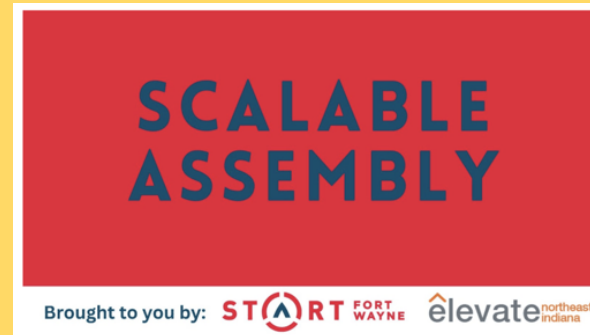
A new partnership between the Community Learning Center (CLC) in Kendallville and Be Noble Inc. has brought about a new membership program at The Cookery, the commercial kitchen located at the CLC.

Memberships provide affordable access to use the commercial licensed kitchen for personal use, community educational programs, as well as for professionals looking to test new products, expand, or launch a business. Those looking to launch a business may also sign an exclusive memorandum of understanding to participate in an incubator program and receive free support from a variety of local business development professionals.

[Learn more about The Cookery](#)

Is your business scalable?

Entrepreneurs across the spectrum, from ideation to growth stages, are encouraged to fill out the Scalable Assembly Venture Directory form. Scalable Assembly is a multi-month program of Start Fort Wayne and Elevate Ventures Northeast Indiana. The partnership program is designed to identify early-stage entrepreneurial talent,



Venture Directory

build competency, hone in on missions, gain financial literacy, and gain access to venture capital. The first cohort will be selected in early April, with more to follow. For more information, contact Dan Swartz, Start Fort Wayne, at dan@startfortwayne.com.



Tara Streb

Female "Dream Team" leads Noble development

Since relocating to a shared building in downtown Albion in 2020, the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) has enjoyed opportunities to collaborate with the county's economic development team, Be Noble Inc. Together, these key local development partners are living out a philosophy of "one Noble."

[Read more](#)

Kendallville achieves accreditation

Historic Downtown Kendallville (HDK), the organization driving PreservINg Main Street, reached a major milestone in its efforts to promote economic development and historic preservation in early March. The group received accreditation as a Main Street America organization, making it the fifteenth Hoosier community to achieve the high level of standards required.



[Learn more](#)

Expanding Fishing Line Trail north

On the heels of a successful fundraising year, volunteers with Noble Trails are turning their focus towards acquiring land and raising money to pave new trails in 2023. Plans include adding a section between the Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site, west, to land at the former Limberlost Golf Course on CR 900N. Another mile of new trail will connect trails from Kendallville to Avilla. Another trail will be added to extend from Gaff Park in Rome City north, along the top of the dam, then across SR 9 to Sylvan Cellars.

Leadership academy to launch

Seeking sponsors

The steering committee of [Thrive Noble County](#) has announced plans to launch a new Noble leadership academy designed to cultivate civic leaders, build regional capacity, and ensure a thriving economy. The Engage Noble academy framework has been designed to incorporate the 5 Pillars of Thrive and [20 Clues to Rural](#)



[Learn more](#)

Community Survival developed by the Heartland Center for Leadership Development. Local sponsorships are available for employers and other stakeholders to invest in this important initiative. Sponsorship funding is needed for program development and sustainability and could be used to fund scholarships to enhance the diversity and accessibility of cohorts.



Nate Lowe

West Noble taps next superintendent

Following Indiana's legal hiring process for school superintendents, a public vote of approval in April is expected to confirm the choice of West Noble's School Board, Dr. Nate Lowe, to serve as superintendent. Lowe has agreed in principle to serve, taking over for interim superintendent Dr. Randall Zimmerly. Lowe has been a part of the West Noble community for 27 years.

maximum allowance of up to \$5,000 has been set for roof repairs. Additionally, do-it-yourself projects have been more clearly defined within the program guidelines. Contact the Town of Albion for more information at (260) 66-2246.



RSVP

Spring Summit April 26th

Invitation to outdoor recreation stakeholders

Stakeholders in outdoor recreation across Noble County are invited to the Noble County Parks and Recreation Spring Summit, an opportunity to network, offer community and organizational updates, share opportunities to collaborate, leverage funding, and more. Light refreshments will be provided. The Summit will be held on April 26th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Augusta Hills Learning & Recreation Center, 2080 W 300 N, west of Albion. Stakeholders are asked to share detailed reports from their organizations / outdoor assets by April 21st to Grace Caswell at grace@visitnoblecounty.com.

