

Carroll County Economic Development

# CLOSE UP

KEEPING OUR EYE ON THE ECONOMY .....



Q2 2017



**Carroll County celebrates banner year**

**Capital investment may reach \$423 million**

**Jobs, wages soar**

**History, events spur tourism**

**Hoosier Heartland Industrial Park debuts  
Indiana Packers growing**

Pictured are members of the shipping department at Indiana Packers Corp.

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## Fueling Growth, Economy Our Focus

by Laura Walls, Executive Director

Robust. Growing. Vibrant. That's how we describe Carroll County, Indiana. And for good reason. We are welcoming new industries, celebrating expansions, continuing our agribusiness leadership, increasing our heritage tourism visitors and creating new quality-of-life initiatives.

At the heart of this activity: Carroll County Economic Development—and our partners—all dedicated to achieving a promising,

thriving future in Burlington, Camden, Delphi, Flora and throughout our county.

If you are looking for a great place to launch, expand or move your business, we'll help you do it—with site tours, shovel-ready industrial properties, existing facilities, tax incentives, employee training and a full menu of resources tailored to your needs. And all of Carroll County will give you a warm welcome.



### Serving on Our Board of Directors

At work for you and Carroll County, our board of directors (from left): George Mears, Office Manager Shannon Telfer, Mark Schock, Bonnie Maxwell, Mayor Shane Evans, Bret Rinehart, Bob Overman, Dick Traeger, Joe Mayfield, Executive Director Laura Walls, Miriam Robeson, Andy Zinn and Joe Moss.

Not in photo: Bill Jones, Mike Eldridge, Milt Rodgers, Julia Leahy, Pat Clawson, CWREMC Corporate Partner Randy Price, ex officio RDC President, Larry Trapp.

## Meet Our Staff



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## Carroll County Celebrates Banner Year, More Ahead

### Year's Industrial, Ag Investments May Reach \$423 Million

*Planning, marketing and industrial park developments came together in 2016, setting Carroll County on a course lined with capital investments, new jobs and growth.*



*Camden Recycling and Green Partners will build facilities near Camden.*

#### Camden Recycling, Green Partners

Dollar-wise, the biggest news came from GEP Fuel & Energy Indiana, which is investing \$300 to \$410 million to build Camden Recycling LLC, a plastics recycling center, and Integrated Green Partners LLC, a plastics-to-renewable diesel refinery, near Camden.

Carroll County's work ethic is a major draw, says Stephen Hogan, GEP president, who wants to attract, pay competitively and retain more than 250 employees. "We're looking for a workforce that we're going to train because this is groundbreaking technology, and we'll put in significant training dollars."

#### Indiana Packers

Indiana Packers Corp. has also announced a \$23 million infusion to build a 99,000-square-foot cold storage distribution center on its pork processing campus. The news followed a previous year's investment of \$40 million.

"This expansion is a major milestone in our company's growth strategy," says CEO Russ Yearwood. "The expansion allows us to improve inventory logistics, speed up delivery capacity and better serve our customers."

#### Next Day Container

Another existing Delphi employer stepped up, too. Next Day Container, which cleans, reconditions, remanufactures and sells bulk containers to ship liquid products, took on another 20,000 square feet of existing space, bringing its plant size to 55,000 square feet. A second shift and employee hires are following.

"We've experienced continued growth," says co-owner Ken Mushen. What's good about operating in Carroll County? "Hoosier Heartland Highway, with direct access to I-65," he says.

#### Peters Industrial Development

Dow Dellinger and Jeff Van Weelden acquired the seven-building, 45-acre Delphi site formerly occupied by Chromcraft Revington. Peters Industrial Development is being renovated to accommodate one or more warehouse or light manufacturing tenants. "We like how the buildings can be sectioned off, and hope to attract multiple small operations or a sizable operation," Dellinger says.

## Investment Tally

**\$300-410 Million**  
Camden Recycling,  
Integrated Green  
Partners

**\$12 Million**  
Indiana Packers

**\$50,000**  
Next Day Container

"Each announcement is significant itself," says Laura Walls, executive director of Carroll County Economic Development. "Combined, they reflect exponential interest and growth here, and that's phenomenal."



