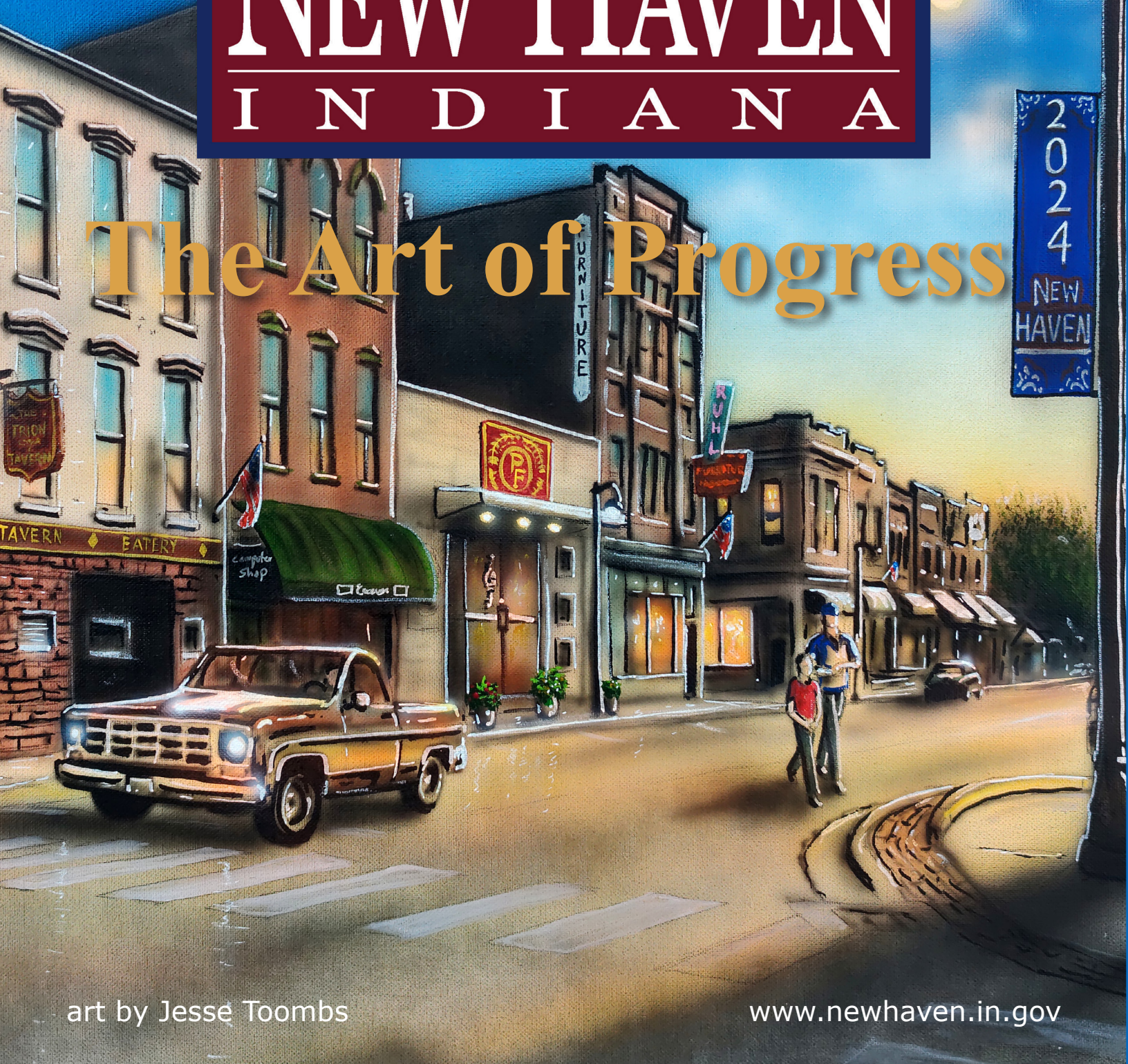




# NEW HAVEN

## INDIANA

# The Art of Progress



art by Jesse Toombs

[www.newhaven.in.gov](http://www.newhaven.in.gov)



# Brushstrokes of Genius

Founded in 1865, New Haven has a long and rich history. This past year, that history has been captured, chronicled and displayed through the works of talented artists. Across our community,

residents and visitors alike can embark on a journey to the past, exploring elements of New Haven as it evolved into the city we know and love today. We have installed eight functional art pieces throughout the city — benches and planters made from repurposed wind turbine blades — that illustrate life in New Haven throughout its first 100 years. We invite citizens, history buffs and everyone in between to visit these pieces and reflect on how far our great city has come.

These pieces thoroughly represent New Haven in its infancy, growing alongside the canals and railroads that made the area known as a transportation hub. In addition to these beautiful benches and planters, some additional art features created in 2024 offer glimpses of modern New Haven. Others blend our past, present and future.

The painting featured on the cover shows New Haven's downtown district as it is today, while nodding to the community's Americana roots.

*By Kim Linker*

The piece featured below, which has been installed as part of Allen County's Bicentennial Celebration, sits just east of New Haven City Hall. The sculpture blends New Haven's rich history with all the vibrancy and boldness the community hopes to embody in the future. Art lovers will note depictions of the Maumee River, the Nickel Plate Steam Locomotive 765, the community's popular bike trails, and a nod to New Haven native turned Major League Baseball star Bubbles Hargrave.

