July 2017

Sibley County Community Development

Leading Sibley Together

Are you interested in broadening your networks, learning about our local communities and businesses, and growing your skills for working with people? If so, Leading Sibley Together is for you!

The nine session program features monthly sessions where participants visit each of the communities in Sibley County to discover local resources and network with community leaders. Each session features leadership training, presentations, tours and demonstrations. Participants learn about local businesses, county history and government, health care, education, agriculture and natural resources. The program will run from September through May. Tuition for this year's program is $375 per participant, equating to less than $42 per day for 9 sessions of Leadership Training. There are also scholarships available, to those that qualify, that reduce the cost to $275.

Leadership training focuses on leading with strengths, navigating conflict, leading effective meetings, strategic thinking, visionary leadership, ethics, working with different generations, strengthening social capital, dealing with change, and the art of hosting.

This opportunity is available to individuals or company-sponsored employees who live or work in Sibley County. Space is limited to a maximum of 24 participants. Brochures can be downloaded at www.co.sibley.mn.us or contact Roxy Traxler, Program Coordinator at LeadingSibley@co.sibley.mn.us or 507-237-7805. Deadline to apply is August 4th.

The program is funded by Sibley County, along with tuition fees, and donations from businesses in the County. Educational support comes from the University of Minnesota Extension, and funding for scholarships from the Blandin Foundation. If your business is interested in donating or having a member participate, please email or call today!

Upcoming events:

July 13th – 16th
Gibbon Funfest 130th Anniversary events
Check out the Things To Do section of the website for full schedule

July 15th –
Gibbon Funfest
CODE3 ring toss booth
donating $2.00 to Alzheimer’s every time a ring is looped

July 17th –
Farmer’s Market in the parking lot of CODE3 Bowling & Party, Gibbon
3 - 6 pm

July 17th –
Arlington Farmer’s Market
4:00 to 6:30

July 19th –
MVAC presents FREE vision screenings at the PHHS parking lot 111 8th Street in Gaylord
9 am to 12 pm
Open to all residents

July 19th –
Caregiver Support Group
10 am at Fairview Assisted Living in Arlington
Commercial Property for Sale:
7th Avenue in New Auburn

8,836 total square feet. Located near Dicky Bob’s
Zoned commercial
PID: 36.0146.000
Broker Information:

Charles Goettl
320-964-6098

Please contact the City of New Auburn for more information.
320-864-5831 or
cityofnewauburn@gmail.com

SMIF is offering grants of up to $10,000 for communities under 5,000 to support projects that can demonstrate a collaborative and transformational opportunity for their community.

Arlington ACT on Alzheimer’s

Photo Courtesy of the Arlington Enterprise/Kurt Menk

June 6th groundbreaking for the Dementia Friendly Garden in Arlington. The Dementia Friendly Garden will be part of the community garden located in Memorial Park in Arlington. Thank you to the Arlington Garden Club for supporting this project!

Sibley County FoodShare has the Open Your Heart to the hungry & homeless going on the entire month of July. Money donations are matched up to $5,000. Donations can be made by mailing to PO Box 676, Gaylord, MN 55334 or on website sibleycountyfoodshare.org

2 new restaurants and a food truck in Sibley County

Pimo’s Bar & Grill
206 N Carver
Winthrop, MN 55396
507-647-5302
Pimo’s Bar & Grill opened in January of 2017. Pimo’s offers wings and drummies, salads and baskets, and a variety of appetizers with weekly specials. Open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 1 am and Sunday noon to 8 pm.

Otto’s Café
306 W Main Street
Arlington, MN 55307
507-964-2227
Mike Otto opened Otto’s Café in June. Otto’s Café serves a variety of appetizers, burgers, and wraps. Open daily from 11 am to 9 pm.

4 Bro’s Cocina Latina
507-237-2617
Mexican food truck. Look for it in Gaylord and New Auburn beginning in July, and coming soon to Arlington.
Rural Child Care Innovation Grant

First Children’s Finance has chosen Sibley County to participate in their Rural Child Care Innovation Program. The Rural Child Care Innovation Program is a community engagement process designed to address the challenges of child care in rural America. Close to 20 applications statewide were submitted and Sibley County was one of four communities to be selected.

The program is based on the fundamental idea that rural communities are greater than their size in numbers and greater than their current challenges. By mobilizing and empowering rural communities, the landscape of early care and education is changing in rural America.

Local analysis provided by First Children’s Finance shows that five cities in Sibley County have a shortage of child care providers with Arlington having the largest shortage of 134 slots; followed by Gibbon, short 62 slots, Henderson short 54 slots, Winthrop short 24 slots, and New Auburn short 17 slots.

To help find a realistic child care solution, Sibley County has included community leaders from the schools, businesses, Public Health and Human Services, and child care providers to join the Rural Child Care Innovation Program Core Team. Team members include: Amy Newsom, Sibley County Community Development; Roxy Traxler, Sibley County Administrator; Jenny Hazelton, Winthrop City Administrator; Holly Kreft, Arlington EDA; Jim Amsden, Sibley East; Elia Peterson, 3-in-1 Learning Center; Sam Kral, resident; Maria Munoz, resident; Jennifer Thompson, Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop; Elisabeth Aiken, Sibley County Public Health; Tara Sabako, Sibley County Licensor; John Gliszinski, Sibley County Public Health and Human Services Director; Chris Marben, MVAC; Jennifer Wendinger, UFC; Diana Karau, resident; Megan Bruegger, child care provider; Lisa Templin, child care provider; Yuriana Soto, Community Health Worker; Tammy Petzel, child care provider; Brandy Barrett, Green Isle Community School, Apryl Deno, Sibley East Childhood Coordinator, and Dana Lietzau, Gibbon City Administrator.

The Rural Child Care Innovation Program is a community engagement process designed to develop right-sized solutions to address the needs of child care and early education for communities selected to participate. Over an 18-month period, chosen communities will increase the focus on opportunities and challenges they are facing with child care. First Children’s Finance helps facilitate the conversation and provides expertise, tools and resources to support the creation and implementation of solutions to address child care shortages in rural communities. There are also potential grant monies available at the completion of this process to help communities implement the solutions.

For more information please contact Amy Newsom at 507-237-4117 or AmyN@co.sibley.mn.us.
Cheryl Brugman promoted to Assistant Branch Manager at MidCountry Bank

MidCounty Bank in Winthrop is pleased to announce the promotion of Cheryl Brugman to Assistant Branch Manager. Cheryl is a member of the Sibley County Economic Development Committee.

August newsletter

Please submit your local economic development news and events to Amy Newsom AmyN@co.sibley.mn.us or PO Box 256 by Friday, August 4th to be included in our next Sibley County newsletter which will come out on Friday, August 11th.