**\$423 million to be invested in Carroll County**

## COUNTY SNAPSHOT

### PLACE

#### Size:

372.2 sq miles  
238,226 acres

#### Access:

Hoosier Heartland Highway,  
I-65 & more, two rail lines

### PEOPLE

#### Population:

20,105 and growing

#### Region:

500,000 within  
commuting distance

#### Homeowners:

78.8% of residents  
own their home  
(70% state rate)

#### Median Family Income:

\$62,163

### WORKFORCE

Labor force: 10,600

#### 3 County Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA):

110,000

#### Unemployment Rate:

4.1% (Dec 2016)

## Jobs, Wages on the Rise

Year-end 2016 tallies reflect positive news on the number of jobs and increases in wages in Carroll County, reports Laura Walls, executive director of Carroll County Economic Development.

Current in-county jobs total 8,000, up from recent years. And wages have increased, too—49.7 percent since 2000, and 10.8 percent in the last five years.

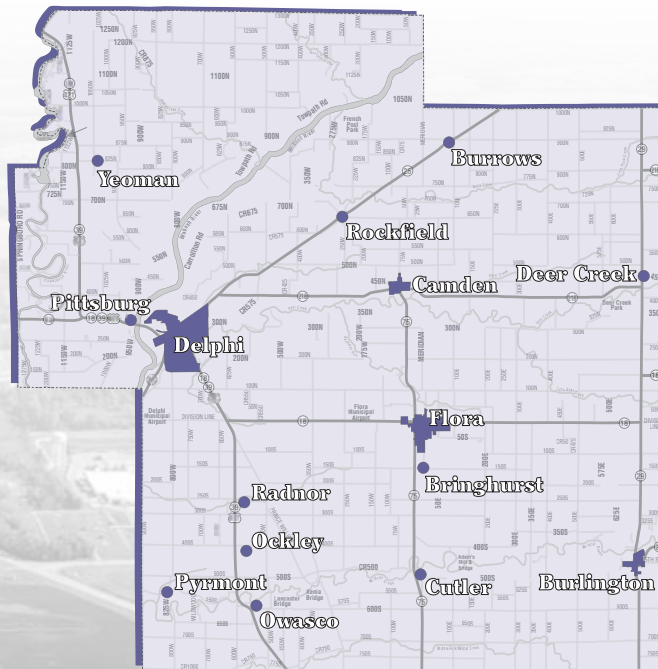
“Jobs here at home and good-paying employment opportunities in industry bode well for our economic vitality and continued

growth,” Walls says.

“Throughout the region, new industries and have opened and others have expanded,” says Jody Hamilton, chair of the Indiana Technology Corridor, which includes Carroll County.

“We are experiencing a positive dynamic that means more opportunities for our residents, dependable incomes and a strong economic standing,” Hamilton said.

“Robust is the best description for this region’s industrial sector.”



6-county labor pool  
with **360k people**  
—and counting

## Leading Industries

Advanced manufacturing and light industry hold top spots on Carroll County's economic growth chart, as these firms demonstrate.

### Alloy Custom Products Inc.

**Delphi**  
**100 employees**

*Business:* Produces cryogenic trailers and processing equipment; sells internationally.

*News:* Numerous expansions since its 1992 founding; now occupies a 120,000-square-foot facility.

### Camden Recycling LLC and Integrated Green Partners LLC

*GEP Fuel & Energy Indiana, owner*

**Camden**  
**to employ 256 by 2020**

*Business:* Recycling center and plastics-to-renewable diesel refinery.

*News:* \$300 to \$410 million facility announced late 2016; construction to begin in 2017 with opening slated for 2018. To accept 40 rail cars of plastic waste daily; to be washed, sorted and separated, with reusable plastic sold and remaining converted to diesel and gasoline fuel.

### Delphi Body Works Inc.

**Delphi**  
**13 employees**

*Business:* Custom equipment manufacturer for traffic signal, sign, railroad and other industries. oldest manufacturer in Indiana.

*News:* Founded in 1848 and Indiana's oldest manufacturer, the firm was recently honored with the Chamber's Milestone Historic Business of the Year Award.

### Next Day Container

**Delphi**  
**22 employees**

*Business:* Cleans, reconditions, remanufactures, sells and recycles intermediate bulk containers used to ship liquid products.