These pieces not only represent and contribute to the beauty that can be found in New Haven, but also our community's legacy.



*By America Carrillo*



# About the Artists

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## Kim Linker

Kim's artwork is well known to those familiar with downtown New Haven; her murals grace the exteriors of three historic buildings on Broadway Street. Following a six-week-long painting process, Kim's artwork now brings the city's first 100 years of history to life in an expansive and dramatic fashion. Through her realism style, use of vibrant colors, and meticulous attention to detail, Kim's art delivers intricate visual storytelling that transforms New Haven's streets into entryways to its rich heritage.



## America Carrillo

America is an Indiana based artist that began creating at age five and never looked back. Her love for art led her to pursue a career in graphic arts at Purdue University. After graduation, America chose to focus on mural art because of its accessibility and exposure to the public. America's decision to pursue a fine arts career led to a nomadic lifestyle, opening doors to create hundreds of murals across the country and facilitate collaborative art workshops. She has painted in 20 different states and hopes to continue creating public art as she pursues her long-term goal to paint a mural in every state.

## Jesse Toombs

Jesse primarily works in acrylic paint, creating serene landscapes, whimsical cottage scenes, and powerful abstracts. He also creates matchless, interior murals as well as custom automotive art ranging from motorcycles to motorhomes, carrying his distinctive impressions of the world across the country.

Jesse drew a great deal of inspiration from his home in the Ozarks of Missouri, where he spent many evenings drawing to lantern light. He currently resides in Fort Wayne with his wife Melissa and children.





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## Mayor's Choice Non-Profit

WNHE 101.3



Every year, Mayor McMichael announces the Mayor's Choice Non-Profit to recognize a non-profit organization in New Haven that works to uplift and elevate our community. Funds raised through the city's various community events and initiatives are given to the chosen non-profit at the end of each year.

This program was launched in 2020 as a way to support organizations that contribute significantly to New Haven, making this a great place to live, work and play. Past Mayor's Choice Non-Profits have

included the New Haven Food Bank, LEARN Resource Center, the Power House, the New Haven Community Foundation and Historic Broadway.

For 2025, we are proud to announce WNHE 101.3 as the Mayor's Choice Non-Profit. Known to all New Havenites as "the voice of the east side," WNHE aims to highlight area businesses, local culture, social events, high school sports, public servants and entertainment.



# Mayor's Address

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Thank you to New Haven's residents, business owners, and supporters who continue to invest, visit, and live in this great city. It is an honor to serve the City of New Haven and experience along with our residents and business owners the continued progress and prosperity of the City that many of us call home. When I ran for Mayor six years ago, I promised a bold vision of progress for New Haven. In 2024, we delivered on that promise. In 2024, we saw continued growth in housing and business developments. On every side of New Haven, we are seeing new housing developments from single-family homes to apartment complexes and everything in between, resulting in over \$72 million in housing investments in 2024 alone. Entrepreneurs continue to inquire about how they can bring their businesses to New Haven, and many have made the decision put down roots here. This past year, the city participated in 10 ribbon cuttings, and three ground breaking ceremonies. Over \$34 million was invested in New Haven through commercial and industrial construction in 2024.

As New Haven continues to grow, my administration is committed to making this a place where people want to live, work, play and pray. From infrastructure projects to trail construction, to festivals, to communication platforms, to public art, we are always moving New Haven forward. Notable among those projects is the Trainfo project, which provides motorists with real-time information about train blockages, enabling drivers to either wait out a stopped train or find an alternate route.

In 2025, we will continue to move forward with our bold vision. The City looks forward to the start of the Fields of Grace development project. The continued development of the Lincoln Highway Trail is another area of focus, along with scheduled improvements to our infrastructure that will support both existing and

new businesses and residents in New Haven.

Coming in 2025, the City of New Haven will launch a community mental health initiative aimed at helping residents find mental support when they need it most. To launch this initiative, we've partnered with CredibleMind to roll out a wellness website accessible to all New Haven residents.

Residents will continue to see other initiatives that will improve their quality of life. We will continue to develop the Trainfo system to provide information about blocked rail crossings. We will continue to improve the City's communications, including utilization of Activate New Haven, the City's newest communication hub.

In conclusion, we will continue to work together to make New Haven a great place to live, work, play and pray. We look forward to the opportunities that await us in 2025, and we will meet the challenges head on, turning them into opportunities as well. In doing so, all of us who call New Haven home will get to enjoy "the art of progress."



