

# Be Noble

*Noble County Economic Development*



November 1, 2023



## How local taxes support economic development

In 1973, the Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation that provided each of its 92 counties the option to adopt a new, local income tax called a County Adjusted Gross Income Tax (CAGIT). In 1984, the legislature enacted another option tax, called the County Option Income Tax (COIT). Then, in 1987, a third income tax option was introduced, this one specifically to spur economic development. It is called the County Economic Income Tax (CEDIT). CEDIT was enacted to stand alone or supplement either or both of the first two taxing options.

[Keep reading](#)

**Vote for the cool things made in Noble County!**



The Coolest Thing Made in Indiana is a tournament-style voting competition that celebrates Indiana's long manufacturing history. The Indiana Chamber of Commerce's third annual

competition is now underway and features a record-breaking five Noble County nominees! A winner, chosen by public voting, will be crowned at the 2023 Best IN Manufacturing Awards Luncheon on December 13. Voting opened on Friday, Oct. 27 with 48 nominees and will continue through multiple rounds of eliminations until only one remains. Noble County nominees are: Annie Oakley Natural Perfumery (Ligonier), Atomic Filament 3D printer filament manufacturer (Kendallville), Blue Fox Farms LLC native plant nursery and online store (Wawaka), **Country Roads Coffee** custom roaster and online store (Green Center), and **Kraft Heinz** caramels and marshmallow products (Kendallville).

**Vote for the "Coolest Thing Made in Indiana"**

## **Funding available for childcare benefits for employees**

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning has announced new funding to mobilize employers and communities to create and expand child care offerings. In partnership with the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, with support by the Indiana Manufacturing Association, the Employer-Sponsored Child Care Fund is part of Governor Eric Holcomb's 2023 Next Level Agenda. Under this new grant program, up to \$750,000 can be awarded to support employee's child care needs. Thrive by 5 Serving LaGrange and Noble Counties encourages employers to learn more about the grant here. Thrive by 5 plans to apply on behalf of employers to develop a matching grant fund for capacity building locally. To be added to this application, please contact Jenna Anderson, coordinator, at [jenna@thriveby5coalition.org](mailto:jenna@thriveby5coalition.org). Anderson is also available to help employers partner directly with a childcare provider. Contact her for more information or assistance.



[Learn more](#)

## **Busche is back, with a new venture**

Nick Busche, founder of Busche Performance Group, a company that grew into one of the largest aluminum casting and machining suppliers in North America, is launching a new venture at the site of the former company's headquarters east of Albion. Terra Supreme Battery will manufacture Group 31 batteries and is projected to create 65 new jobs by the fall of 2024. Noble County Council members recently approved a 10-year tax abatement for the company with \$22.6 million being invested in manufacturing and logistics equipment. Busche's application for the tax break indicates an annual payroll of \$4.5 million based on an average

wage of more than \$70,000 per job. Busche co-founded Terra Supreme Battery with Benny E Jay of Texas.

## Heartland BioWorks wins designation worth millions

Another major win for Hoosiers has come with the designation of Indiana's Heartland BioWorks as a Regional Technology and Innovation Hub. Senator Todd Young authored the program as part of the CHIPS and Science Act to help spur more innovation and enable Indiana to compete with the likes of Silicon Valley. The designation could lead to millions of dollars in federal investments and attract more private investment in biotech research and development across the state. Applied Research Institute, Inc. of Bloomington led the hub's application effort. To learn more, visit [Heartland BioWorks](#).