LEGO home design competition open

The Builders Association of Northeast Indiana (BANI) invites children aged 6-15 years residing in Noble County to show off their creative home design chops by entering the 4th annual LEGO Build-Off. Entries must be submitted by March 31 to ian@ba-ni.com or via private message on BANI's Facebook page. Include the child's first name, age, and county, as well as a photo of the finished project (do not include the child in the photo). Awards and prizes will be given. For more information, contact ian@ba-ni.com.



[BANI Facebook](#)

Your Story, Our Community

Wednesday, April 12, 5:30 - 7:00 PM

"What will you find at the intersection of servant leadership, civic engagement, and cultural tourism? YOU and ME!" So promises the opportunity to "Come Alive and Thrive!"

Community members from across the county are invited to join an exciting discussion about their roles in the future of Noble County. Led by Phil Anderson of ReThink Consulting, the discussion will focus on not only where we're going, but how to get there. For more information, contact the Community Learning Center at 260-544-3455.

Tourism impact grew in Noble

According to a new report from Rockport Analytics, the impact of tourism in Noble County in 2021 grew to \$27.5 million in visitor spending, generating \$11.7 million in net value added to the Noble County economy. That marked an increase of 19.9% year over year. Jobs

in tourism grew 18.8% in 2021 with nearly 280 people employed in the sector. The full report is available at visitnoblecounty.com.



[See full report](#)

Nominations for Indiana 250 open

Nominations for Indiana Business Journal's (IBJ) Indiana 250 are now open to select the 250 most influential business and community leaders across the state of Indiana. Nominations will be accepted until April 28, 2023 in a variety of categories.

[Learn more & nominate](#)



Gary Adkins

Role expands for Adkins

Gary Adkins, president of Parkview Noble Hospital, has taken on a new role within Parkview Health. Adkins will now lead both Parkview Noble and Parkview LaGrange Hospitals. Adkins' new title is Market President for Parkview Health North.

[Read more](#)

Albion updates Façade Grants

In an effort to emphasize the opportunity to repair and enhance commercial building facades, the Albion Redevelopment Commission and Albion Town Council have approved changes to the town's Façade Grant Program. Eligible projects may now receive up to \$15,000, an increase of \$5,000, for eligible projects. A new



Jansen a Sagamore of the Wabash

Congratulations to **Dr. Tom Jansen**, retired chiropractor, former 30-year member of the Kendallville Park Board, lifelong Boy Scout member and contributor, Rotarian, and highly engaged community member. Jansen received the Sagamore of the Wabash, Indiana's highest citizen award, at a meeting of the Kendallville Rotary Club recently. The award was presented by Mayor SuzAnne Handshoe on behalf of Governor Eric Holcomb.



Tom Jansen

NoblePalooza 2023 has been deemed a great success by organizers. Nearly 100 Noble County-based and serving organizations (a 30% increase over 2022) welcomed over 600 attendees, nearly tripling the attendance of the inaugural event. According to a survey of participants, the vast majority of respondents agreed, by participating, that they gained a better understanding of the 5 Pillars of Thrive and would be more intentional about supporting entrepreneurs, engaging youth, supporting the development of leaders, investing in the community, and engaging in cultural enhancement opportunities. Thrive Noble County sponsors the Expo to Thrive to help inform the public and nurture greater community engagement.

Noble REMC members, more than 85% of them, round up their bills each month in philanthropic support of their community. The most recent round of grants made possible by the cooperative's **Operations Round Up** invested \$18,000 in nine local organizations whose missions make life better here. The initiative is a great example of Community Investment,

one of the 5 Pillars of a Thriving Noble County! Kudos to the REMC members who participate.

Lakes in Noble County will benefit from Land and River Enhancement grants of nearly \$200,000. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources awarded proposals to address sediment, logjams, and invasive aquatic vegetation projects at Jones Lake, Witmer Lake, Big Lake, and the Elkhart River in Noble County. Grant funds are made possible by fees paid annually by boat owners when they register their crafts through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and are awarded on a competitive basis with a 20% local share of the cost.



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

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