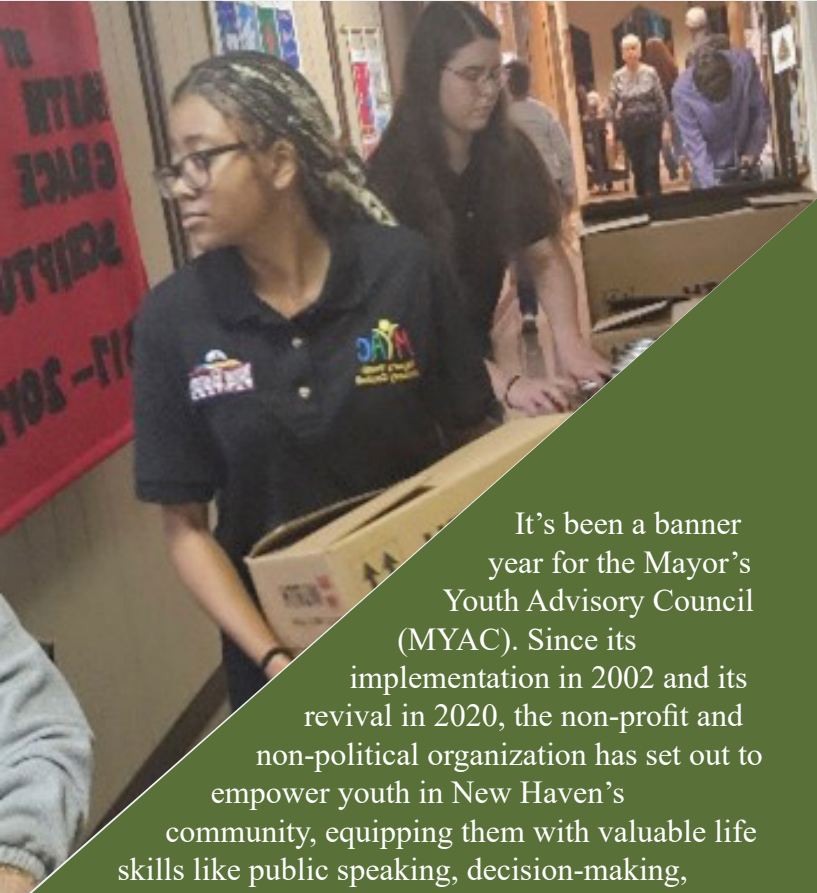
A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Steve McMichael". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

*Steve McMichael*





# Youth *on the move*



It's been a banner year for the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (MYAC). Since its implementation in 2002 and its revival in 2020, the non-profit and non-political organization has set out to empower youth in New Haven's community, equipping them with valuable life skills like public speaking, decision-making, networking, teamwork, and more. These skills lay a solid foundation upon which our youth can build for years to come.

Throughout 2024, MYAC members have learned these skills through a series of hands-on initiatives. MYAC President Carson Bradtmueller kicked off the year by presenting the State of the Youth Address alongside the mayor's annual State of the City Address, highlighting benefits of the program.

"We are grateful for the many opportunities that have been given to us. We have had doors opened for us and we are proud to walk through them," Carson said

during the address. "Because one day, when this generation becomes our own business owners, or serve as the mayor or other elected officials, we will open those doors to prepare yet another generation to lead."

Other notable engagement opportunities included an essay contest on the meaning of leadership, presentations to fellow students about the organization, and a winter food drive challenge with local corporations to benefit the St. James Lutheran Food Pantry.

With eight members from four area high schools, MYAC has managed to capture the voice of this young generation of Hoosiers.

Looking ahead to 2025, MYAC members are feeling ambitious. They plan to continue connecting with fellow youth organizations, encouraging other communities to embrace similar programs. They also hope to spearhead the creation of a new park just east of our city hall.



# Keep in Contact

## Elected Officials

Mayor  
Steve McMichael  
smcmichael@NewHaven.IN.Gov  
260.748.7070

Clerk Treasurer  
Angela Hamrick  
ahamrick@NewHaven.IN.Gov  
260.748.7010

Council Member  
Matt Newbauer, 1st District  
mnewbauer@NewHaven.IN.Gov

Council Member  
Jeff Turner, 2nd District  
jturner@NewHaven.IN.Gov

Council Member  
Craig Dellinger, 3rd District  
cdellinger@NewHaven.IN.Gov

Council Member  
Mike Mowery, 4th District  
mmowery@NewHaven.IN.Gov

Council Member  
Amelia Gascoigne, 5th District  
agascoigne@NewHaven.IN.Gov

Council Member  
Bob Byrd, At-Large  
bbyrd@NewHaven.IN.Gov

Council Member  
Terry Werling, At-Large  
twerling@NewHaven.IN.Gov

## City Departments

Code Enforcement  
260.748.7060

Economic Development  
260.748.7041

Community Development  
260.748.7092

Engineering  
260.748.7030

Planning  
260.748.7040

Public Works  
260.748.7056

## Our Partners

New Haven - Adams Twp.  
Parks and Recreation  
260.749.2212

## Leadership

Economic Development Director  
Pone Vongphachanh

Community Development Director  
Zach Washler

East Central Fire & EMS  
Chief Josh Hale

New Haven Police Department  
Chief James Krueger

Planning Director  
Nathan Hooley

Engineering and Project Manager  
Rick Kruchten, PMP

Public Works  
Superintendent Dave Jones

New Haven - Adams Twp.  
Parks and Recreation  
Director Nick Goranson

## Public Safety

Fire  
260.493.7500

EMS  
260.749.1235

Police Non-Emergency  
260.748.7080

Police Tip Line  
260.748.7099



# Chief of Staff

## *Richard Lower*

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The past year has been one of meaningful progress and collaboration for the City of New Haven. As Chief of Staff, it has been my privilege to work alongside an exceptional team to drive initiatives that enhance transparency, improve infrastructure, and empower our residents. With that said, there are three accomplishments which I feel demonstrate best our commitment to fostering a connected, safe, and informed community. These achievements underscore the dedication of our city's staff and partners as we continue to build a brighter future for New Haven.

