

## TAX MATTERS

OCTOBER 16, 2008, Issue #08-42, by Bernard Ridens, Executive Director  
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1. CANDIDATE DEBATES
2. BOARD OF HEALTH HOLDS QUARTERLY MEETING
3. FISCAL IMPACT OF 2008 INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
4. SLOW WINS!
5. PUBLIC MEETINGS

### REVIEW OF PAST TAX MATTERS

#### OCTOBER 9, 2008 (#08-41)

- BID SELECTION FOR HONEY HILLS / DALLAS ROAD SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT
- GOVERNMENT BAILOUTS – AN AMERICAN TRADITION
  - This is not the first time our government has bailed out our economy:  
<http://www.wsj.com/article/SB122186662036058787.html>

#### OCTOBER 2, 2008 (#08-40)

- PARKS DEPARTMENT SURVEY RESULTS
  - Follow Terre Haute Parks and Recreation Master Plan for a [graphical display of survey results](#) and the [raw data distribution](#)
- NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS – ARE YOU INVOLVED?
  - To give you a better overview of the good work the Terre Haute Neighborhood Partnership Steering Committee is doing, click [here](#) and read six pages of minutes from their September 23, 2008 meeting.

#### SEPTEMBER 25, 2008 (#08-39)

- NATIONAL TAXPAYERS UNION POSITION ON BAILOUTS
  - No more bailouts!
- MySmartGov.org
  - MySmartGov.org is a new grassroots organization that is trying to persuade the 2009 General Assembly to adopt the recommendations to streamline government made by the Indiana Commission on Local Government Reform

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. CANDIDATE DEBATES

Yesterday, the League of Women Voters sponsored a debate featuring candidates for state representative. They will sponsor another debate for candidates for County Council and County Commissioner next week.

**Wednesday, October 22, 7-8:45 p.m.**

**Sarah Scott Middle School**

**County Council, County Commissioner contested races**

*County Commissioner, District 3*

Paul Mason (D)

Brad Anderson (R)

*County Council Member At-Large (vote for no more than 3)*

Mark Bird (D)

William (Bill) Bryan (D)

Ed Ping (D)

Tim Hennessy (R)

Angela Miller-Treadway (R)

Mike Morris (R)

Other county contested races each may make a brief explanation of qualifications.

## 2. BOARD OF HEALTH HOLDS QUARTERLY MEETING

Dr. Enrico Garcia, MD, was retained as the Health Officer of the Vigo County Health Department at the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Board of Health meetings for 2009 were set for January 14<sup>th</sup>, April 15<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup>, and October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Of interest to the public, September reports were made concerning activity at the Well Child Clinic, with 325 clients seen and a total of 958 immunizations given. Reports were also given concerning the STD Clinic, with 179 clinic visits and 48 treatments, and the Adult Travel Immunizations with 65 visits and 125 vaccines administered. The total of all immunizations administered for all programs was 1154. The TB Clinic gave 531 Mantoux tests and read 454 of them. There were no positive results. The total number of reportable diseases and conditions was reported as 56 with 37 cases of HCV, 7 of Salmonella, 4 Strep, and 3 cases of Lyme, Rocky Mountain, or West Nile virus.

The Vector Control Report stated that West Nile Testing would continue. At this point, twenty-three pools of mosquitoes have tested positive. Four bats were sent for rabies testing, with all negative. The Vigo County Health Department is also responsible for issuing food permits, food service inspections, and issuing septic permits, tattoo establishment inspections, and childhood lead poisoning prevention. They keep records related to birth information, adoptions, and deaths. They are responsible for issuing birth and death certificates.

### 3. FISCAL IMPACT OF 2008 INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The 2008 regular session of the Indiana General Assembly concentrated on tax reform. The state will soon take over several funds presently supported by property tax money. The state will be responsible for the school general fund levies, the county welfare levies, and several other smaller levies. Additional state revenue will be collected as a result of raising the state sales tax from 6% to 7%.

The State Budget Agency has submitted a report to the Legislative Services Agency for the Members of the Indiana General Assembly regarding the fiscal impact of actions taken during the regular session of the General Assembly. This report is dated April 28, 2008.

The financial situation has changed drastically since this report was published. We will need to wait to see if revenue collections will remain as estimated. If not, what is the solution?

[http://www.in.gov/sba/files/As\\_Passed\\_2008\\_Whole\\_Report\\_and\\_Letter.pdf](http://www.in.gov/sba/files/As_Passed_2008_Whole_Report_and_Letter.pdf)

### 4. SLOW WINS!

There's a folk puzzle about two brothers who worried their father so crazy with their bickering over which had the faster horse that he decided to give all he owned to the boy having the *slower* horse. A preacher told the boys how to determine which had the slower horse. It was a simple solution.

What did the preacher tell them?

- adapted from Jim Comstock

Solution after *Public Meetings* section

## 5. PUBLIC MEETINGS

The purpose of this calendar 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.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Public Meeting</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact Info</i>
Mon. Oct. 20	5:30 pm	<b>Human Relations Commission</b>	Booker T. Washington Center	
Mon. Oct. 20	7:00 pm	<b>Vigo County Public Library</b>	Library – Main Branch	Nancy 232-1113
Tue. Oct. 21	9:00 am	<b>County Commissioners</b>	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Oct. 21	10:00 am	<b>City Board of Sanitary Commissioners</b>	City Hall – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor	Sally 235-5458
Wed. Oct. 22	4:30 pm	<b>City Park Board – Business Meeting</b>	Deming Park	Eddie 232-2727
Wed. Oct. 22	7:00 pm	<b>Airport Authority</b>	Airport	Kara 877-2524
Fri. Oct. 24	5:30 pm	<b>Information Technology Advisory Board</b>	City Hall – 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Brad 244-2316
Mon. Oct. 27	2:00 pm	<b>Board of Public Works and Safety</b>	City Hall – 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor	Robin 232-4767
Mon. Oct. 27	4:00 pm	<b>County Park Board</b>	County Annex	Julia 462-3391
Mon. Oct. 27	7:00 pm	<b>Vigo County School Board</b>	VCSC Board Room	Judy 462-4216
Tue. Oct. 28	9:00 am	<b>County Commissioners</b>	County Annex	Judy 462-3367
Tue. Oct. 28	5:00 pm	<b>County Council</b>	County Annex	Auditor 462-3361
Mon. Nov. 3	6:30 pm	<b>Local Emergency Planning Committee</b>	Library – Main Branch	Jon 232-5411
Mon. Nov. 3	6:30 pm	<b>Riley Town Board</b>	Riley Town Hall	Wanda 894-2410
Wed. Nov. 5	9:00 am	<b>City Board of Zoning Appeals</b>	City Hall – 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Conf. Room	Bernard 235-1361
Wed. Nov. 5	7:00 pm	<b>County Area Planning Commission</b>	County Annex	Vickie 462-3354
Thur. Nov. 6	7:00 pm	<b>City Council – Sunshine Meeting</b>	City Hall – Courtroom	Michelle 232-3375

## SOLUTION

The preacher told them to have a race in which each brother would ride the other's horse. The brother who won the race would claim the reward because the horse he owned would have been the slowest.

**END**

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