

# FILLMORE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

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

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## HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM



With assistance from the County of Fillmore the FCDC has received funds from the Nebraska Affordable Housing Program to provide down payment subsidies to Homebuyers for the purchase of existing homes in Fillmore County. The funds are available to assist individuals and families with down payment assistance and assistance with minor rehabilitation of the home they purchase.

Eligible applicants will need to meet income qualifications which are 80 percent or lower of the median household incomes of Fillmore County, adjusted for family size. The home must be the principal residence of the buyer. The maximum home loan subsidy cannot exceed \$17,000. Grant funds up to \$7,500 to complete minor repair and/or rehabilitation work in the form of a "conditional grant" may also be available. For additional information contact the Fillmore County Development Corporation at 402.759.4910 or email: [lentfer.fcdc@genevaimail.com](mailto:lentfer.fcdc@genevaimail.com) or by mail at: 1032 G Street, Geneva NE 68361

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## Revolving Loan Funds for Economic Development

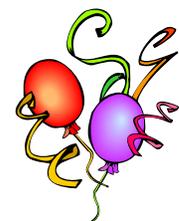
Businesses across Fillmore County have access to Revolving Loan funds developed from CDBG grants received through the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. The objectives of the reuse fund are to provide financing for start-up and existing businesses that cannot obtain conventional financing, to attract new businesses to the area and to create and retain jobs. Eligible activities include acquisition of real estate, land and buildings, fixed assets, machinery and equipment, renovations, remodeling, site preparation, working capital and/or job training costs. The Revolving Loan funds can be approved for up to 40% of the total project costs. An application review committee reviews each application. As businesses repay the loan with interest (1/2 of the primary lender rate) the fund replenishes and can be used by other businesses. To date over \$1.7 million dollars has been loaned out to 28 different businesses. Presently there is over \$155,000 available for viable projects. For assistance contact the Fillmore County Development Corporation. 402-759-4910. Applications are available at the Geneva City office.



RLF Funds were used to help O'Malley Grain locate in Fairmont in 1999. They presently employ 12 people.

**Tourist Information On FC Visitors Site**  
*Whether you're a tourist from Fillmore County or from far away you can find out what's happening at:*

[www.visitfillmorecounty.org](http://www.visitfillmorecounty.org)



## Geneva Inn and Geneva Hotel Open in June

Fillmore County has gone from no motels/hotels to having two open in June. The Geneva Inn, formerly the Budget Host Motel opened in June and is under new management. The new managers are Nate and Pari Bhakta. They moved from Victorville, California where they managed a motel for 11 years. The Bhakta's said they moved to Geneva because most of their family lived in the Midwest and they wanted to be closer to them. The couple have two sons.



The motel, located at 328 S 13th Street, has 26 rooms. They are ready for guests although they are still doing some painting and etc. Daily and weekly rates are available and rooms include a television, microwave, telephone, refrigerator, and have free Internet service. Reservations can be made by calling 402-759-3176.



Charles and John Picard are the owners of Hotel Geneva located at 736 G Street. It opened on June 23rd. Picards' claim it is one of the world's smallest hotels. It has only three rooms. The rooms

are set up for short and long term stays and include a range, refrigerator and a television. Laundry facilities and a patio are also available to guests. One of the rooms is handicapped accessible. The reservation numbers for the Hotel Geneva are 402-759-2883 or 402-759-2126.

On June 2nd an electronic recycling event was held in Fillmore County. Fillmore County citizens packed the truck to the top with 12,160 lbs of old electronics. A special thanks to Boy Scout Troop 175 and all the other volunteers who helped with the collection.

(Funded by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality)



## Young Leaders of Fillmore County Begins 2nd Year.

The first year of the newly formed group of young leaders in Fillmore County was deemed a success. They had many activities their first year including working at community summer celebrations, social events, holding a Fun Run to raise funds for their Relay for Life team. The group will hold a Road Rally on July 17th that will end at the Fillmore County Fair. The first recipients of the "Top Four Under 40" award were received by Jean Engle, Christin Lovegrove Mitch Schlegelmilch and Jake Voss.

Officers for 2011-12 are Christin Lovegrove, Valerie Turner, Dayle Taylor, Stacy Hafer, Amber Taylor and Wade Sluka.