One of the year's most impactful projects was the research of and partnership with Civify to create Activate New Haven, a cutting-edge communication tool. Activate New Haven enables direct and personalized communication with our residents, ensuring they receive timely updates on public works projects and community developments. Whether through email, text, or phone calls, Civify empowers residents to stay informed in real time, fostering a deeper sense of engagement and trust in city operations. This innovation reflects our commitment to leveraging technology to bridge the gap between government and the people it serves.

We also celebrated the successful completion of the Public Safety Expansion, a project that reflects our city's growth and forward-thinking approach. This expansion included the addition of the Nickel Plate Room, a versatile space serving not just as our new Common Council Chambers, but also as a venue for

members of the community and non-profits to host meetings. The project also provided the New Haven Police Department with much-needed facilities to accommodate their expanding operations, ensuring they are equipped to meet the needs of our growing community. This investment underscores our dedication to public safety and fostering spaces that serve both civic and community functions.

Recognizing the importance of financial transparency, we began work on an initiative to educate residents about their water utility bills and provide strategies for cost-saving measures. Through multi-media products, future workshops, informational materials, and online resources, we will equip households with the knowledge they need to better understand their billing structure and put into practice habits that can reduce expenses. This initiative not only strengthens the financial well-being of our residents but also promotes sustainable water usage, aligning with our broader environmental goals.

Looking ahead, I am filled with optimism about the opportunities on the horizon for New Haven. The progress we made this year laid a solid foundation for continued growth and innovation. Our dedicated city staff and community partners have shown an unwavering commitment to excellence, and I am confident that together we will achieve even greater milestones. Thank you for your trust and partnership as we work to make New Haven a thriving and vibrant place to live, work, and grow.



# Clerk-Treasurer

## Angie Hamrick

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Hello,

I am Angie Hamrick, the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of New Haven. This past year has been a whirlwind of a year with most of our office being under construction with the building remodel. We have completed that, and our employees are now in their own offices. The utility office was streamlined to provide a better customer service experience. Financially, this year has been a good year for the city. We were able to complete quite a few projects and spent 83% of the 2024 budget. I have established partnerships with the Mayor and Department Heads to create a responsible and productive budget for the City in 2025. We accomplished this by starting with a zero budget and after many meetings we have put together a budget that will be sustainable and allow projects to be completed as well as updating the benefits for our employees. I was able to complete my CMC (Certified Municipal Clerk) training which has been an ongoing process over the last 2 years. Another big change for 2024 is that HR is now part of my team and I am continuing to review how we can partner with our employees for the best HR work experience. In 2025 my focus will be on additional training and certifications for myself and my team. We will have a focus on HR and implementing an Employee Navigator Portal so employees will have the ability to review HR items more efficiently.



Thank you for your continued support and partnerships. I look forward to the bright future of New Haven!

**City Revenues: \$48,640,511.43**  
**City Expenditures: \$37,349,222.49**

**ECFT Revenues: \$6,224,549.35**  
**ECFT Expenditures: \$5,625,771.05**

**Parks Revenues: \$2,112,896.55**  
**Parks Expenditures: \$2,029,003.76**



# Handling the Heat



*From Chief Josh Hale*

As we close the chapter on another remarkable year, the East Central Fire & EMS family stands united, looking back on the challenges we faced and the victories we celebrated together.

In 2024, our department demonstrated steadfast commitment, resilience, and compassion. We responded to emergencies with determination, supported our community with care, and grew stronger as a team through every shared experience. Your trust in us drives our mission to serve the communities of Adams Twp, Maumee Twp, Milan Twp, Jefferson Twp, the City of Woodburn, and the City of New Haven with unwavering dedication. Together, we made a meaningful impact, leaving a

legacy of service and connection.

As we step boldly into 2025, our commitment burns brighter than ever. We carry forward the lessons learned and the bonds forged, ready to face new challenges and embrace new opportunities. Together, we will continue to be the guardians of safety, security, and unity for everyone we serve.

Here's to a New Year filled with shared successes, stronger partnerships, and a collective determination to make 2025 an extraordinary chapter in our story. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey—your support inspires us every step of the way!



# At Your Service

**Total Fire Training Hours**  
6,925

**Total EMS Training Hours**  
3,868

**Calls for Fire Service**  
1,759

- October had the highest number of fire calls with 178

**Calls for EMS Service**  
2,856

- 1,087 Advanced Level Care Transports
- 200 were providing assistance or lifting



Fridays were the busiest day of the week for EMS calls



## Our Team

### 31 24/48 Shift Staff

- 17 Paramedic Certified Firefighters
- 14 EMT Certified Firefighters

### 5 40-Hour Staff & 1 Part-Time Admin Assistant

- 1 EMS Chief
- 1 Fire Marshall
- 1 Fire Training Officer
- 1 EMS Training Officer
- 1 Full-Time Chief

### 44 Total Volunteer Staff

- 17,617 hours of services provided

### 60 Total Part-Time Staff

- Over 28,000 hours worked by part-time staff





# *Protect and Serve*

*From Chief James Krueger*

In 2024 we added two new full-time police officers Logen Brookmyer and Ana Acevedo. Both have responded to training very well and graduated from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy on December 13th. Officer S. Derickson was promoted to Corporal and is working on 3rd shift under Sergeant Lininger. The open position of Business Resource Officer was awarded to Officer Beard in which he has already begun to make connections with local businesses. I worked with the Merit Board to streamline our hiring process which has been a success. We opened the hiring process in late September and offered three applicants the open positions by the end of November. Normally a hiring process takes over six months.