*News:* Invested \$50,000 in 2016 to expand its Delphi Industrial Park facility by 20,000 square feet to 55,000 square feet; adding a second shift and increasing workforce.

### PTI Machining

**Delphi**  
**22 employees**

*Business:* Machining both prototypes and long-run production of parts; parts finishing.

*News:* Business now also makes medical prototypes.

### Quik-Pak LLC

**Flora**  
**8 employees**

*Business:* Contract packager using standup, zippered, pillow packs and other materials.

### U.S. Aggregates

**Delphi**  
**27 employees**

*Business:* Stone and rock quarry.

### Zinn Kitchens Inc.

**Flora**  
**27 employees**

*Business:* Custom cabinetry; appliance sales.

## Top Regional Employment Areas

- 1 Goods, Processing
- 2 Manufacturing
- 3 Transportation/Utilities
- 4 Hospitality
- 5 Professional Services
- 6 Financial



*Carroll County Economic Development is working to recruit new industries, such as high-tech or laboratory based to its already strong line up of employers.*



## Industrial Parks, Sites

*Each of these sites has land available for new occupants.*

### Delphi Industrial Park

Existing 150,000 square-foot facility available, Delphi

### Flora Industrial Park

16 acres remain available, Flora

### Hoosier Heartland Industrial Park

60-acre park designated shovel-ready

### Liberty Industrial Park

108 acres, near Camden

### Peters Industrial Development

500,000 square-foot facility on 45 acres, Delphi

*Warehouse/light manufacturing facility for multiple tenants*

*Founded in 2016; renovation is underway.*

### Sycamore Industrial Park

75,000-square-foot building on 16 acres; 25,000 square feet and 7 acres available, Flora

## Hoosier Heartland Industrial Park Debuts



Interest in Carroll County's newest and flagship site for commerce and industry, the 60-acre Hoosier Heartland Industrial Park, is attracting interest, especially since the completion of the first building in the park.

Carroll White County REMC completed a 40,000-square-foot building on 10 acres in 2016, moving its Delphi operations offices to expanded space and also housing offices of Carroll County Economic Development.

"The park represents potential—potential for local industrial growth for new or expanding industries to thrive," says Larry Trapp, president of the Carroll County Redevelopment Commission. "It's a hop and a skip from the Hoosier Heartland Highway and a jump from I-65, which has easy access to major industries in the surrounding area and Purdue University."

An aggressive marketing campaign identifies the remaining property in the park as "Shovel

ready, ROI rich," highlighting it as certified for fast-track building approvals.

"Water and sewer lines have been extended to each lot and a park-wide drainage system installed," says Laura Walls, executive director of Carroll County Economic Development.

The park is:

- 1/4 mile to the four-lane Hoosier Heartland Highway
- 12 truck minutes to I-65; south of Delphi
- Zoned I-2 for light and industrial developments
- Accessible to Norfolk Southern rail.

*"Investing in Carroll County and the park would be a wise choice," Larry Trapp says.*

### THE MOST ACCURATE DEFINITION OF 'SHOVEL-READY'

Curbs, gutters, a detention pond and site-wide drainage are already in place, and all major utilities are plug-and-play ready on every lot—which means:



Lower construction costs



Zero impact fees with minimal permitting



Earlier business launch



*The Andersons, Delphi, is a key agribusiness.*

## Ag: A Major Player in Local Economy

A first-in-the state ranking for pork production —256,000 hogs a year—and significant contributions in crops give Carroll County a high-profile spot on Indiana’s agriculture map. That’s especially impressive considering the county ranks 63rd out of 91 counties in land size. About 86 percent of the county’s land is dedicated to agriculture. Farms average 416 acres in size; nearly 80 percent of them are operated by a family or individual.

“Agriculture plays a key role in the economy, landscape and quality of life for residents in Carroll County,” says Andrea Brown, extension educator, Purdue Extension—Carroll County.

Top crops are corn, soybeans and wheat.

Besides hogs, livestock includes cattle, dairy cows, turkey, sheep and alpacas.

“The agriculture industry’s ripple effect provides quality job opportunities and vital tax revenue for the county,” Brown says. “In fact, based on data gathered by the Indiana Business Research Center, each dollar of output generated by Indiana agriculture stimulates another 41 cents in economic activity in the state.”

