

TAX MATTERS

JULY 31, 2008, Issue #08-31, by Bernard Ridens, Executive Director
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1. RATES ARE IN AND PUBLISHED
2. BAD NEWS – GOOD NEWS
3. VIGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE – DEDICATION AND TOURS
4. CITY PARKS SURVEY
5. UPCOMING EVENTS

REVIEW OF PAST TAX MATTERS

JULY 24, 2008 (#08-30)

- INDIANA'S CREDIT RATING HITS HISTORIC MARK
 - Indiana has received a "AAA" issuer credit rating from Standard and Poor's Rating Services for the first time in history
- COMPUTERS AND SUPER COMPUTERS
 - IU and Purdue's supercomputer will be useful to foster technology development and job growth in the state

JULY 17, 2008 (#08-29)

- ANOTHER FLOOD PHOTO AND IDEA
 - Should the long-range plan for EDIT dollars be re-evaluated and moved towards channeling Thompson Ditch directly to the Wabash?

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>

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. RATES ARE IN AND PUBLISHED

Hot off the press, the rates for 2007 payable 2008 are now available and published. We are including a copy in this week's *Tax Matters*. It is in Microsoft Excel format - <http://members.aol.com/taxtopics/tax2008.xls>

2. BAD NEWS – GOOD NEWS

Assessment Up – Trending

Taxes Down – HB 1001 Increases Homestead Credit

The bad news – property tax bills will be coming out soon and they will probably reflect an increase in assessed value due to trending. When you receive your 2007 pay 2008 property tax statement in August, it will include new property tax assessment values. No other letter to this effect will have been mailed. Postage dollars will have been saved. We will publish some concrete examples in *Tax Matters* next week.

The good news – the homestead credit has increased. The following chart, appearing much like the one you received three weeks ago, has changed slightly due to HB1001 kicking in an additional portion of the Homestead Credit to the tune of 27.8388%.

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
2008 TAX RATE, PERCENT OF STATE PROPERTY TAX REPLACEMENT CREDIT
AND PERCENT OF HOMESTEAD CREDIT
(Per Taxing District)

<u>TOWNSHIP</u>	<u>DISTRICT RATE</u>	<u>REPL CR</u>	<u>BUS REPL</u>	<u>HMST REPL + HB 1001</u>
001-FAYETTE	2.2573	.242539	.138949	.530443
002-HARRISON	3.9965	.204332	.078481	.569907
003-HONEY CREEK	2.3856	.235284	.131477	.528578
004-HONEY CREEK SAN	2.6763	.210302	.117196	.495688
005-T.H. HONEY CREEK	3.9597	.204516	.079211	.568708
006-LINTON	2.2300	.245175	.140650	.533606
007-LOST CREEK	2.2426	.245915	.139860	.537598
008-LOST CREEK SAN	2.5333	.218303	.123812	.501178
009-T.H. LOST CREEK	3.9783	.204422	.078840	.569316
010-SEELYVILLE	2.7574	.214884	.113750	.515809
011-NEVINS	2.2564	.243913	.139005	.534115
012-OTTER CREEK	2.2369	.244266	.140217	.532140
013-OTTER CREEK SAN	2.5276	.216781	.124090	.496506
014-T.H. OTTER CREEK	3.9668	.204422	.079071	.568414
015-PIERSON	2.2786	.240180	.137650	.527090
016-PRAIRIE CREEK	2.2623	.244245	.138642	.535921
017-PRAIRIETON	2.3694	.242654	.132376	.546761
018-RILEY	2.3628	.239697	.132746	.537652
019-RILEY SAN	2.6535	.214017	.118203	.503063
020-TOWN OF RILEY	2.6365	.233787	.118965	.554600

021-SUGAR CREEK	2.4962	.233514	.125651	.537751
022-WEST TERRE HAUTE	3.6973	.216476	.084829	.588052
023-T.H. RILEY	3.9701	.204455	.079000	.569059
024-LINTON SANITARY	2.6851	.209944	.116811	.495649
025-FAYETTE NEW GOSHEN FIRE	2.2715	.243653	.138081	.535647

3. VIGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE – DEDICATION AND TOURS

The Vigo County Courthouse has undergone five years of extensive interior renovation. In honor of its new condition, it is going to be publicly re-dedicated Friday August 1st at 4:30 pm. The original courthouse was consecrated on June 7, 1888. Standing 196 feet high at the top of its dome, and measuring 277 feet by 226 feet, the original cost was \$433,000. After the re-dedication, tours are available until 8pm Friday and again on Saturday, August 2 from 10am to 4pm.

The preceding information comes from First Financial’s “Wabash Valley Profiles” series found in the July 31, 2008 [Tribune-Star](#) on page A-4. This article includes a short history of this courthouse and the preceding Vigo County courthouses.



4. CITY PARKS SURVEY

We just received a copy of this survey, but we're sure that the Terre Haute Parks and Recreation Department will still regard any surveys that are submitted after ... today! The PDF version of this survey is located here - <http://members.aol.com/taxtopics/parksurvey.pdf>

Terre Haute Parks Recreation

Five Year Park and Recreation Master Plan

Public Information Survey

Please Return by July 31, 2008

This survey is intended to obtain community input about the City's park system. Please check, circle or fill in the most appropriate answer that describes your opinion.