In 2024, we installed license plate readers (LPRs) on Maplecrest Extended and Rose Avenue, both went live in October. Three more are scheduled to be installed, however they are awaiting permitting issues. In the short two months the LPRs have assisted in six investigative stops which have resulted in traffic citations and the recovery of narcotic drugs including meth and fentanyl. I am currently working with Motorola to update our entire fleet with updated

camera systems and new updated body cameras, all data will now be stored on the “cloud” with Motorola.

As always this was another challenging yet rewarding year for the New Haven Police Department. Our three Patrol Sergeants, three Patrol Corporals and the Deputy Chief continue to do an outstanding job and I hear positive feedback from those they lead as well as citizens in the community. Our Detectives continue to do a great job investigating crimes and working with other agencies as well as the Prosecutor’s Office to see that justice is served for our citizens.

Our Dispatch Supervisor works relentlessly to make sure we have proper staffing and will adjust his own hours when necessary to fill any voids.

I could not be prouder of our employees who continue to be engaged in the welfare of this department and the citizens we serve. I appreciate the continued support and positive relationship with the Mayor’s Office, City Council, Clerk-Treasure, Board of Works, and the Police Merit Board.



## Our Employees

29 full-time Law Enforcement Officer Positions  
5 Reserve Officers  
7 full-time Dispatchers  
9 part-time Dispatchers  
2 Administrative Employees  
1 full-time Code Enforcement Officer  
1 part-time Code Enforcement Officer  
3 School Crossing Guards

### Officer Activity

Traffic Citations - 1,548  
Misdemeanor Arrests - 604  
Felony Arrests - 234  
Written Investigations - 2282  
Assignments - 10,900  
On-Duty Miles - 258,746

### School Resource Officer

68 citations  
52 arrests/charges  
37 written investigations  
79 assignments  
1,060 lockers sniffed  
120 vehicles sniffed

# Moose on the Loose

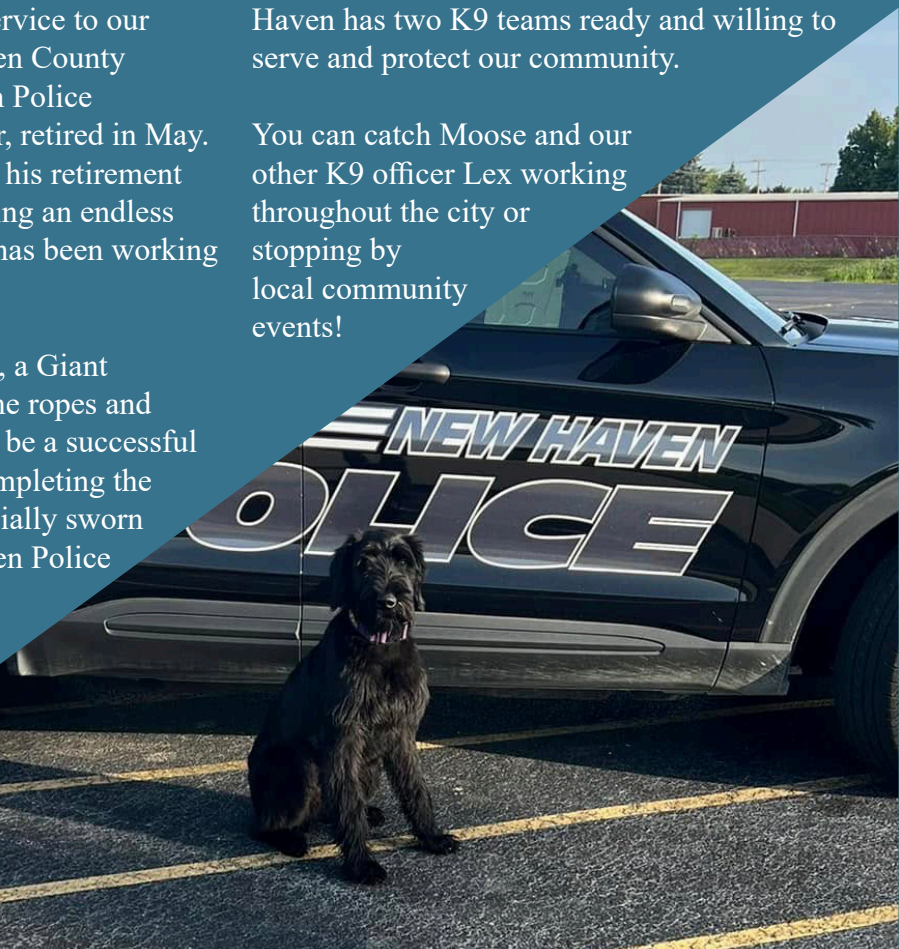
After eight years of dedicated service to our citizens and students at East Allen County Schools, Archie, the New Haven Police Department's beloved K9 officer, retired in May. While Archie has been enjoying his retirement lounging by the pool and receiving an endless supply of treats, Officer Moord has been working with a new partner!

Born in December 2023, Moose, a Giant Schnauzer, is quickly learning the ropes and gaining all the skills he needs to be a successful officer and a good boy. After completing the necessary trainings, he was officially sworn in as a member of the New Haven Police Department in August. He is certified in obedience, tracking, article search, and narcotics detection.

