

March 2018

Volume 2, Issue 3

Sibley County Community Development

Business Expo coming April 19

The Sibley County Community and Business Expo is planned for Thursday, April 19 from 4 to 7 pm at the Arlington Community Center.

We have more attractions planned for the 3rd annual event including a Sibley County snow plow in the parking lot, a presentation on the child care shortage by First Children's Finance, demonstrations by Arlington Police Chief John Petterson and his canine Kash at 5 and 6 pm, and a social media presentation by Sibley County consultant Shannon Frost at 5:30 pm.

The Sons of the American Legion will be selling hot dogs, chips, and water; while the Prairie House will be offering dessert.

The following businesses have already registered for a booth at the expo, come check them out: Arlington Chiropractic, Michael Foods, Sibley Medical Center, Henderson Healing Hub, Prairie House, Vos Construction, Arlington Enterprise/Sibley Shopper, KNUJ, Small Business Development Center, Sibley Soil & Water Conservation District, RS Fiber, Winthrop Area Clinic/New Ulm Medical Center, Sibley Estates, United Farmers Coop, Leading Sibley Together, the Gaylord Hub, Edward Jones, Sibley East Schools, Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce.

There's still time to register. Contact Community Development at 507-237-4117 or CommunityDevelopment@co.sibley.mn.us before April 9.

Print Media Breakfast Friday, March 23rd from 8 - 9:30 am
Karin Ramige, Publisher of McLeod Publishing will be this month's guest speaker. Come for this free event to learn how print advertising can attract more customers to your business. This free event will be held in the Commissioners Room of the Sibley County Courthouse.



Upcoming events:

March 20th –
Spring Garden Lecture at the
Henderson Public Library 7
pm.

March 22nd –
Green Isle Fire Department
Bingo at the Club New Yorker
at 7 pm.

March 22nd –
First Children's Finance Rural
Child Care meeting at 9 am at
the Sibley County
Courthouse.

March 23rd –
Print Media Breakfast at the
Sibley County Courthouse 8 -
9:30 am.

March 24th –
Arlington Good Sam Tour of
Tables

March 24th –
Gaylord Chamber of
Commerce Easter Egg Hunt
at Oak Terrace Senior Living

March 29th –
Arlington's Marketing
Hometown America Kick off
meeting at 7:15 pm at the
Arlington Community Center.

Lots for sale in the Green Isle Industrial Park

Upcoming Events:

April 17th –
Spring Garden Lecture at the
Henderson Public Library at 7
pm.

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

April 15th –
Sibley County Historical
Society Annual meeting at
Hahn's Dining in Winthrop at
noon.

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

April 20th –
Ridgeview Sibley Medical
Foundation Spring
Fundraising event, social
hour 5:30 to 7 pm, dinner 7-8
pm.

April 28th –
Chance 2 Dance Talent show
at the Henderson Event
Center 6-10 pm.

May 19th –
7th Annual Cancer Cruise, 5K
Run/Walk and a Car Show
and Cruise. All proceeds will
be donated to Jeff Larson of
Henderson.

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

June 11th –
Beginning of Arlington
Farmer's Market.

Please see the **Things To Do**
section of the Sibley County
website for details on events.

GI Industrial Park



The City of Green Isle has acquired lots for the purpose of economic development. The intention of this policy is to set the price of commercial lots. The goal of the City of Green Isle is to increase the tax base for the City. It is the purpose of this policy to outline the terms and conditions of the sale of lots.

1. Sale of lots will be approved by the Green Isle City Council.
2. Commercial Lots will be sold for \$1 per lot when the business meets the following criteria:
 - A. Will create at least 2 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions based in the City of Green Isle.
3. Commercial Lots will be sold for \$5,000 when the business meets the following criteria:
 - A. Will create at least 2 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.
4. If a lot(s) is purchased for \$1 or \$5,000 and construction is not started within 180 days of closing, the lot(s) will be returned to the City of Green Isle. Purchase price will be refunded, minus closing costs.
5. Commercial Lots that do not meet any of the above criteria will be sold at the Assessed Value.
6. Closing will occur within 4 months of signing the purchase agreement.
7. A Development Agreement must be approved by City Council and both parties must adhere to the terms of the agreement.

Sibley County is fiscally sound and planning is constantly being done in regards to expenses and revenues to avoid spikes and dips in either. Each year multiple processes take place to balance the taxpayer dollars with services and needs of our residents. As part of this process, the Board does capital planning, both for projects and equipment; and reviews ongoing direct expenses, such as staffing and program costs. They also have to take into consideration revenue sources including state and federal aids, which can be volatile, and finally tax revenues. Another piece of the overall puzzle is maintaining the appropriate fund balances for the County.

Fund balances are reported at the close of the fiscal year, which ends December 31. This creates an impression that counties have excessive amounts of revenue held in reserve. In reality, county fund balances should be relatively large at the end of the year because of local government cash-flow cycles. For example, we do not receive the first half of property taxes from property owners until May 15 and we do not receive the first half of our state aid until July 20 of each year. In contrast to these few times a year incomes, our expenses are ongoing throughout the year. We have to rely on our fund balances to meet expenses during the first five months of the next fiscal year, until the first property tax payments (May) and aid payments are received from the state (July). Property tax levies, state aid, and property tax credits comprise the majority of our revenues. Minnesota laws govern the flow of these major revenue sources into county treasuries (Association of Minnesota Counties). Then at the end of the year, large payments arrive October 15 and December 26 respectively from taxpayers and the state.

Each county determines the size of the fund balance that should be maintained for that County. In Sibley County, the Board annually reviews each of the 3 major county funds to keep them balanced, generally to 50% of the next year's budget in order to meet the cash flow needs. However final fund balances depend on multiple variables each year. For example in 2017, it was decided to transfer only 50% of the eligible amount from the Public Works Fund due to future road projects in the 2017-2021 Road & Bridge Plan. In addition, Sibley County has chosen to maintain a capital fund; there is no reserve balances specified for this fund, it is up to the county to determine. This fund has been set aside for purchases set in our capital improvement plan and items such as computers, vehicles, and building improvements.

Each year the County Board will review fund balances to determine the best use of funds in order to keep the county financially secure and solvent. As always, you can learn more about Sibley County and what we do by visiting our website at www.co.sibley.mn.us or by following us on our Sibley County Facebook Page.

**Find out more about the Sibley County Board of Commissioners at
http://www.co.sibley.mn.us/commissioners/board_of_commissioners.php**



Sibley County Community Development

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There are always more events happening in Sibley County than we can fit into the newsletter, so make sure you look at the **"THINGS TO DO"** section of the Sibley County website and like the Sibley County Facebook page.

Find us on the Web:
co.sibley.mn.us

Like Sibley County on
Facebook!
Scan the QR Code below!



Ben Winchester from the University of Minnesota Extension speaking to the Leading Sibley Together Group in Henderson on March 1 about the Brain Gain in rural Minnesota.



easter
egg
hunt

Saturday, March 24
Oak Terrace Senior Living
640 3rd st., Gaylord
*Bring your camera to take a picture
with the Easter Bunny at 9:30 a.m.*

Hunt begins at 10:30 a.m.

*** FACE PAINTING * GOODIE BAGS ***
***CRAFTS * COLORING PAGES * MOVIE ***

Presented by
Gaylord
Area Chamber of Commerce



EVERY MONDAY EVENING
4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

JUNE 11 – SEPTEMBER 24
ARLINGTON COMM. CTR PARKING LOT
204 SHAMROCK DRIVE
ARLINGTON, MN 55307