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FCDC NEWS

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Flint Hills Resources Nears Completion of Major Construction on Its Co-product, a High Protein Animal & Fish Ingredient



Major construction at the Flint Hills Resources Fairmont ethanol plant is nearly complete. The plant is installing an innovative technology called *Maximized Stillage Co-Products™* (MSC), which was developed by Fluid Quip Process Technologies for the dry mill ethanol industry. MSC produces a high protein animal and fish feed ingredient from a portion of the distillers grains produced during the ethanol making process. Flint Hills is branding the new product as *NexPro™* protein ingredient. The company plans to start up the new MSC technology later this summer.

"We are excited to be nearing the finish line on the MSC project," said Randy Carpenter, plant manager at Flint Hills Resources Fairmont. "We recently installed the last major piece of equipment on our protein dryers. With that complete, we can begin getting the plant ready to produce *NexPro™* later this year. It's been a long road getting here, and we are grateful for our neighbors and local communities who have been patient and supportive throughout this process." The project is one of the largest investments in co-product upgrading technologies ever made by a dry mill ethanol manufacturer.

The Andersons Welcomes a New Manager

Ryan Zinnel is the new Regional Food Manager for The Andersons at Fairmont which is a food-grade grain elevator. Zinnel will be at the Fairmont location on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Zinnel replaces Dale Brykit who recently retired. Brykit was the original manager when O'Malley Grain was recruited to Fairmont and was then purchased by The Andersons in 2010.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Construction Underway for FC Wind Farm	2
So. Central EMS Offers Medical Transport	2
Odegeo . . . Leadership for FC Starts this Fall	2
FCDC Holds Meetings Throughout the County	2
FC Hospital Has Positive Impact on FC's Economy	3
Stone Cold Restoration Holds Ribbon Cutting	3
Milligan Insurance Agency Expands.	3
2018 Economic & Demographic Trend Study	3
County News Bits	4
Notes from the FCDC Director	4

FCDC Vision

The FCDC works to achieve a dynamic business climate by pursuing all avenues of growth for new and existing business towards the goal of maximizing employment opportunities, the tax base, and quality of life.

Construction Is Underway for the Fillmore County Wind Farm



Construction has started on the Fillmore County Wind Farm west of Fairmont. The project is made up of three, 2.3 MW General Electric wind turbines. The project is a public private partnership between Bluestem Energy Solutions and Perennial Public Power, who will purchase the power and in turn be able to offer low carbon energy to their customers. The multimillion dollar construction project requires no operational capital or additional debt from Perennial. However, the project provides numerous benefits including investing dollars back into their service territory. The project is scheduled to be fully commissioned by the third quarter of 2018.

Odegeo...Leadership for Fillmore County Applications Available Now

The 2018-2019 "Odegeo....Leadership for Fillmore County class will begin September 18th. This will be the 19th year that the FCDC has held the class.

The class meets nine times a year beginning in September to develop an awareness of the Fillmore County community by examining the major systems that contribute to patterns of life in the area. For more information or an application go to www.fillmorecountydevelopment.org/leadership or call 402-759-4910.



South Central EMS Offers Medical & Emergency Transport in Geneva and the Area

South Central EMS was established by Ryan Hamburger in Geneva Nebraska at 156 South 8th Street in 2017. It is an Advanced Life Support unit (ALS) that performs inter-facility transports, 911 response, and assists local Basic Life Support units (BLS) with a joint response. The station in Geneva is staffed 24/7 with a paramedic and emergency medical technician. The ambulances carry various pieces of life saving advanced equipment and medications similar to what would be in an emergency room. "The company maintains and makes available a high level of education for their employees and also to all surrounding EMS professionals," according to Ryan Hamburger. Currently they have educators that provide basic and advanced CPR training along with advanced pediatric care.



FCDC Board Hold Meetings Across the County

The FCDC Board decided to hold their summer meetings in various communities this summer to see some of the many small businesses in Fillmore County. In May they toured Live Well Massage Therapy with owner Christine Harre in Exeter. In June they visited Lentfer Irrigation & Mfg., Inc. in Shickley and talked with owner John Lentfer. In each community the local grocery store, Greg's Market and 5 Loaves Market & Bakery prepared the lunches. There are over 275 small business in Fillmore County, many of them micro business which means five or fewer employees.