With Moose's arrival, New

Haven has two K9 teams ready and willing to serve and protect our community.

You can catch Moose and our other K9 officer Lex working throughout the city or stopping by local community events!





# Public Works

*From Superintendent Dave Jones*

As the Utility Superintendent for the City of New Haven, my main goals include:

- Motivate the employees and provide a safe work environment
- Inform and create a clear vision for the dept. and our customers
- Find efficiencies and modernize jobs and processes
- Maintain the City's infrastructure (water, sewer, storm and streets)
- Ongoing training for the Utility employees, safety and best practices
- Update equipment when appropriate or repurpose and repair
- Be responsive to our citizen's concerns and questions

January winter weather has been mild the last couple of years. The savings on road salt has allowed us to update some of our equipment. The Public Works Utility building turned 20 years old this year and had new windows, plumbing and epoxy floors done in 2024.

The City's battles with I&I (inflow and infiltration) in our sanitary sewer system are still a major concern. The City constructed a new Wet Weather Treatment Facility on Rose Avenue to treat sanitary sewer overflows before it is discharged into the Maumee River. This helps keep our rivers clean and saves the rate payer from a sewer rate increase. We also continue to clean and televisue our sanitary sewers around the city to find substandard pipes and connections for repair or replacement.

The City paved over one million dollars of roads in 2024 with the state's Community Crossing Projects. This will continue in 2025, helping to update prolonged road maintenance.

Leaf pick up went off without a hitch; the City collected 720 tons of leaves from late October to the first week of December. These will be composted at the Utility Department complex on Summit Street and redistributed to the public free of charge.

CDL random drug testing results were 100% negative, and the Utility Department has never had a positive drug test result.

The Utility Department completed over 1,000 work orders and monthly meter reads for its almost 6,000 water and sewer customers.

We continue to work on ADA sidewalk and ramp concerns throughout the City.

The City of New Haven received the tree City USA designation again this year, for the 11th year in a row.

This new year will bring many of the same challenges and some new ones to the department. I believe we will be up to the challenge and look forward to the opportunity to serve the citizens of New Haven now and into the future.





# *Taking Care of* **Business**

**550 feet of  
storm sewers  
cleaned**

**720 tons of  
leaves collected**

**66 utility truck  
repairs  
(81% in-house)**

**1,211  
Water Dept.  
service tickets**

**410 tons  
of salt  
on the streets**

**174 cubic yards  
of debris  
cleaned off  
streets**



# ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

*From Engineering and Project Manager Rick Kruchten*

The Engineering Department experienced some personnel changes in 2024, but through it all, we maintained our mission to continue to provide timely and cost-efficient municipal engineering services to our residents, development partners, and local businesses. We said goodbye to a 30-year veteran of New Haven Engineering as Tye Campbell retired. We welcomed Jen Basting as she was promoted to Engineering Field Supervisor and Brook Retherford as Engineering Technician.

First, I want to extend a thank you to the Engineering Department staff who rose to the challenges of keeping track of the unprecedented number of projects that we completed in 2024. They went above and beyond to ensure projects were completed to specifications and to the expectations of “government at the speed of business” that the administration believes and delivers daily. The team communicated with residents affected by construction and answered all questions they may have had.

The Engineering Department has a close relationship with the Public Works Department to effectively plan and perform maintenance to the city’s 80 plus miles of streets. These projects typically range from asphalt resurfacing, crack sealing, sidewalk replacement, filling potholes and maintaining lift stations, just to name a few.

Engineering is responsible for inspection of any new infrastructure (i.e. Sanitary Sewer, Storm Sewer, Water main, and Streets) that are installed within the city. Along with our new infrastructure projects, the team performs various infrastructure testing, permit reviews, sewer tap installations, and new driveway and sidewalk installation inspections within the city’s right-of-way.

Engineering is also tasked with the inspection work for MS4 (Municipal Separated Sewer System) where the city monitors residential, commercial and industrial sites on a recurring and continuous basis for potential sources of pollution that find their way into the stormwater system, which eventually finds its way to the riverways. Our city is blessed with two certified individuals with several years of experience performing this inspection and enforcement. Larger projects we worked on this year: the completion of Community Crossings resurfacing of 24 streets (13.1 Lane Miles), a new \$4.7 million Wet Weather Treatment Facility — with a previous price tag of over \$16 million, saving the rate payers over \$10 million — and a concrete sidewalk & street maintenance project with 259 sidewalk panels and 70 street panels repaired. We had an extremely busy and rewarding 2024 and look forward to an even more exciting 2025.



# THE NUMBERS



**11,152 feet  
of new roadways**



**67 new or rehabbed  
ADA ramps**



**259 Sidewalk  
Repairs**



**12,782 feet  
of new sidewalk**



**10,068 feet  
of water main**



**6,579 feet of  
sanitary sewer**



# All According to Plan

*From Director Nathan Hooley*

In 2024, the Planning Department has experienced many changes. In January we hired an assistant Planner/GIS specialist, Tyler Smith, who has been updating online mapping and taking a role in reviewing commercial and industrial projects. In July, the staff was able to add an additional assistant Planner as the needs of the city have grown. Karma Rowe was hired to assist with residential permitting as well as coordination of the Plan Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. These two members have been a pivotal asset and have allowed the department to function at a higher level.

