

TAX MATTERS

**JUNE 17, 2009, Issue #09-24, 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

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REVIEW OF PAST TAX MATTERS

JUNE 11, 2009 (#09-23)

- **TRENDING**
 - Trending has been practiced since 2002, but not understood by most taxpayers simply because they didn't care or realize how important trending is.
- **AS THE TASSEL TURNS**
 - The original number of students enrolled as Freshmen in the fall of 2005 was 1340. Some have moved into the county, some have moved away, but the bottom line is that approximately 346 students failed to graduate.

JUNE 4, 2009 (#09-22)

- **GOVERNOR'S BUDGET ADDRESS**
 - Address by Gov. Mitch Daniels concerning the problems passing a state budget
- **APPEALS PROCESS**
 - Indiana Department of Local Government Finance's Property Tax Assessment Appeals Process Fact Sheet - <http://www.in.gov/dlgf/files/PropertyTaxAppealsProcess.pdf>

MAY 28, 2009 (#09-21)

- **VIGO COUNTY PAY 2009 TAX RATES – CERTIFIED FACTS**
 - Your property taxes to be paid in 2009 will be calculated differently than in past years. Included in that issue was the certified rate schedule, provided by the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.
- **THE CONTINUING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DEBATE**
 - The Indiana Chamber of Commerce and Indiana Manufacturing Association's rebuttal to Indiana Senate Majority Caucus defending the new unemployment insurance law. Their version was "15 Facts You Need to Know About the Largest Tax Increase on Indiana Businesses in State History."
- **TWO ALTERNATIVE TAXES**
 - The FairTax and the value-added tax.

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.

1. PAY 2009 TAX INFORMATION

Although it was reported by the media that tax statements would be in the mail by Tuesday, June 30, they will be probably be mailed later. Meanwhile, **ATTACHED** to this week's *Tax Matters* are the **charts** showing the line items for each district that yield the bottom line that was also shown in the May 28 issue.

In addition to the 2009 tax chart, we have prepared another chart with the PAY 2009 rates shown in red for comparison. The bottom two rows clearly show a decline in rates. However, don't assume your taxes will be lower simply because your rates are lower. Although the PAY 2009 rates are down, replacement credits are less and most property assessed valuations have increased due to trending.

2. FREE ADS

This is the last call for you to submit a business-card sized (or landscape-formatted) ad or promotion for the summer issue of *Tax Topics*. Mail a copy for a better image, or e-mail a "jpeg" representation. This opportunity is open to members only.

Mailing address:
Taxpayers Association of Vigo County
7 S Meadows Shopping Center
Terre Haute, IN 47803

E-mail address:
taxtopics@aol.com

3. TAX WORKSHOP – ARE YOU INTERESTED?

As a result of last week's suggestion that we sponsor a workshop on trending, we received several positive responses and no negatives. We will continue to plan said event and need to know if you are interested. The workshop will be held on a weekday in August and will require about two hours of your time. This will not be an association meeting or a food function. It is intended to be an informative work session.

4. CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE – TONIGHT!

To Whom It May Concern:

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Finance Committee is hereby called to be held June 17, 2009 at the Board of Public Works Conference room, located in City Hall at 17 Harding Ave., Terre Haute, IN at 6:00 P.M. for the purpose of considering the following:

To determine if companies with tax abatements approved by the Terre Haute City Council are in compliance.

George Azar, Chairman

5. PARKS DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE



PRESS RELEASE

To: All Terre Haute Media

From: Terre Haute Parks and Recreation Department

Re: No Animals or Personal Fireworks Permitted at 4th of July Celebration

In an effort to present a safe and enjoyable fireworks display for all, the Terre Haute Parks Department is asking the public to refrain from bringing pets and personal fireworks to the Celebration on July 4th at Fairbanks Park. Per City Ordinance 917.03...*No person connected with or in any public park shall have or bring therein any firearm, **fireworks**, intoxicating liquor or any instrument of or for gambling of any kind or nature whatever.* For the safety of the large crowd anticipated to attend and the nature of this Celebration, no pets or fireworks will be allowed in the park during this event.