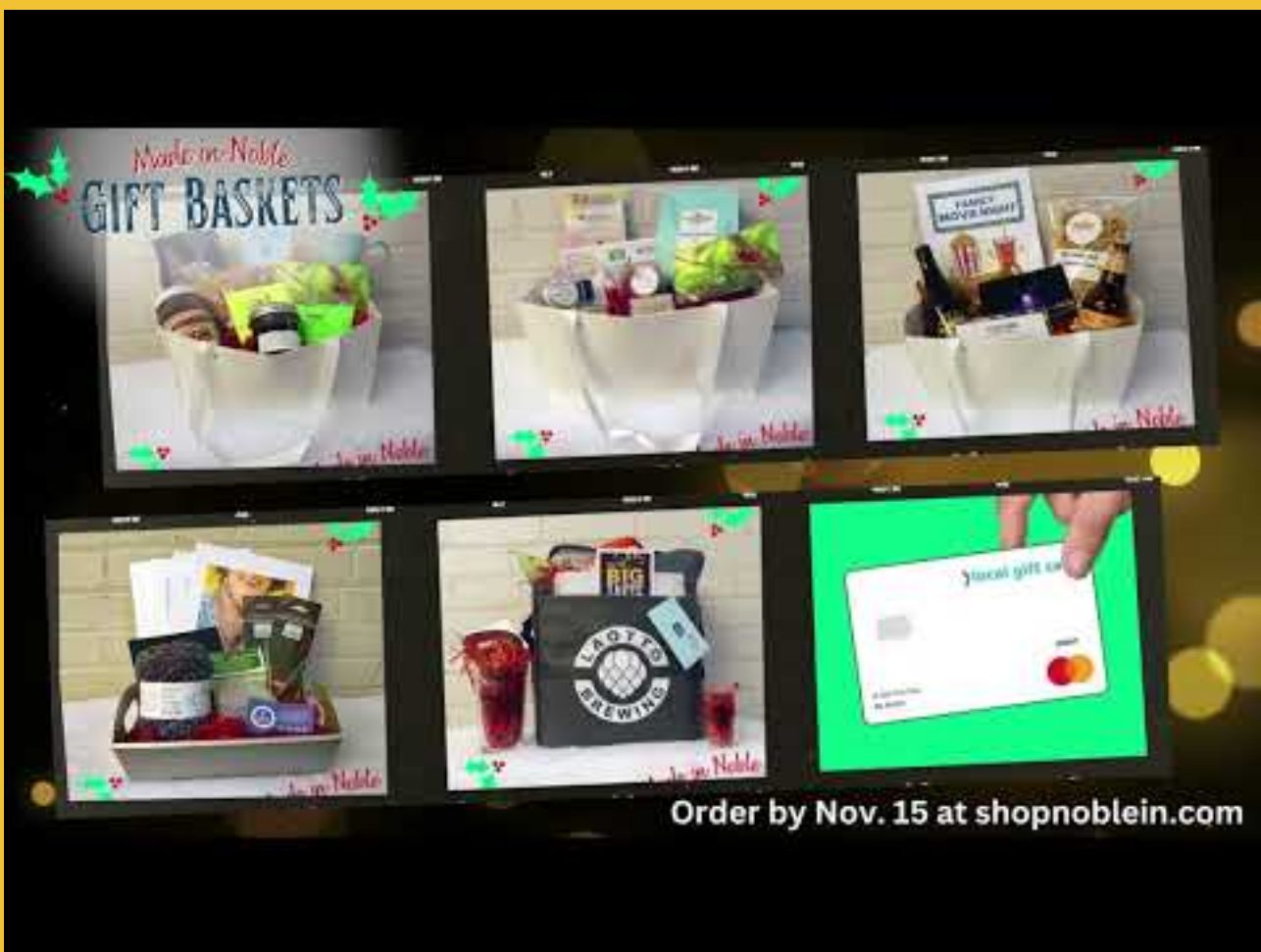


## Up to \$75M for NEI

As we learn about READI 2.0, we will share that information here:

What we know

The logo for "SPOTLIGHT on entrepreneurial ecosystem" features the word "SPOTLIGHT" in large, white, serif capital letters. To the left of the word "LIGHT" is a glowing yellow lightbulb with a green plant sprout growing from it. The text "GREAT VENTURES START FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS" is written in a small, white, sans-serif font around the lightbulb. Below "SPOTLIGHT" is the phrase "on entrepreneurial ecosystem" in a white, cursive script font. The entire logo is set against a dark blue background.



## Made in Noble Gift Baskets - order deadline Nov. 15

Orders from a choice of five specially curated gift baskets featuring products and services made and found in Noble County! No markups! In fact, basket prices reflect savings over purchasing items individually. \$20 pre-loaded MasterCard gift cards are also available, redeemable exclusively at small businesses in Noble County. All proceeds benefit local small businesses, exclusively. Order deadline is Nov. 15!