The city has seen substantial traditional residential growth, with the department issuing 101 new single-family home permits. Along with 96 duplexes and 60 multifamily homes, the city's housing has increased in diversity and density with many new options to accommodate our citizens.

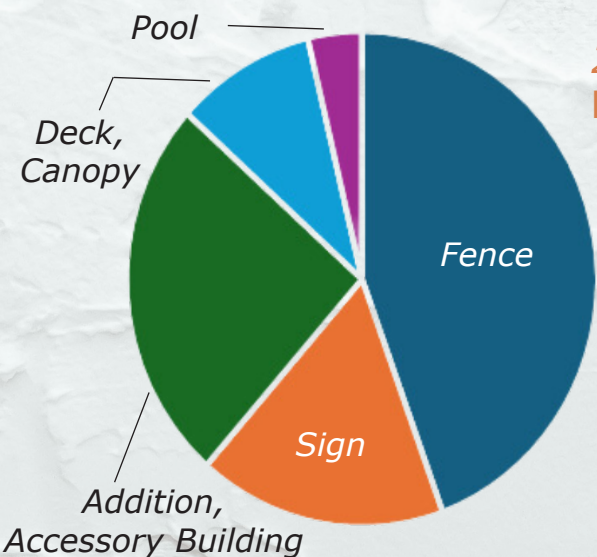
Our department has reviewed and approved several types of residential developments. This includes Landin Point with 50 townhouse units, Gateway Phase 1 with 60 apartments, and Crossroads with 136 units. The city has seen growth in our existing subdivisions as well. Victoria Lakes received

approval to complete Section 4, adding an additional 36 homes that will begin early next year. Arbor Park is in the final stages of completion; Kennebec, which has a section of attached townhomes, has also started seeing construction; and Lakes of Pinestone and Timber Creek are both close to completion.

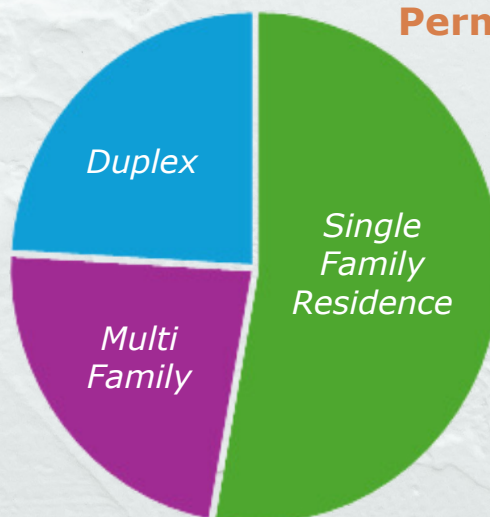
In December, the 1,000th Culver's Restaurant opened at the intersection of SR 930 and Maplecrest. There is also a new MidWest America Credit Union, the Tube Car Wash, and Take 5 Oil Change providing additional amenities to our city. Our industrial sector has also expanded with the introduction of the HillTip American headquarters which is a Finland based company that manufactures snow and ice removal machinery and equipment. They're a great addition to our Wayne Haven Industrial Park, and will be creating more jobs for the community.

The jurisdictional boundary of the city has also grown with annexations that have added approximately 200 acres of land. Several of these properties have been slated as part of the Field of Grace Sports Complex Development and will be a great commercial anchor on the east side of town.

**2024 Improvement Location Permits Issued**



**2024 Home Permits Issued**





# All Play at the Parks

*From Director Nick Goranson*

The 2024 Parks and Recreation year saw significant changes, including staff transitions, leadership shifts, and the start of several major projects. New Director Nicholas W. Goranson is focused on building on previous accomplishments and taking the parks to new heights. This year included successful seasonal activities, such as the M3 festival, and a solid pool season despite lower attendance. Maryland's Farm Park made progress with infrastructure improvements.

**18**  
parks and  
nature areas

**7**  
playgrounds

**6**  
miles of walking trails

**4**  
open-air pavilions

**1**  
pool

**1**  
splash pad

**1**  
awesome community!

The department faced the challenge of managing a large number of seasonal operations, including pool openings, hiring staff, and maintaining 18 properties. Throughout the year, staff worked hard to ensure the smooth operation of

programs, sports events, and community services, while preparing for the holiday season. The pool had around 24,000 visits this year! A significant incident at the pool was handled quickly, saving a life, highlighting the importance of well-trained staff.

Looking to the future, the department faces the challenge of aging infrastructure, particularly with the Jury Pool and exterior restrooms across the parks. Goranson is committed to improving operations without relying on property tax funding and is focused on creating a sustainable, efficient system. He plans to grow the parks while ensuring they remain safe, fun, and healthy spaces for the community. With a strong foundation in place, Goranson is optimistic about the future and grateful for the support from the Park Board.

**?**

Did you know  
The New Haven-Adams  
Twp. Parks and Rec.  
Department is its own  
entity? It's one of only a  
handful of parks  
departments in the state  
with that structure.





# Growing our Economy

*From Director Pone Vongphachanh*

To adapt to New Haven's ever-changing landscape, our Economic Development team actively seeks opportunities to support local businesses and drive economic growth. This included attending 16 informational sessions, workshops, and conferences in 2024. These events provided innovative strategies for attracting retailers, insights into market trends, and tools to leverage the area's unique strengths. They also helped us develop a data-driven outreach strategy and introduced us to a new database for managing business connections.