The Carroll County Agriculture Association, a nonprofit membership organization, brings producers, processors, other agribusinesses and students together for education, events and ag-related activities.

### Key Processors and Suppliers

#### American Agra Curtains Inc.

Delphi, 4 employees

**Business:** Insulated curtains and other products for farming and construction sites.

#### The Andersons Inc.

Delphi, 49 employees

**Business:** Grain elevator, corn mill, corncob products, ethanol, plant nutrients, railcar leasing and repair, turf products, consumer retailing.

#### Delphi Products Co.

Delphi, 42 employees

**Business:** Produces and supplies livestock equipment.

#### Hog Slat Inc.

Flora, 65 employees

**Business:** Livestock and poultry confinement equipment.

#### Indiana Packers Corp.

Delphi, 2,100 employees

**Business:** Hog processing facility; joint venture of Mitsubishi Corp. and Itoham Foods

in Japan, opened in 1991, expanded several times since. Current processing capacity is 17,000 hogs daily; sources from 99 Carroll County agribusinesses and several hundred others in Indiana and the Midwest; markets bacon and other pork products under the Indiana Kitchens brand; ships throughout the U.S. and to 30 other countries.

**News:** In 2016 construction begun on 99,000-square-foot, \$23 million cold storage distribution center, going up next to its production plant. To be completed by August 2017. Employment will increase in 2017.

#### Wiechman Pig Co.

Delphi, 10 employees by 2020

**Business:** Purchases small-sized hogs and sells to niche pork processors.

**News:** Company broke ground in late 2015 and in April 2016 began hog-buying operations. Its \$1.3 million, 20-acre campus has three buildings, with 16,400 square feet under roof. This is the Nebraska-headquartered company’s first Indiana operation.

### Top Producers

Burton Family Farms

Co-Alliance

Cornerstone Seeds

Craft’s Suffoks & Tunis

Fruitshine Wine

Helena Chemical

Heritage Farm Suri

Alpacas

McCormick’s Farm

Mylet Farms

Remington Seeds

Select Seed Hybrids

Shaffer Stock Farms

J.L. Shuman Farms

Wise & Wise Farms



### By the Numbers

#### Operations

491 farms

204,090 acres in ag

#### Acres, Yield

**Corn:** 96,000 acres, 14.7 million bushels

**Soybeans:** 76,800 acres, 4.13 million bushels

**Wheat:** 3,800 acres

## History, Events Draw Visitors

Historical sites, museums, historic bridges and performance venues make tourism a vital contributor to Carroll County's economy. Annual events, too, such as the Indiana Bacon Festival, Burlington Fall Festival,

Camden Tractor Pull, Canal Days, Flora Community Club Midnight Madness, Old-Fashioned Christmas at the Canal and Old Settlers, bring regional visitors.



*Performances and private bookings at the Delphi Opera House draw big crowds.*



## County Packs in Full Year of Bicentennial Events

Carroll County celebrated Indiana's 2016 Bicentennial like few others—with some 46 events, reports Bonnie Maxwell, who chaired the local committee.

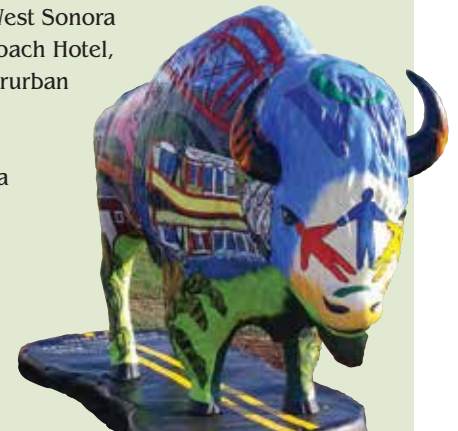
*"Literally, we had the most projects outside Marion County, which included the state's projects. We may have been surpassed only at the end."*



### Highlights:

- Three Bicentennial Gardens
- Vietnam War Memorial wall and program
- Six books, a Flora history website, newspaper archive and digital history library published
- Preservation projects: West Sonora Arch, Burlington Stagecoach Hotel, Flora Depot, Delphi Interurban Depot, Adams Mill
- Activities at Wabash & Erie Canal, Delphi Opera House, libraries, parks, courthouse and more.