Contact: Eddie Bird, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

Phone: 812-232-2727

Fax: 812-234-7636

E-mail: eddie.bird@terrehaute.in.gov

6. 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. **Organizations that are underlined have a web page that can be accessed by clicking on their respective hyperlinks.** 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 | Public Meeting | Location | Contact Info |
|---------------|-------------|---|--|---------------------|
| Wed. Jun. 17 | 6:00 pm | <u>City Council – Finance Committee</u> | City Hall – Board of Public Works Room | Michelle 232-3375 |
| Thur. Jun. 18 | 2:00 pm | Tree Advisory Board | City Hall Mayor's Conf. Room | Jennifer 232-4028 |
| Mon. Jun. 22 | 2:00 pm | <u>Board of Public Works and Safety</u> | City Hall – Board of Public Works Room | Robin 232-4767 |
| Mon. Jun. 22 | 4:00 pm | <u>County Park Board</u> | County Annex | Julia 462-3391 |
| Mon. Jun. 22 | 5:30 pm | Terre Haute Housing Authority | 2001 N. 19 th Street | Jeff 232-1381 |
| Mon. Jun. 22 | 7:00 pm | <u>Vigo County School Board</u> | VCSC Board Room | Judy 462-4216 |
| Tue. Jun. 23 | 9:00 am | <u>County Commissioners</u> | County Annex | Judy 462-3367 |

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|-------|---------|----------|---|--|----------|----------------------|
| Wed. | Jun. 24 | 4:00 pm | City Redevelopment Commission | City Hall – 1 st Floor | Phenny | 232-0018 |
| Wed. | Jun. 24 | 4:30 pm | City Park Board – Business Meeting | Deming Park | Eddie | 232-2727 |
| Wed. | Jun. 24 | 5:30 pm | Information Technology Advisory Board | City Hall – 1 st Floor | Brad | 244-2316 |
| Wed. | Jun. 24 | 7:00 pm | Airport Authority | Airport | Kara | 877-2524 |
| Tue. | Jun. 30 | 9:00 am | County Commissioners | County Annex | Judy | 462-3367 |
| Wed. | Jul. 1 | 9:00 am | City Board of Zoning Appeals | City Hall – 1 st Floor Conf. Room | Judy | 462-3367 |
| Wed. | Jul. 1 | 7:00 pm | County Area Planning Commission | County Annex | Vickie | 462-3354 |
| Thur. | Jul. 2 | 7:00 pm | City Council – Sunshine Meeting | City Hall – Courtroom | Michelle | 232-3375 |
| Mon. | Jul. 6 | 4:30 pm | Animal Control Board | City Hall – 1 st Floor | | |
| Mon. | Jul. 6 | 6:30 pm | Riley Town Board | Riley Town Hall | Wanda | 894-2410 |
| Tue. | Jul. 7 | 9:00 am | County Commissioners | County Annex | Judy | 462-3367 |
| Tue. | Jul. 7 | 10:00 am | City Board of Sanitary Commissioners | City Hall – 3 rd Floor | Sally | 235-5458 |
| Tue. | Jul. 7 | 4:30 pm | Honey Creek Conservancy District | 3241 S. 3 rd Place | Craig | 232-4311 |
| Wed. | Jul. 8 | 2:00 pm | E-911 Advisory Board | County Jail – Sheriff's Training Room | Greg | 462-3226 ext. 320 |
| Wed. | Jul. 8 | 4:30 pm | City Park Board – General Meeting | Deming Park | Eddie | 232-2727 |
| Wed. | Jul. 8 | 7:00 pm | Airport Authority | Airport | Kara | 877-2524 |
| Tue. | Jul. 9 | 7:00 pm | City Council – Regular Meeting | City Hall – Courtroom | Michelle | 232-3375 |

7. SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*If you feel like doing some work,
Sit down and wait...*

The feeling does go away.

END

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