February 2018

Sibley County Community Development

Sibley County Social Media Breakfast

Have you wanted to jump on the social media train, but are concerned that it will take too much time? Concerned that you will not have enough content to post?

Sibley County website and social media consultant Shannon Frost will be the guest speaker at Sibley County’s Social Media Breakfast on Friday, February 23rd from 8:00 am to 9:30 am and will answer your questions regarding Facebook.

How we market ourselves and our businesses has changed in the past several years.

Did you know that:

- There are approximately 66,000 people between the ages of 13 and 65 on Facebook within a 34 mile radius of Gaylord
- 59% of Americans with social media accounts think that customer service through social media has made it easier to get questions answered and issues resolved
- 2 million businesses use Facebook for advertising. Social media advertising is one of the cheapest advertising forms

Join us for this FREE event on February 23. Social media and website consultant Shannon Frost will be in the Commissioners Room at the Sibley County Courthouse to demonstrate the impact of using Social Media to promote your business.

This event is free and open to the public, but registrations are appreciated. Please contact Amy Newsom at 507-237-4117 or AmyN@co.sibley.mn.us to register for the event.

Upcoming events:

February 9th & 10th – Winthrop Art Show
Winthrop City Hall

February 10th – Henderson Craft Fair at the Henderson Events Center
10 am to 3 pm.

February 13th – Minnesota author Marty Seifert, former lawmaker and candidate for Governor, will share his new book Sundown at Sunrise at the Gaylord Public Library. 7 pm.

February 17th - Sibley County Fire Departments Chili Cook-off at the New Auburn Fire Department from 3-6 pm.
$5 per person.

February 20th – Author Craig Bishop will talk about Billy Sunday: The Baseball Evangelist at the Gaylord Public Library, 7 pm.

February 22nd - Green Isle Fire Department Bingo at the Club New Yorker. 7 pm
Upcoming Events:

February 23rd – Sibley County Social Media Breakfast 8 am to 9:30 am in the Sibley County Commissioners Room at the Courthouse. Free Event.

February 26th - Arlington Farmer’s Market Farmer’s Market rules, get Cottage Law certified, fill out Arlington Market applications, and get your questions answered. 6 pm at the Arlington Community Center.

February 27th – Author Patrice Johnson, Swedish Holiday Traditions at the Gaylord Public Library. 7pm.

March 3rd – Profit Mastery Workshop in Mankato.

March 13th – Arlington Farmer’s Market Farmer’s Market rules, get Cottage Law certified, fill out Arlington Market applications, and get your questions answered. 6 pm at the Arlington Community Center.

April 5th – Connect Rural Broadband Summit at South Central Service Cooperative. 9 am to 5 pm.

April 19th – Sibley County Business Expo 4-7 pm at the Arlington Community Center.

May 22nd – Start of the Classic Car Roll-Ins in Henderson.

9.77 Acres Shovel Ready Lot for Sale in Gaylord

3rd Street SE and Railroad Avenue, Gaylord, MN 55334
Zoned I-1 – Light Industrial
PID: 32.00800.390

The price of this 9.77 acre shovel ready lot is negotiable. Please contact owner Jim Peterson at 507-327-8962 or the City of Gaylord at 507-237-2338 for more information on this shovel ready lot.

Sibley County and the City of Gaylord offer revolving loan funds to help businesses in the City of Gaylord. Contact Amy Newsom at 507-237-4117 or AmyN@co.sibley.mn.us for more information on financial assistance.

Residential Lots for Sale in Arlington Meadows starting from $10,900 with sewer and water access. For more information contact David Jennings at 763-972-4219.
The work being done on the Courthouse includes the following areas and items. In the Annex, we are replacing seals on the Link Curtain wall because they leak and are not energy efficient. We will repair and caulk vinyl windows that are leaking or broken and review and repair vinyl window caulk joints.

For the exterior of the Courthouse, the front entry roof will be repaired as this leaks and plaster is falling off. The exterior façade tuck-pointing will be done to keep up the outside of the building and deal with leaks in the 100-year-old structure. The Courthouse windows are scheduled to be replaced as they are broken in places, leaking in others, and to bring them closer to the historical looking windows that were replaced in the 1970’s.

Inside the buildings there is minor re-configuring of space layout to utilize storage spaces as offices, to improve security, and to allow for integration of departments. Due to the HVAC and electrical work, as well as some wall, piping and duct work changes, there will be plaster repair, paint and flooring touch-up needed throughout the buildings as old radiator heating units, ceiling units, and electrical and data is removed. Doors will be rekeyed and updated with a master key schedule and electronic access to also improve security and access.

The bulk of the project is related to updating our HVAC and electrical systems, which is over 65% of the total costs. This will include removal of the old coal bin and chute area as it is unsafe, and also to allow room for new mechanical space for piping. In the boiler room there will be a mezzanine level added for new mechanical pumps that are needed. The mechanical systems will be updated to install redundant system for heating and cooling, (currently we have one very old boiler and no back-up heat). We will install a two boiler system so we have supplemental heat and replace the cooling unit in the Technology Server Room (this has been done as it failed in the summer).

There are also plans to change walls in the lower level Courthouse, in an area that is currently storage and break room, to accommodate office space and to create customer service counters for both taxes and elections. This creates space to accommodate changes to election laws and increasing absentee voting and voting at the courthouse. This will also include remodeling of existing 1st Floor Annex Bathroom and adding new ceilings and lighting fixtures to previous storage areas for office spaces.

**Photo of the basement of the Courthouse below.**
The Historical Society plans to unveil the WWI display beginning on Memorial Day.

Sibley County Historical Society volunteer Marie Main showing off a Doughboy which will be part of this year’s WWI display in honor of the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI.

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