*Delphi mayor Shane Evans carried the Bicentennial torch (left). The Bison Bicentennial project featured this design by Robin Coyner (right).*







*The Wabash & Erie Canal Park and Interpretive Center brings history to life.*

## Tourism Spots

### Adams Mill Museum of Americana

1845 gristmill

### Camden Museum

Historical collection

### Carroll County Courthouse

1917, stained-glass rotunda dome

### Carroll County Historical Museum

*Operated by Carroll County Historical Society*

Artifacts, genealogy

### Delphi Opera House

A three-story, 20,000-square-foot venue with performance stage, banquet rooms, meeting facilities available for public and private events; operated by Delphi Opera House Inc., which also books performances.

**News:** \$4.25 million restoration of the former City Hall, built in 1865, and a 10,000-square-foot addition were completed in 2015. From its opening event through year-end 2016, the Delphi Opera House has hosted 47 public performances, a ball and four theatre productions. Private bookings have included a prom, weddings, receptions and conferences, and 75 large group tours have been given. For 2017, some 30 public performances are already booked, along with a film series, conferences and other events.

### Fruitshine Wine

Featuring artisan, small-batch wines made from fruit grown on site, Fruitshine Wine is open May through October. The tasting room is a screened porch, with outdoor spots also available; wine is bottled and sold in canning jars. The winery was recently named one of Best 10 Wineries in this region of Indiana by Yelp.

### Historic Bridges

#### **Bridges include:**

Burnett's Creek Stone Arch Bridge, Adams Mill Covered Bridge, Freedom Bridge, Lancaster Covered Bridge, Carrollton Bridge and Wilson Bridge.

### Hollow Acres

With a driving range and par 3, miniature and disc golf courses, Hollow Acres is known for family fun. It serves treats from a snack bar and hosts events in its pavilion.

### Wabash & Erie Canal Park and Interpretive Center

Operated by the nonprofit Carroll County Wabash & Erie Inc., largely volunteer-built and operated, and recognized as a premier Midwestern destination, the award-winning Wabash & Erie Canal Park and Interpretive Center draws year-round visitors. Features include a one-mile, re-watered canal, canal boat rides, towpath, interpretive museum, bridges, park, pioneer village, conference/event center and 10-mile trail system.

#### **News:**

**2016 enhancements:** expanded Blacksmith Shop; interior restoration of an 1889 German Lutheran Church moved to the site; and the old Sleeth post office moved to the site.

Work this year will include construction of a post-and-beam Cooper Shop, where a volunteer will make barrels, buckets and butter churners, and restoring the post office.

"Our attendance numbers are growing. We have wedding receptions about 25 times in warmer months, and will have space for formal weddings when we finish the church restoration," says longtime volunteer and visionary Dan McCain.

## Professionals Provide Services

Carroll County makes a great home for accounting and legal practices; printers; a weekly newspaper, the Carroll County Comet; financial institutions; and other service businesses.

### Key Service Businesses

Anew Contractors  
 Bordner's Truck Repair & Alignment  
 Burlington Meats  
 Bush Veterinary Clinic  
 Brenneco Fire Protection  
 CamFlo  
 Carroll County Comet  
 Carroll County Tire  
 Climatek  
 Create Hair Studio\*  
 Culligan of Delphi  
 DK Construction  
 Eagle Customs  
 F&K Construction  
 Goodrich Quality Mechanical

Graphics Emporium  
 J.W. Rentals  
 KL Fisher Drywall  
 Lavy Windows  
 Loudon Printing  
 Madam Carroll  
 New Wave Communications  
 Parrett's Meat Processing  
 Pearsons Gas  
 Q Graphics  
 Skyline Signs  
 Starr Associates\*  
 Tall Timbers Marina  
 WP Electric  
 Young's Culligan

*\* New in 2016*

## Solid Choice of Financial Firms

Those seeking financial assistance or a banking home will find many choices in Carroll County.

**Among the recent news:** Adam Blankenberger Edward Jones opened in Delphi, and First Farmers Bank & Trust is building a new bank in Flora.



