

FILLMORE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

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Claim Your Bubble on Google, Bing, and Mapquest

You have a web presence even if you don't have a website for your business. More than 54% of Americans search online for business information so it is important that the information they find is correct. It is possible to claim your business listing on many different sites. When you claim your listing you can then examine your listing for accuracy, set your bubble placement and street view, add business information, pictures, reviews, and directions.



In order to "Claim Your Bubble" in **Google**, you will need to have a Google Account which can easily be set up. If your business doesn't have a bubble to claim, then you can create a listing at Google Places and click on "put your business on Google Maps."

You will need to go to **Bing Maps** to see how to "Claim Your Bubble" on Bing. Facebook now uses Bing. **ExpressUpdate** is the source of business information for several different sites and products. MapQuest is one of the sites that uses information from ExpressUpdate.

Check out <http://go.unl.edu/2010negovconference> for more information about claiming your bubble.

FC HOSPITAL HOLDS GROUNDBREAKING



It was an exciting day in October when ground was broken for the new Fillmore County Hospital. A new hospital will be built just northwest of the F Street entrance into Geneva. With favorable weather the project for the replacement hospital could be completed in 16-18 months.

The \$18 million project will be using a \$12.6 million USDA Rural Development 40 year loan at 4 percent interest through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act to help finance the new construction. The remaining funding for the project will be generated from General Obligation Bonds. The new hospital will consist of 56,587 square feet.

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Established in 1989, the Fillmore County Development Corporation is a non-profit corporation that fosters economic development within the county and local communities.

Fillmore County received funds for the Homeowners Opportunity Program (HOP). This program assists people with down payment assistance based on income levels. Funds will be released in February or March and then applications will be available.

Geneva Is Recertified as a NE Economic Development Certified Community!



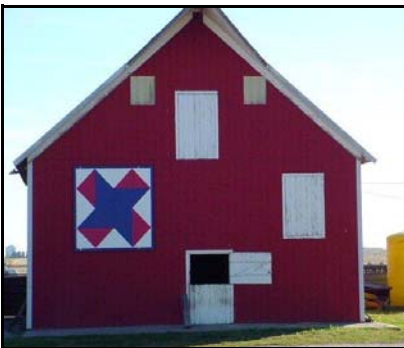
Geneva became a Certified Community in 2007 and was recently recertified. Patt Lentfer, FCDC Director, made sure all the information in the original document was updated plus added new information. The certification will now be in place for five years with yearly reviews of information that is on-line.

Community's that are certified are documented as ready for economic development opportunities.

BARN QUILTS in FILLMORE COUNTY

The Fillmore County Barn Quilt Committee and the Fillmore County Visitors Committee have been successful in establishing several barn quilts in Fillmore County around the Shickley area.

Renae Kamler who brought the Barn Quilt idea to the Visitors Co. as a way to promote tourism in Fillmore County, and her husband put up their 8' x 8' quilt this fall. The quilt on Gerry & Loydeen Stengel's barn and the quilt that will be placed at the fairgrounds were painted by 4-H members and volunteers this summer. The art class at Shickley painted a barn quilt that will be put



"July 4th" Barn Quilt Pattern
Pat & Renae Kamler

up on the school building. So far the quilts that have been done have been paid for through the FC Visitors Co., the Shickley Foundation, the 4-H Council or by the owners.

The Barn Quilt Committee is currently seeking funds from agri businesses that will help pay for the cost of quilts. The businesses would then receive recognition in the brochure and website about the Barn Quilt Project.

"We have some people who have a great location for a barn quilt, but need some help with the costs and/or the painting," said Kamler, "so we are reaching out to others". The cost of the material for each 8' x 8' barn quilt is approximately \$250.

3rd Annual Wind Power 2010 Conference

The 3rd annual Wind Power conference was held in Kearney November 9th & 10th. Patt Lentfer, FCDC director, attended the conference that had 71 speakers, 27 sessions and three program tracks from which to choose.

"Nebraska Wind Power Basics" was the title of the opening session. Kevin Wails of Lincoln Electric System spoke on Public Power 101, Dr. Jerry Hudgins, Chair of the UNL Electrical Engineering Dept. talked about Wind Speeds and the Power Curve. A Developer's Perspective on Project Siting Issues was presented by Patrick Dalseth, a Project Developer from Midwest Wind Energy. The fourth speaker was John O'Connor, Renewable Energy Development Business Manager of NPPD, who told about Nebraska Public Power District's Approach to Wind Development.