*Any young adult between the ages of 21 and 38 who live or work in Fillmore County is encouraged to join YLFC. Their mission is to CREATE opportunities, ENHANCE our county and SUSTAIN a strong future together. Email: ylfc@hotmail.com or check out www.ylfc.wordpress.com.*

## Sullivan Joins Geneva Family Dentistry

Dr. Michael Sullivan, DDS, a recent graduate of the UNL School of Dentistry, has joined Geneva Family Dentistry.

Dr. Sullivan will be in the Geneva office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and will soon be adding Friday appointments.

Geneva Family Dentistry offers general dentistry, cosmetic dentistry, endodontics, oral surgery and ClearCorrect Orthodontics™.

Currently Dr. Sullivan is commuting from Lincoln but is anxious to relocate to Geneva with his wife and six-month old son.

## Royalty's Gifts Opens on N 13th Street

A new gift shop, called Royalty's Gifts has opened on North 13th Street in Geneva. The owner, Suzanne Lovell, is excited to offer a variety of gifts, clothing and accessories.



The store is open Monday through Friday from 10:30-5:30 and Saturdays from 10:00-6:00.

## FCDC Website Has a New Look

The Fillmore County Development Corporation website has a new look and offers a world of information. A viewer can find information about available sites & buildings, labor & demographics, utilities, businesses, living in Fillmore County, job and business opportunities, links to other resources and etc. From each page a person can also go to community websites and the Fillmore County website. Check it out and make it one of your favorites.

[www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org](http://www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org)

## Odegeo. . Leadership for Fillmore County Class Graduates Seventeen



**L-R Front:** Mary Johnson, Shawnie Manthei, Kelly Nun, Kendra Jansky **Middle:** Kim Slezak, Norman Marks, Christin Lovegrove, Susan Johnson, Shari Michl **Back:** Todd Boller, Tyler Daly, Andrew Ley, John Wilkins, Marty Peppard. Not pictured : Valerie Turner, Katie Chaney, Brandie Conway.

The 2010-2011 Odegeo. . Leadership for Fillmore County participants graduated from the nine-month leadership course on June 10th. The event was held in the community room of Heritage Crossing.

The speaker for the graduation was Dr. Richard Dudley, the former head of the Education Department at Doane College in Crete. He talked about the “skunk in the middle of the road” who does not think past one answer to a problem. Leaders, however, work with others, get the facts, and determine a workable solution.

Class members were presented plaques as they gave their "From Talk to Action" statement. Class member's sponsors were recognized and business sponsors who provided lunches and snacks throughout the year were thanked.

## Thank You for Your Support

The Board of Directors of the Fillmore County Development Corporation thanked every business, individual and political entity for their support of the mission of the Fillmore County Development Corporation at the Annual meeting in February.

Larry Johnson, President of the Nebraska Trucking Association, was the speaker for the event. Mr. Johnson said Nebraska has some definite advantages because of their infrastructure and central location. Nebraska also has the Union Pacific headquarters, dual rail sites, UPRR & BNSF in several locations, and world class logistic companies. He stated 1 out of 14 employees in the state are in the trucking industry. Career pathways in trucking are varied and there are more opportunities besides driving a truck.

## FCDC Director's Notes. . .

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### *“Passion for Community Related to Economic Growth”—Soul of the Community Study*

*A three-year Gallup study of 26 U.S. cities found that peoples' love and passion for their community may be a leading indicator for local economic growth. Surprisingly, social offerings, openness and beauty are far more important than people's perceptions of the economy, jobs, or basic services in creating a lasting emotional bond between people and their community. The study showed cities with the highest level of resident community attachment also had the highest rates of GDP over time.*

*The theory of the study was that when a community's residents are highly attached, they will spend more time there, spend more money, they're more productive and more entrepreneurial. The study found a clear correlation between community attachment and economic growth.*

*Is this true in rural Nebraska too? I would guess that it is. Let's make sure that there is a sense that our community is a good place to make connections, we expound on the natural beauty as well as the man-made environment, and are welcoming to diverse ages, races, ethnicities, cultural groups, and family types.*

*For more information about anything mentioned in this newsletter email [lentfer.fcfc@genevaimail.com](mailto:lentfer.fcfc@genevaimail.com) or phone 402-759-4910.*

*Patt Lentfer*