

NINE KIDS ATTEND FIRST FILLMORE COUNTY ESI CAMP

Nine Jr. High students from throughout Fillmore County attended the first ever Entrepreneurship Investigation (ESI) camp June 5-10th organized by the Fillmore County Development Corporation Leadership Co. and the Fillmore County Extension office with funding assistance coming from Fillmore County Foundation and the Shickley Community Foundation.

This camp incorporated the 4-H ESI materials into lessons and activities that helped campers understand the value of business to a community and what it takes to be in business.

The campers heard from and/or visited 25 businesses throughout Fillmore County to learn they how began their business.

Students formed teams and then created their own businesses .They sold their products at the Geneva Farmer's Market.

One student summed camp up this way, "Think small and dream big!"



Campers were : Jennifer Pribyl, Brady Bristol, Chris Ulmer, Haeli Temme, Ethan Nutter, Beth Koca, Blake Papik, Megan Schiermeyer, Taytum Barber

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DO YOU KNOW?



There are over 330 main street businesses in Fillmore County?

That is the theme the FCDC is using for ads placed in the Nebraska Signal to inform citizens of the businesses and services that exist in the communities of Fillmore County.

Many different types of businesses will be featured in the monthly ads so people know what is available right here in the county which can save them time and money.

Support Fillmore County - SHOP LOCALLY

Do You Know?

There are over 330 main street businesses in Fillmore County.

Where can you find lodging in Fillmore County?
Lake Shore RV Park, Budget Host Inn and Dempster Bed and Breakfast.

Where can you get a semi or diesel engine repaired in the county?
Echtelberger Service, Exeler Repair, Weaver Repair, and Bill's Repair.

What appliance businesses are in the county?
Geneva TV and Appliance, ASAP and Gambles.



Come Home
Fillmore County Foundation

Need more information?
402-759-4910
Fillmore County Development Corp.

FILLMORE COUNTY HOUSING MARKET STUDY UNDERWAY

A Housing Market Study for Fillmore County and Communities, Nebraska, is being conducted by the Fillmore County Development Corporation (FCDC), with the assistance of Hanna:Keelan Associates, P.C., a community planning and research firm based in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Housing Market Study, scheduled to be completed this Fall, will include Community Census data and housing stock analysis, a Five-Year "Housing Action Plan" and funding options for future owner and rental housing development and rehabilitation projects.

The Housing Market Study process will also include a comprehensive citizen participation program, consisting of Community "listening sessions," where Fillmore County residents will have the opportunity to meet with Housing Committee and FCDC members and Hanna:Keelan representatives to discuss area housing opportunities, and two important housing opinion surveys, a "Housing Needs and Wants Survey" and a "Workforce Housing Needs Survey." This citizen participation process will allow local residents the opportunity to share their views about the housing needs of the Fillmore County area and identify the major issues or barriers for obtaining affordable housing in the County and each Community.

The Housing Market Study is being funded by a Community Development Block Grant, provided by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, matched with local Community funds. The Housing Market Study project is being administered by the Southeast Nebraska Development District.



Advanced BioEnergy was just one of the businesses visited by the 2006-2007 FCDC Leadership Class.

FCDC Leadership Development Committee Plans for 2008-2009 Leadership Class

Plans are underway for the 2008-2009 Leadership class that will begin in September. People interested in becoming more effective leaders and learning more about Fillmore County are invited to apply. (759-4910 or fillcodevco@alltel.net)

After the September evening session, the remaining eight sessions will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month from October through May. Tuition for the Leadership Class is \$125.

The Committee is looking for a new name for the Leadership Class, formerly called the ODEGEO Project. Because most people do not realize Odegeo is a Greek word that means "to lead" the committee is seeking a name that more people will associate with identifying, educating and developing leaders.

COME BACK HOME



A BECA (Building Entrepreneurial Communities Act) grant was awarded to Fillmore County communities and will be administered by the Fillmore County Development Corporation. The funds will be used to contact out-of-area alumni from all the communities and invite them to "Come Home to Fillmore County" to live and work. Alumni will be contacted initially through direct mail and then directed to a website and/or a podcast.

The project involves letting people who have moved away from their home area know there are opportunities in the county for jobs, business relocations, or startups and lots of ways to become involved in their communities.

Tracy Barbur Hired as FCDC Administrative Assistant

Tracy Barbur, a native of Geneva, was hired as the Administrative Assistant in April. She works part time, usually four mornings a week.

Keeping the Fillmore County information up to date for local businesses and economic developers is one of her main responsibilities. Tracy is married to Rob and has four children.

Lentfer Attends Windexpo in Houston in June

Patt Lentfer, Executive Director of the Fillmore County Development Corporation, was among the 770 exhibitors and 13,000 registrant at the Windpower 2008 Conference & Exhibition in Houston June 1-4 sponsored by the American Wind Energy Association. Windpower 2008 Conference & Exhibition is the world's largest annual wind energy industry event, with three days of conference sessions, an interactive tradeshow of wind energy products and services, and numerous networking opportunities among leaders in all facets of the industry.

Lentfer was with a team of economic developers from Nebraska Public Power District and other Nebraska community developers promoting Nebraska to wind power plant developers, turbine manufacturers, and the full range of supply chain manufacturers.

Currently Nebraska Public Power produces only about 1% of its energy from wind, but has set a target of 10% wind generated power by 2020. Nebraska is rated 6th in the top twenty states for wind energy potential, as measured by the annual energy potential in the billions of kWhs, factoring in environmental and land use exclusion for wind class of 3 and higher. Two 70-meter-long turbine blades were displayed outdoors on Discovery Green, located right across the street from the George R. Brown Convention Center. "It was fascinating to see the blades up close, instead of just meeting them as they travel on trucks down Highway 81", said Lentfer.



**SAVE SOME GAS—
TOUR FILLMORE COUNTY**
www.visitfillmorecounty.org

nbdc

Nebraska Business Development Center

The Nebraska Business Development Center is a resource that people wanting to start a business or grow a business can use. Services are either low cost and or free.

The Center does consulting in the areas of Business Start-up/Growth, Government Bidding, Internet Strategies, Manufacturing Assistance, P2 and Waste Reduction, SBIR/STTR Assistance, Innovation Venture and Web Development.

The NBDC center also offers a wide variety of training including computer training, advanced tech training, leadership solutions, lean enterprise, new business start-up, pollution prevention, project management, and small business operation.

Fillmore County Development Corporation was involved in a pilot program to bring some of NBDC's services to rural Nebraska. The FCDC can offer training on "Are You Ready to Start a Business", "Steps to Starting a Business in Nebraska", and "How to Write a Business Plan". In Fillmore County it was found that offering this training one-to-one works best.

To find out more about the Nebraska Business Development Center a person can check the website www.nbdc.unomaha.edu or contact the FCDC office at 759-4910 or email fillcodevco@alltel.net.

The Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC) is a cooperative program of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). NBDC has offices in Omaha, Lincoln, Wayne, Norfolk, Kearney, North Platte, Scottsbluff, and Chadron.



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