



February 20, 2024



"Carol" movie films in Albion

Curious onlookers could be seen roaming around downtown Albion on a brisk, but clear Thursday evening in mid-February. Most were probably hoping to see something never seen before, a major motion picture film crew, actors, and set decorations, including light strands hung temporarily over the stoplight, transforming the historic courthouse square. Noble County is one of three locations listed in [Film Indiana's Locations Gallery](#), under Small Towns. "Carol," a faith-based, feature-length musical take on Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," is being filmed in multiple locations in Northeast Indiana. Opening and closing scenes were shot in Albion, featuring dancers from the TC Dance Academy for the Performing Arts in Kendallville. The production shut down the main arteries through and

around the courthouse square for about eight hours. The film is scheduled to premiere in time for Christmas 2024.

[More about "Carol"](#)



[Annual Report](#)

Visitors to Noble spent \$32.3 million

A study from the Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) and Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch highlights the growth and positive impact of Indiana's tourism industry in Noble County.

“Local tourism has continued to be a catalyst for economic growth at the county level,” said IDDC Secretary and CEO, Elaine Bedel. “As visitors explore our unique communities, they not only experience our genuine Hoosier hospitality, but they also contribute significantly to the prosperity of the local businesses they visit. From quaint main streets to rich cultural attractions, local tourism enriches our communities and creates a sense of pride that ripples throughout the state.”

[Keep reading](#)

Stewards of Kendallville CEDIT funds provide update

Under a unique agreement in Noble County, made by a resolution of the Kendallville City Council, the Kendallville Local Development Corporation (KLDC), a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization, is made responsible for spending Kendallville's portion of county economic development tax (CEDIT) collections. The KLDC provided an update to the Kendallville City Council at its February 6 meeting, summarizing the organization's financial position at the end of 2023. The KLDC reported a balance of \$2.273 million at the start of 2023. \$739,122 in new CEDIT revenues were received last year and approximately \$341,000 was

spent, leaving a year-end balance of \$2.677 million. Just \$94,000 has been thus far allocated for spending in 2024. The KLDC last year invested \$150,000 in Drake Road improvements, just over \$101,400 in the Weston Avenue industrial shell building project, and \$72,000 in Kendallville Restorations Inc. (KRI), a local, non-profit housing development organization that has been eliminating residential blight in Kendallville. The funds managed by KLDC are meant for economic development and are typically invested in infrastructure to leverage private investments that grow the local economy.

[Learn more about CEDIT funding](#)

Help reduce substance use and abuse

Officials with Drug Free Noble County are seeking feedback from individuals all across Noble County. By contributing a few minutes of time, by participating in an anonymous survey, respondents can help reduce the use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in the community. The organization's annual survey will remain open through March 15. The information provided will be used to better serve Noble County.

[Take survey](#)



LaOtto Regional Sewer District hoping to upgrade, expand

Noble County Commissioners have agreed to be the official government agency for a grant application by the LaOtto Regional Sewer District seeking a Community Development Block Grant to possibly expand and upgrade the community's current sewer system. Residents of the unincorporated community will soon be asked to participate in an

anonymous survey regarding income in order to determine if the community is eligible to receive grant funding. Infrastructure improvements of this kind are necessary to support economic growth and could help spur residential, as well as industrial growth in the county's closest community to Fort Wayne. Regional III-A is assisting the sewer district with the grant application process.



Early care givers & educators invited

The Northeast Indiana Early Childhood Coalition cordially invites early child care providers and educators to join a discussion regarding the partnership of Early Care and Education (ECE) providers with employers. A panel discussion will be held at Ivy Tech on February 27th from 9:00 to 10:30 am. ECE providers already in partnership with employers will share their experiences and advice on how they developed this relationship and will provide guidance for other providers who are interested in this opportunity. We will also have a Q and A session where you can ask questions and engage in meaningful conversations.

[Register to attend](#)



Student enrollments up at West Noble

Some promising news was reported by Superintendent Nate Lowe at a West Noble School Board meeting on February 5. Lowe told board members that school enrollment grew by 49 students from February 1 of 2023 to February 1 of 2024. Ligonier leaders are actively pursuing a number of development projects to support continued growth. Requests for proposals from new housing developers went out recently as officials seek to add more and

diverse housing at the former site of the Community Foundation south of the city. Additional homes are set to be constructed in other parts of the city as well. Efforts are also moving full steam ahead to add a 50-seat child care facility in the community.



Melanie Kellogg



Grace Caswell

Local execs named among Forty under 40

Greater Fort Wayne Business Weekly has announced the Forty Under 40 class of 2024. Two Noble County leaders, Melanie Kellogg of Be Noble Inc., and Grace Caswell of Visit Noble County, are among the honorees. Each year, Business Weekly receives an abundance of nominations. Kellogg and Caswell were selected from among a pool of over 200 nominations. Honorees have been selected based on their "impactful community service, business achievements, and noteworthy contributions" in Northeast Indiana. Kellogg and Caswell serve as executive directors for economic development and tourism in Noble

County. Honorees will be recognized at a reception, open to the public by reservation, on March 28 in Fort Wayne. Tickets are on sale now: <https://lnkd.in/dQ5a259y>.



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Classes Located in Kendallville

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT ANITA SHEPHERD @
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800.200.6499**



HOUSING COALITION of Noble County

HIGHLIGHTS

Zoning compatible for apartments in Albion

As part of their process on due diligence, Pulver Asphalt Paving, an Albion-based contractor, was present at a meeting of the Albion Town Council at which members voted unanimously on the first reading to rezone a 2.5 acre plot of wooded land on Walnut Street from R3 to R5 to allow for the construction of high density apartments. Though the vote does not necessarily mean Pulver will move forward, they are considering it. Several residents attended the public hearing. None spoke against the possible development. The Council must complete a second reading of the rezoning proposal before the change is complete.



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!

NoblePalooza

An EXPO to Thrive

March 9, 2024

10 AM - 3 PM

Community Learning Center, Kendallville

(401 E Diamond Street - Entrance faces Riley Street)

**Free Information & Activities ~ Marketplace ~ Youth Business Fair
Master Gardeners Symposium ~ Food & Drinks
and Free Giveaways!**

noblepalooza.com



See us there!

NoblePalooza to feature young entrepreneurs

The third annual NoblePalooza, an Expo to Thrive, returns to the Community Learning Center in Kendallville on Saturday, March 9. This year, the youth business fair element has been expanded and will feature young entrepreneurs and visionaries from across Noble County. Participants will include the Oak Farm Café, artisans, and more. In addition to the business fair, NoblePalooza will feature nearly 100 businesses, associations, and institutions, and hundreds of individuals who are working to make Noble County a thriving, vibrant place to live, work, and play. Noble County Master Gardeners will hold a symposium at NoblePalooza as well, offering four free learning workshops. NoblePalooza is free for all ages, with something for everyone! The event is sponsored by NIPSCO, Visit Noble County, Crossroads United Way, and Community Foundation of Noble County, and made possible by Be Noble Inc. and the Thrive Steering Committee. Promotional consideration is also provided by Affordable Signs and All-Printing.

Learn more about NoblePalooza

Invest in Noble County!

Donate now!

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

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