Other sessions centered on small wind development, landowner topics, zoning, wind training programs, legislation, working with the Southwest Power Pool, financing, transmission, moving Nebraska wind development forward, and maximizing the Nebraska economic benefits of wind energy. Several sessions were round tables with more than one viewpoint presented.



Nebraska is ranked in the top six in wind energy potential and there is a lot of interest in this renewable energy source. It would be prudent to learn more about the wind industry, especially as wind developers and businesses are coming to Nebraska.

Young Leaders of Fillmore County's mission is to *CREATE opportunities, ENHANCE our county and SUSTAIN a strong future together. The Young Leaders of Fillmore County meet socially once a month, support community projects, and will be holding a "Fun Run" in mid-April*

Any young adult between the ages of 21 and 38 who lives or works in Fillmore County is encouraged to join YLFC. Email: yafc@hotmail.com or check out www.yafc.wordpress.com.



Nearly 200,000 pounds of tires were recycled on August 6th in Fillmore County.
(Funded by the NE Department of Environmental Quality)



New Businesses, New Owners, New Names

John E's is the new name of the former Gator's Pub in Exeter and the new owners are John Graham and Rhonda Walford. They added a lunch buffet and expanded the menu.

A new business, H & R Armament is coming to Exeter's main street. Robert and Hope Androyna will now have a store front for their arms business which they had been running part-time from their home.

Karen and Harold Janda opened a home décor store, A Little Inspiration, next to Geneva Floral which they also own and operate.

Fabric Fair, a shop for quilting enthusiasts, was brought back to Geneva by owner Nancy Fleece.



JB's Rib Stop Café is the new name of the café on 13th Street in Geneva. John Burt will feature his smoked meats available for take out, as well as burgers, short meals and daily specials.

Road 6 Customs owned by Seth Petersen and April Knapp sells motorcycles and accessories and manufactures custom products. It is located on old Highway 81 in northeast Geneva.

FAM TOUR COMES TO FILLMORE COUNTY

The Fillmore County Development Corporation (FCDC) hosted staff from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development and Jason Sokolewicz, economic development consultant from Nebraska Public Power District on August 18th.

The group toured throughout Fillmore County and had the opportunity to see the available industrial sites and buildings in Exeter, Fairmont, and Geneva. FCDC Board members and Patt Lentfer, Director of the FCDC, also talked about the communities and businesses in the county.



Mayor Rod Norrie and Geneva City Administrator Kyle Svec joined the group at the Industrial site on "R" Street to welcome the group and talk about the available infrastructure at the site.

The stop in Fillmore County was part of the Lincoln Area Development Partnership (LAD) Familiarization tour and also included stops in Seward and York County. The partnership is a regional group that works together to promote business growth throughout Southeast Nebraska.

Career Day for Fillmore County Students

Nearly 140 Fillmore County junior and senior students attended the "Careers In Fillmore County Day" in Exeter on September 22nd sponsored by the Fillmore County Development Corporation (FCDC).



Presenters were 14 business people who own or manage businesses in Fillmore County.

Students were able to choose three sessions where business people from Fillmore County companies talked about their businesses and the opportunities for students to find quality jobs in the County. Students also had the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists.

Patt Lentfer, Director of the FCDC, said, "the goal of the project is let students know that there are job opportunities in Fillmore County and encourage them to come back home."

FCDC Director's Notes . . .

lentfer.fcdc@genevaimail.com

"Our attitude is success" is the mind set of citizens of Fillmore County. This can be seen by the business climate in the County. A new hospital is being built, new Main Street businesses have opened and several manufacturers have expanded.

This is no time to sit on our laurels, however, that is why I am inviting everyone to join the FCDC Board of Directors for its Strategic Planning meeting on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of the Geneva Library. The Board wants input on the plan that will keep Fillmore County a place where people want to live, work, raise a family and call home.

As the FCDC works to diversify our local economy, broaden the tax base and provide employment opportunities, citizen input and participation is important. Please join the Board and me at the Strategic Planning Session on January 19th.

For more information about anything mentioned in this newsletter email lentfer.fcdc@genevaimail.com or call 759-4910.

Patt Lentfer