How often do you and your family visit a park in Terre Haute?

Daily

Weekly

Monthly

Several Times a Year

Yearly

Never

What is Your Age?

Under 25

26 - 45

46 - 64

Over 65

How close do you live to the nearest park?

Less than 5 blocks

5-10 blocks

1-2 miles

Over 2 miles

How many years have you lived in Terre Haute?

Less than 1 year

1-10 years

11-20 years

More than 20 years

How do you or your family find out about park programs or events?

Newspapers

TV/Radio

Brochures/Fliers

Posted Signs

Word of Mouth

Internet

Direct Mailing

What park activities do you or your family participate in?

Reading
Golf
Swimming
Biking
Playgrounds
Nature Activities
Concerts
Festivals
Picnicking
Walking/Hiking
Swim Lessons
Tennis Lessons
Softball
Kickball
Tennis Lessons
Special Events (i.e. Easter Egg hunt/Haunted Halloween)

If offered, what park activities/facilities would you or your family utilize?

Soccer
Football
Pickle Ball
Pre-School
Photography Lessons
Others?

What new recreational activities should the Agency consider offering?

Do you feel there are enough indoor recreation facilities in Terre Haute?

Yes
No

Do you feel that additional trails are needed in Terre Haute?

Yes
No

Do you feel safe when you visit parks in Terre Haute?

Yes
No

Overall, do you feel that the parks in Terre Haute are well maintained?

Yes
No

Should underutilized facilities be replaced with new facilities that are in demand?

Yes
No

Does Terre Haute need a water park or aquatics center?

Yes
No

Would you be in favor of a bond issue to develop major park facilities?

Yes
No

Would you support increased user fees to improve activities you participate in?

Yes
No

Would you consider increased fees for seasonal and/or daily fees at the golf courses?

Yes
No

If you had \$100.00 to allocate for Parks and Recreation items, how would you divide the money (use a dollar amount):

- A. Improvements to and maintenance of existing facilities \$ _____
- B. Improvements to the existing swimming pool \$ _____
- C. Construction of a Dog Park \$ _____
- D. Land acquisition and development of additional multi-use trails to connect parks and the community \$ _____
- E. A new swimming pool complex that would include amenities such as a splash pad, lazy river, etc. \$ _____
- F. Construction of additional athletic fields for softball, baseball, soccer \$ _____

Return to:

Terre Haute Parks Recreation Department
P.O. Box 8030
Terre Haute, IN 47808

fax: 812-234-7636

You may also turn your form in at the Main Office in Fairbanks Park, the Torner Community Center in Deming Park, and the Native American Museum or Nature Center in Dobbs Park

5. 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.

Date	Time	Upcoming Event	Location	Contact Info
Fri. Aug. 1	4:30 pm	Courthouse Ribbon Cutting	W.S. of Vigo Courthouse	Bernard 235-1361
Mon. Aug. 4	6:30 pm	Riley Town Board	Riley Town Hall	Wanda 894-2410
Tue. Aug. 5	9:00 am	County Commissioners	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Aug. 5	10:00 am	City Board of Sanitary Commissioners	City Hall – 3 rd Floor	Sally 235-5458
Tue. Aug. 5	4:30 pm	Honey Creek Conservancy District	3241 S. 3 rd Place	Craig 232-4311
Wed. Aug. 6	9:00 am	City Board of Zoning Appeals	City Hall – 1 st Floor Conf. Room	Bernard 235-1361
Wed. Aug. 6	7:00 pm	County Area Planning Commission	County Annex	Vickie 462-3354
Thur. Aug. 7	7:00 pm	City Council – Sunshine Meeting	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375
Mon. Aug. 11	2:00 pm	Board of Public Works and Safety	City Hall – 1 st Floor	Robin 232-4767
Mon. Aug. 11	6:00 pm	West Terre Haute Town Board	500 W. Nat'l, WTH	Melody 533-2034
Mon. Aug. 11	6:30 pm	Local Emergency Planning Committee	Library – Main Branch	Jon 235-5490
Mon. Aug. 11	7:00 pm	Vigo County School Board	VCSC Board Room	Judy 462-4216
Tue. Aug. 12	9:00 am	County Commissioners	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Aug. 12	4:15 pm	Vigo County Redevelopment Commission	County Annex	Amanda 234-2524
Tue. Aug. 12	7:00 pm	Seelyville Town Board	Seelyville Water Office	Tamara 877-2665
Wed. Aug. 13	10:00 am	Area Board of Zoning Appeals	County Annex	Bernard 235-1361
Wed. Aug. 13	4:30 pm	City Park Board – General Meeting	Deming Park	Eddie 232-2727
Wed. Aug. 13	7:00 pm	Airport Authority	Airport	Kara 877-2524
Thur. Aug. 14	7:00 pm	City Council – Regular Meeting	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375

END

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