*Fisher & Associates operates in Flora.*

### Carroll County Banks, Financial Firms

Adam Blankenberger/Edward Jones  
 First Farmers Bank & Trust  
 First Financial Bank  
 Fisher & Associates  
 H&R Block  
 Industrial Federal Credit Union

Lafayette Bank & Trust Co.  
 McCammack Quirk Investments &  
 Financial Services  
 Regions Bank  
 Salin Bank & Trust  
 Security Federal Savings



## Shop Here, Dine Here

Shopping and dining out are popular activities for both residents and visitors. These are among the retailers and restaurants operating in Carroll County.

### Shopping Spots

218 Produce Market, seasonal  
 Ayres Hardware  
 Beck's Interiors  
 Bill's Clock Works  
 The Butterfly  
 Calico Plus  
 Carroll County True Value\*  
 Chickabiddies\*  
 Chuck's Towers & Flowers  
 Community Thrift Shop\*  
 Creative Disorder  
 CVS  
 Delphi Hardware  
 Dollar General  
 Eikenberry Fine Furniture  
 Everything Computer  
 Fielding's Jewelry & Time  
 Flora SuperValu  
 The Flower Shoppe  
 Flowers & Friends  
 Hometown Shirts & Graphics  
 Hoosier Harvestore  
 Iron Rooster  
 Kane Automotive Supply\*  
 Mann Chevrolet, Buick, GMC  
 Maple Leaf Country Store  
 Maple Leaf on Main  
 MK Apparel  
 Morrow Shoe Shop  
 NAPA Auto Parts  
 Opera House Gallery of Contemporary Art  
 Parts City  
 Pearson's Gas and Greenhouse  
 Save-A-Lot  
 Sisson & Sons Jewelry  
 Times Past Antiques  
 Trade Ways  
 Treasures in the Woods\*  
 Tri Green Tractors  
 Urban Chique Boutique  
 Wallmann's Foods  
 Westside Motors  
 Wilcox Lumber

\* **New in 2016**

### Fare Aplenty

ALLBQ's  
 Andy's Coffee Shop & Ice Cream Parlor  
 Becks Restaurant  
 The Blue Moose  
 Brick & Mortar Pub\*  
 Burlington Pizza/The Barn  
 Burlington Scoop  
 Cabos Mexican Bar & Grill  
 China 1 Buffet  
 Corner Café  
 Dairy Queen  
 The Dock\*  
 Fishers  
 Flora Family Restaurant  
 Garden Gate Tea House  
 Kopecetic Beer Factory\*  
 McDonalds  
 Mitchell's Mexican Grill  
 Monical's  
 Oakdale Dam Inn  
 The Office Tavern  
 Pizza Hut  
 Pizza King (Delphi, Flora, Camden)  
 The Sandwich Shop  
 Sportsman Inn  
 Stone House Restaurant & Bakery  
 Subway (Delphi, Burlington)  
 Sweetie Pies Homemade Delights

\* **New in 2016**

**News:** Polly Management, owner of Dairy Queen franchises, opened an administration office in downtown Delphi.



### Flowers & Friends

of Flora moved to Columbia Street, expanding space.

### The Office Tavern

of Delphi expanded with an outdoor dining/beer garden.



## Close-to-home Healthcare

From physicians to dentists, rehabilitation and eyecare, Carroll County providers offer a range of care.

**The newest to open:** Team Rehab in Delphi.

**Making news in 2016:** St. Elizabeth Healthcare, owned by Trilogy Health Services, was named 2016 Business of the Year by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce.

### Providers

Brodar Chiropractor  
Camden Healthcare  
Jordan Dutter MD  
Family Health Clinic of Burlington  
Family Health Clinic of Carroll County  
Flora Chiropractic  
Flora Family Medicine  
Dr. D.J. Harmon  
Steven Herr DDS  
Indy Spine & Rehab  
IU Health Arnett  
Jones Family Dentistry  
David Krause DDS  
Michael Laszynski DDS  
Norman & Miller Eyecare  
St. Elizabeth Healthcare  
Team Rehabilitation\*  
Wagoner & Wagoner DDS

\* **New in 2016**



Team Rehabilitation located in Delphi.

## Education/Workforce

### Hitting the Books

From pre-school to post-secondary, educational opportunities abound in Carroll County.

