

TAX MATTERS

JULY 17, 2008, Issue #08-29, by Bernard Ridens, Executive Director
Taxpayers Association of Vigo County, Inc.

7 S Meadows Shopping Center
(812) 235-1361 TAXTOPICS@AOL.COM fax (812) 234-0568

1. ANOTHER FLOOD PHOTO AND IDEA

2. MDA LOCK-UP

UPCOMING EVENTS

REVIEW OF PAST TAX MATTERS

JULY 10, 2008 (#08-28)

- TAX REALIGNMENT – PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION
 - The Department of Local Government Finance has just released the property tax rates and replacement credits to Vigo County. You may note that the rates have increased slightly, but the key to the reduction in property tax is the replacement credit.
- DO YOU HAVE FLOOD DAMAGE?
 - Properties structurally damaged by the recent flood qualifies for a reduction in assessment. Vigo County owners of such properties have until December 31, 2008 to file the attached form with the Vigo County Assessor - <http://www.in.gov/icpr/webfile/formsdiv/17592.pdf>

JULY 3, 2008 (#08-27)

- INDIANA WATERWAY PERMITS MANUAL
 - Who is responsible for the cleanup or prevention of creek logjams such as those known and reported before the June 7, 2008 flood? See <http://www.in.gov/indot/files/WaterwayManual.pdf>
- I-69 WILL BE BUILT, REGARDLESS
 - The groundbreaking for the first phase of the new road will be secretive
- HONEY CREEK-VIGO CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
 - Special call public meeting – Tuesday, July 15, 7:00 pm @ the County Annex. This meeting is scheduled to permit citizens input and comment regarding ongoing flood protection activity in the District.

JUNE 26, 2008 (#08-26)

- BALL STATE REPORTS 2008 AS 2nd MOST EXPENSIVE INDIANA FLOOD YEAR

The Taxpayers Association is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues. Any citizen or group of citizens in Vigo County may be a member. Current members are encouraged to promote membership in the organization by giving the attached application to a potential member. [See the TA application and dues structure.](#) This is NOT an invoice for your dues.

1. ANOTHER FLOOD PHOTO AND IDEA

A bird's eye view, taken by a friend, on Saturday morning, June 7, 2008



This photo is a view of State Road 63, looking west, at Lombardi Drive. Lombardi Drive is the road on the south border of the U.S. Penitentiary. This large body of water eventually exits east and then south to Honey Creek at the State Road 63 bridge. State Road 63 is in the middle of the picture, but under water. You can see the Federal Penitentiary tank in the background. Yes, we had an unusual event, but logjams in Honey Creek slowed the flow of this water. The body of the water at the top of the photo is the Wabash River.

At the Honey Creek Conservancy District meeting held Tuesday, July 15 at 7:00 p.m., a taxpayer stated that it had been proposed many years ago to channel Thompson Ditch directly to the Wabash instead of going into Honey Creek near Oak Grove. There is a possibility that a feasibility study may have been done concerning this idea, and we are investigating same. It is obvious that the flow of storm water in Vigo County needs to be improved. It will certainly be a costly undertaking. Doing so will greatly enhance the economic status of Vigo County. **Should the long range plan for EDIT dollars (\$8,976,449 collected in 2008 alone) be re-evaluated and moved toward this obvious need?**

2. MDA LOCK-UP



Our executive director, Bernard Ridens, will surrender to authorities and be locked up on July 31st. He will spend time behind bars at the Cheeseburger in Paradise prison. Theory is that Bernard engaged in activities related to, but not confined to, questioning financial policies of entities receiving property tax dollars.

Help bail him out by giving money to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, or Jerry's Kids. Your contributions will help support those who have muscular dystrophy as well as continue research that could lead to a cure.

END

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UPCOMING EVENTS

The purpose of this calendar of events is to encourage taxpayers to attend public meetings. Taxpaying persons working at your business or living in your neighborhood should be encouraged to attend a meeting of their choice at least once per year. The date and time for the meetings listed below are always subject to change. The contact person is also listed. You should call the appropriate office and confirm the date and time if you plan to attend.

- Mon. Jul. 21, 5:00 pm: **County Council** County Annex
Auditor 462-3361
- Mon. Jul. 21, 7:00 pm: **Vigo County Public Library** Library – Main Branch
Nancy 232-1113
- Tue. Jul. 22, 9:00 am: **County Commissioners** County Annex
Judy 462-3367
- Wed. Jul. 23, 4:30 pm: **City Park Board – Business Meeting** Deming Park
Eddie 232-2727
- Wed. Jul. 23, 7:00 pm: **Airport Authority** Airport
Kara 877-2524
- Fri. Jul. 25, 5:30 pm: **Information Technology Advisory Board** City Hall – 1st Floor
Brad 244-2316
- Mon. Jul. 28, 2:00 pm: **Board of Public Works and Safety** City Hall – 1st Floor
Robin 232-4767
- Mon. Jul. 28, 4:00 pm: **County Park Board** County Annex
Julia 462-3391
- Mon. Jul. 28, 7:00 pm: **Vigo County School Board** VCSC Board Room
Judy 462-4216
- Tue. Jul. 29, 9:00 am: **County Commissioners** County Annex
Judy 462-3367