Fillmore County Hospital Has Positive Impact on Fillmore County's Fiscal Health

Fillmore County Hospital does more than provide health care services in Fillmore County, it also has a positive economic impact on the overall fiscal health of the community. Through a combination of traditional hospital services, behavioral health inpatient and outpatient services, wellness programs, telehealth technology and community partnerships the Fillmore County Hospital's commitment to health extends far beyond the hospital walls.

"We are the largest employer in Fillmore County and offer some of the best paying jobs and benefits," said Chris Nichols, Chief Executive Officer at FCH. "We also recruit many healthcare professionals who live, raise families and spend money here at home."

Based on a recent report provided to FCH by the Bryan Health based Heartland Health Alliance, the 174 jobs at Fillmore County Hospital create a direct impact of just under \$19 million dollars in revenue, State and local taxes on that revenue is over \$221,000. The indirect and induced impact on other businesses creates an estimated cumulative result of over \$35 million dollars.

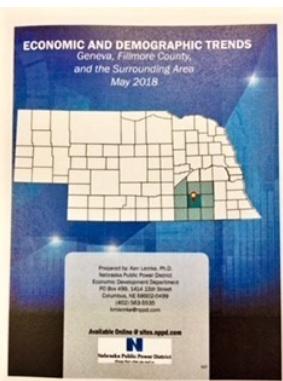
Nichols states, "The message is that our hospital plays a vital role in the local economy that expands beyond the walls of our hospital. Through both a direct and indirect impact, the data shows that there is a large impact on other businesses that have a very positive cumulative effect to our local economy as a whole."



2018 Trend Study

Want to know what the Economic & Demographics trends are in Geneva, Fillmore County and the surrounding area? If so, check out the May trend study prepared by Ken Lemke at NPPD. Available on the **FCDC** website.

fillmorecountydevelopment.org



Cold Stone Restoration opened several months ago and held a ribbon cutting in May. The business is located at 142 S 8th Street in Geneva and restores classic cars.

Lathan Virus, the technician and owner of the business, along with his parents Allen and Pam started by improving the building before they could devote full-time to restoring cars. Recently they bought another building on the block to store vehicles as they work on current automobiles that are in the main area of the shop.

In addition to the business they are turning the second floor of the building into a living space.

MILLIGAN INSURANCE AGENCY EXPANDS

Milligan Insurance Agency completed a building expansion this spring by adding more offices, a large conference room, and a kitchen.

According to Eric Milton, owner of the agency, as the business continues to grow more employees were needed which then required more space. Currently the business has a staff of seven that serves their customers in the area.



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County News Bits

- Sapp Bros. opened a Biodiesel blending facility in Geneva across the road from the NuStar terminal. Fuel suppliers will have 24/7 access.
- On April 7th there was an official ribbon cutting at Hwy 41 Express Stop.
- Robby and Megan Nunns became the owners of Weaver Pharmacy on January 1, 2018, purchasing the business from Bill and Carol Weaver .
- FCDC Leadership Co. hosted a Lunch & Learn on January 25th. Mike Henke presented, "Spreading a Positive Attitude." Over 50 people from across Fillmore County attended.
- Exeter is working on some street paving with Union Avenue near completion and East Boundary and South Burlington next on the list. Downtown water lines are also being replaced along with new street lights.
- Geneva Building Supplies is working to finish up construction and will be ready to open later this summer.
- Work is progressing at Fillmore Central H.S. on the new addition on the north side. It will contain locker rooms, a weight room and a wrestling area.

Address Label

Notes from the Director

Summer doesn't seem to have enough lazy, hazy, crazy days anymore. Projects, meetings, trainings, inquiries, etc. keep the FCDC Board members and myself very busy. Volunteer hours are a lifeline for all the activities that go through this office.

Finding answers and/or resources for businesses, communities and citizens is important to the Fillmore County Development Corporation. Fortunately, we have many partners that can assist when we need more expertise.

The FCDC did some strategic planning and took a look at some targets to study further as possible future drivers for the area economy. We must be ready to take advantage of opportunities that come our way, and also look to new possibilities.

Patt Lentfer