#### K-12 Schools

The county's youngest students are primarily educated at Carroll Consolidated School Corp. and Delphi Community School Corp., each operating elementary, middle and high schools. Both school corporations' scores for 3rd grade reading skills topped the state average. High school learning opportunities include numerous extracurricular organizations, such as French and Spanish clubs, drama, SADD, FFA and yearbook.

At Carroll County High, where the student-teacher ratio is 15:1, about one-fourth of the students enroll in advanced placement classes; at Delphi High, with a student-teacher ratio of 14:1, 31-percent of students take advanced placement classes.

#### Career Learning

Post-secondary training is available through Job Source, a Workforce Investment Act provider, Region 4 Workforce Board, nearby Ivy Tech Community College, Purdue University and Indiana University Kokomo.

Carroll County residents are benefiting from two recent grants awarded to Region 4 Workforce Board by the U.S. Department of Labor. A \$7.6 million grant funds the Rapid Reemployment for Advanced Manufacturing Positions program, running through yearend 2017; and a nearly \$6 million America's Promise grant will offer training opportunities through 2020.

"This region is absolutely committed to providing cutting-edge training for viable careers in advanced manufacturing," says Roger Feldhaus, executive director of Region 4 Workforce Board. "We've aggressively pursued partners and grants, and been quite successful in securing funding.

"Our educational partners have developed defined, targeted coursework, and the training includes hands-on activities and internships," Feldhaus says. "All this means that employers have access to ready-to-work, skilled workers."

Nearly \$13.6 million  
in grant funds  
awarded to Region 4  
Workforce Board





## Community-focused Nonprofits

Numerous nonprofits operate in the county, many providing social services, children's programs and opportunities for retirees.

### **Four libraries operate in the county:**

Burlington Community Library, Camden-Jackson Township Public Library, Delphi Public Library and Flora-Monroe Township Public Library. They employ a combined 25, stock some 160,000 items, carry genealogy and local history books and offer cultural programs.

### **Carroll County Ag Association**

Promotes agriculture through best management practices.

### **Carroll County Chamber of Commerce**

Unites and works to expand commercial businesses, industries and organizations; regularly offers business programs and events.

### **Carroll County Community Foundation**

Created in 1997, the foundation provides local philanthropy; it is a fund of the Community Foundation of Howard County Inc.

### **Carroll County Economic Development Corporation**

Works to attract, retain and expand businesses and industries.

#### **News:**

Moved to Hoosier Heartland Industrial Park in early 2016.

### **Carroll County Historical Society**

Founded in 1921, the society works to preserve the county's history; it also operates the Carroll County Museum.

### **Carroll White REMC**

Electric utility cooperative

**News:** In 2016 construction completed and REMC moved into 40,000-square-foot facility in Hoosier Heartland Industrial Park, south of Delphi.

### **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)**

Helps protect the rights of children.

### **Delphi Preservation Society**

Founded in 1994, the society has saved several historic structures, obtained national register designations and established historic districts.

### **Flora Community Club**

The club focuses on youth and adults, fostering activities to educate, enrich, entertain and enliven Flora and surrounding areas.

### **Flora Main Street**

Provides economic revitalization and restoration to downtown Flora through capital projects, historic preservation, events and festivals.

### **NICHES Land Trust**

Protects, restores and sustains ecosystems by providing habitat for native species and offering natural places for education, appreciation and enjoyment. Owns and/or manages dozens of properties in 13 Indiana counties.

**Carroll County properties:** Berkshire Tarnowski Forest Preserve, Frogs' Glory, McAllister Woods, Mary I. Gerard Nature Reserve, Moyer-Gould Woods, Sixbey, Mussel Shoals, Heron Bottoms and Weaver Family Nature Reserve.

### **Union Center**

A former historic church, the center was donated to the Delphi Preservation Society.

**News:** The center is available to the community for meetings, weddings, receptions, classes and other public or private events.

### **Wildcat Creek Wildlife Center**

Rehabilitates and releases native and migratory wildlife.

### **YMCA Camp Tecumseh**

An indoor/outdoor educational, recreational and religious program facility on 600 acres, YMCA Camp Tecumseh draws about 35,000 youth and adults each year for day-long and extended-stay educational programs.