Our training sessions covered diverse topics, from real

estate redevelopment and reuse to preparing our future workforce, all guided by a shared focus on enhancing the quality of life and quality of place for our community. As part of these efforts, our team attended a retail trade show in Indianapolis, connecting with over 350 company representatives seeking to expand their business. These interactions resulted in valuable new relationships with a variety of brands. Moving forward, we plan to strengthen these connections and apply the insights gained from our training to attract retailers that align with our community's vision, fostering sustainable growth and improved amenities for residents.

## Our Rail Summit

In Indiana, the presence of railroads plays a pivotal role in the livelihood of numerous communities, shaping their economic landscapes and influencing daily life. With countless communities feeling the impact of rail activity, it's imperative that we foster a collective understanding of challenges and collaboratively strive for solutions. In February of 2024, we hosted the first Rail Summit, bringing representatives from the rail industry, innovative technology, government leaders and community advisors together.

railroads.

This collaborative approach transcends individual interests, emphasizing the collective well-being of Hoosier communities and the broader network of stakeholders involved. Together, we embark on a journey of partnership and problem-solving.

By coming together in this initiative, we acknowledge the interconnectedness of our interests and the potential for synergy in our efforts. Through shared understanding and concerted action, we can address concerns such as safety, and infrastructure maintenance with greater efficacy, ensuring a more sustainable and harmonious coexistence with

10 Ribbon Cuttings  
3 Groundbreakings  
378 Site Visits

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL  
Renovations/Additions - \$11,972,988  
New Construction - \$29,888,474

RESIDENTIAL  
Single-Family Renovation/Additions - \$9,691,329.95  
Single-Family New Construction - \$46,706,235  
Duplex/Townhomes New Construction - \$12,156,673  
Multifamily New Construction - \$6,054,088

Crunching the numbers



# Serving our Community

*From Director Zach Washler*

The Community Development Department continues to be proactive in fostering the city's growth and success. Community Development began 2024 as part of the Economic and Community Development Department for the City of New Haven. During the first part of 2024, our team began looking for solutions to disruptive train stops throughout the city. While this is an ongoing issue, the listening session held in July is a strong indicator of our dedication to making sure New Haven is connected and successful.

We also secured a Safe Streets for All grant for \$140,000. This grant will enable the establishment of a comprehensive Safety Action Plan, making New Haven a more walkable and bikeable city, ensuring our streets are safe for everyone.

Not only did Community Development work to secure grant funding for projects in the community, but our staff also organized community events including New Haven's Flag Day Celebration, Summer Fest, Patriot Day, Fall Fest, and Holiday Homecoming. These events could not have happened without the generous support of donors and the efforts of our many volunteers. We are thankful for those who support the community through giving of their time and resources. In August, Community Development became its own department within the City of New Haven with the hire of a new Community Development Director. After becoming its own department, Community Development undertook several communications projects. To enhance communication with the community, in cooperation with Civify, we launched Activate New Haven, the city's newest communications hub. In its first month, Activate New Haven received 4,830 visitors to the site. This is approximately 30% of New Haven residents.

Community Development began work with Credible

Mind to create a new community mental health care website for the city, which will launch in 2025. This website will be accessible to all residents of New Haven, enabling them to find mental health care when they need it.

Community Development is undertaking a community wide education initiative that will help the community understand vital information such as utility bills, and public works projects. The purpose of this public education project is to help residents to better understand how their city government works for them.

In addition to new projects, the Community Development Department continued with ongoing projects including updates to the City's website, the installation and utilization of a new electronic sign outside of city hall, and updates to internal communications including television monitors inside city hall to provide information for visitors.

A holistic approach to community development requires cooperation with all city departments. Exemplifying this cooperation, Community Development worked with the Department of Public Works and the Engineering Department to implement Trainfo, helping the community to better navigate the presence of the railroad in New Haven. Utilizing sensors, electronic sign boards, and social media, Trainfo provides information to the community about blocked railroad crossings, enabling motorists to find alternative routes when needed.

These projects and initiatives continue to help the community remain cohesive, vibrant and welcoming to all people who live within the boundaries of New Haven. In this way, everyone who calls New Haven home can participate in the "art of progress."

## 2024 Annual Events

Flag Day: June 14

Sumer Fest: June 27-29

Patriot Day: Sept. 11

Fall Festival: Oct. 5

Holiday Homecoming: Nov. 29





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homepage, scan the QR code  
or visit  
[activatenewhaven.com](http://activatenewhaven.com).







## Tired of train stops?

Thanks to a groundbreaking partnership with Trainfo, citizens can now learn about train stops throughout the city. In addition to digital signs located across the community, you can receive real-time information on train stops via X.

- X @WestStNewHaven
- X @GreenStNewHaven
- X @DoyleRdNewHaven
- X @StateStNewHaven
- X @LandinNewHaven
- X @BroadwayStNH
- X @NorthRiverNH

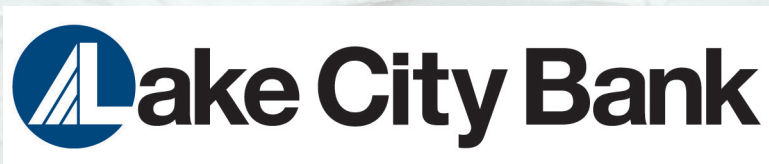




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