**ORDER BY NOV. 15 - FOR PICKUP DEC 11-20**



**Gary Gatman**

**Gatman joins board focused on entrepreneurship in NE Indiana**

Gary Gatman, co-owner of Room-2-Room, has joined the board of directors of the Northeast Indiana Innovation Collective (NIIC) whose mission is to transform the lives of people, companies, and communities through entrepreneurship. Gatman served on the board of directors for Be Noble Inc. representing small business, then as executive director until late 2022.

"The NIIC board is such a neat opportunity and it gets me back into the entrepreneurial support world," Gatman explained. "I am hoping I can help move the NIIC to provide even more support to Noble and other counties."

## Country Roads represents

### *Small business featured in Indiana Connection*

Country Roads Coffee in rural Albion was nominated and selected to represent all Hoosier small businesses in the latest edition of Indiana Connection, a magazine published by Indiana Electric Cooperatives that celebrates the rural and suburban Indiana lifestyle. More than 300,000 residents receive the publication. Learn what makes Country Roads, and its owners Kerry and Jocelyn Clouse (at right), one of Northeast Indiana's entrepreneurial success stories!



### Feature Story - Indiana Connections



## Share your upcoming "holiday" event/specials

If your company or organization has a special event, hours, or holiday program planned during November and December, of interest to visitors and the community, please email details to [grace@visitnoblecounty.com](mailto:grace@visitnoblecounty.com). For free promotional support for November events, send details by

Friday, November 5. For those occurring in December, the deadline is November 28. Let [Visit Noble County](#) help promote this holiday season.

## New restaurant celebrates Grand Opening in Kendallville

Bernardo Velasquez, owner, and employees of [Blue Skye](#) restaurant celebrated a Grand Opening on October 17. A ribbon cutting was held at 400 W North Street (US Highway 6) in Kendallville, where Richard's Ranch House restaurant formerly operated. The family-friendly establishment, newly remodeled, offers a vast menu of breakfast, lunch, and dinner selections and daily specials seven days a week.

## Nominate a "Pioneer"

Pioneer Starts *Here* is a digital storytelling platform and movement that showcases the pioneers of Northeast Indiana, an 11-county region, in video form, in their own words. Nominations are open now for the 2024 Pioneer Awards to be announced next spring at Electric Works.



[Nominate a Pioneer](#)



# CNA TRAINING

FUNDING  
AVAILABLE

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JAN 16th 2024



Kendallville  
T,W,TH  
Classroom 4pm-8pm  
Clinical 4pm-9pm

CALL TO ENROLL  
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Explore the Lab

What does Be Noble do for local employers?



# Invest in Noble County!

Donate now!



The banner features three photographs of people at the event, the event logo, and a call to action. The logo includes the text "NoblePalooza An EXPO to Thrive" and a map of Indiana. The year "2024" is written vertically on the right side. The website "noblepalooza.com" is listed below the logo. The text "REGISTER FOR A BOOTH NOW!" is prominently displayed at the bottom.

**2024**

**REGISTER FOR A BOOTH NOW!**



Lori Gagen, Operations Director at Be Noble Inc. and former director of Black Pine Animal Sanctuary, was named a winner in the 2023 Influential Women Awards for Northeast Indiana. Women from across the region were nominated in the contest presented by KPC Media Group, Inc. Honorees were featured in a live Zoom chat and special publication in late October.

Kendallville Parks and Recreation has launched a [crowdfunding campaign](#) to raise \$45,000 by December 1, 2023. If successful, the Kendallville Skate Park project will receive a matching grant as part of the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's (IHCDA) CreatINg Places program. Funds from this campaign will be used to build a skate park in the Kendallville Outdoor Sports Complex.

The community is invited to invest in and support Chain O'Lakes State Park's interpretive programs, which serve residents of the area as well as visiting guests. Tax deductible donations made now through May 2024 at the Community Foundation of Noble County will be matched dollar for dollar. To give, visit [cfnoble.org](http://cfnoble.org) and select Chain O'Lakes State Park Interpretive Fund to direct your gift. Chain O'Lakes attracts over 300,000 visitors annually as Noble County's top attraction and is a valued community and education partner.



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