*YMCA Camp Tecumseh offers programs and events.*

## \$25 Million Transforms Delphi

When the city of Delphi landed a three-year, \$25 million Indiana Stellar Community grant in 2012, the city began an ambitious, multi-project revitalization.

"The improvements have been dramatic and will continue to positively impact both Delphi and all of Carroll County for generations to come," says Delphi mayor Shane Evans.

### New Housing, Downtown Work

Some highlights:

- 35 building facades rehabilitated downtown
- 10 homes rehabilitated
- 28 new construction apartments and 16 adaptive reuse apartments in existing Main Street buildings constructed
- 3,000 feet of water main replaced/relocated downtown; project included hydrants, valves, tapping assemblies, water services, meters and paving roadway sections
- 7 full blocks and 5 partial blocks of downtown streetscaping, including new sidewalks, lighting, planter beds and plantings, storm sewer installation and resurfacing of roadway

### Trails, Culture

The project also included a two-phase Washington Street Gateway Trail—a new, urban multi-use trail along the west side of Washington Street from Columbia to Clay streets. Elements included asphalt trail, curb ramps, connecting



*Downtown Delphi benefitted from a state grant that covered facade renovation.*

sidewalks, signage, landscaping, decorative lighting, bike trail, stairs replacement, a sheet-pile wall and decorative cast-in-place walls, plantings, decorative banner poles and storm sewer installation.

Also, the Delphi Opera House was restored and a three-story addition constructed, creating a 200-seat, accessible, state-of-the-art performing arts venue with multi-purpose community and banquet rooms.

## Flora Depot Under Restoration

Flora's 1908 railroad depot, a notable example of transportation architecture that had been deconstructed and placed in storage, has been reassembled at a site near where it originally stood. Plans are to develop it as a welcome center and history and transportation museum.

**News:** Phase II is under way, with sidewalks, ramps, exterior lighting, a parking lot and

driveway going in as funds are raised. Phase III will cover interior restoration and museum space design. Numerous grants and businesses have supported the work; more will be needed before it can open, hopefully by 2020.



*Historic depot will be welcome center and museum.*



## Partnering for the Future



Carroll County residents continuously undertake projects to strengthen towns and county. The county also plays key roles in multicounty endeavors in the region.

### Delphi, Flora Solar Projects

Two Carroll County solar energy projects signal an interest in the future—one the Delphi Schools Solar Project; the other, the Flora Solar Farm.

The Delphi Community School Corp. has preliminary approval for a \$5 million, 2.39 MW solar facility. It's slated to be installed on a 15-acre parcel, with energy generated supplying its schools and opportunities available for students to learn about renewable energy. The project by Indianapolis-based Performance Services, which has worked with hundreds of Indiana schools, is expected to save the corporation about \$5.6 million over a 25-year period. Plans are to complete the installation in 2017.

In Flora, the nonprofit Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the Town of Flora are partnering to build a .75 megawatt solar park on the south end of town. Its 2,976 panels will help stabilize energy costs for the community. Completion is slated for late 2017.

### Indiana Technology Corridor

Carroll County's membership in the Indiana Technology Corridor benefits the county through access to combined resources as it works to strengthen industries, workforce development programs and marketing endeavors throughout the region.

A nine-county coalition, the Technology Corridor members include public agencies, private endeavors and economic development professionals. The group includes Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Warren and White counties.

### Wabash Heartland Innovation Network

An 18-month study by the 10-county Wabash Heartland Innovation Network, which included Carroll County, was funded by a \$575,000 Lilly Endowment grant and coordinated by The Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette.

Its guiding statement: "The Wabash Heartland Innovation Network exists to cultivate initiatives that empower globally competitive companies to plan and grow in the Wabash Heartland." Community sessions and study concluded in 2016 with publication of the group's findings and its "Strategic Plan for Economic and Community Prosperity in the Wabash Heartland Region."

Work is now proceeding on various action areas: Growing existing industry clusters, preparing the workforce, tapping research to diversify the economy and fostering a high-value quality of place.

Existing industry clusters offering growth potential: ag-biosciences; food processing/manufacturing; biomedical sciences; automotive/heavy equipment; metals production; precision metalworking; engineering, technical, and design services; and packaging.



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*Producing Tomorrow...Today!*

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