

Update on Sioux Center's Parks & Economic Development Projects Presentation by:

Dennis Dokter & Lee Van Meeteren

**Wednesday, February 10th** 12-1 PM @ The Ridge Golf Club

Cost: \$10

Chili Bash catered by Casey's Bakery

All Chamber members and their employees are welcome to attend!

\*masks are currently required unless eating or drinking



In the month of January, the #middleofeverything Sioux Center video reached over 5.6k people on Facebook!



Over 150 people have followed us on Snapchat for the chamber's "We are excited for 21 things in 2021!"



The Summer Celebration Steering Committee met in January to begin planning for this fun event in June!

#### **Chamber Greetings from Board President, Mike Roetman**

Don't worry, this is not about the pandemic, masks, quarantine or other COVID topics which seem to dominate recent conversations. Instead, it is about the Community Support we have seen throughout the past year. This support, in the form of local spending, has provided much needed revenue for many businesses in town, which allowed them to keep their lights on and continue to provide services and products to the community. Also, for some, a new understanding of the wide array of products and services that are available locally came to the forefront for many who otherwise would have travelled outside of town to meet their wants and needs. This change of mindset will hopefully continue and generate return business for our local establishments. The business community has shown a great ability to adjust and accommodate to ever changing guidelines as well as many different opinions on how businesses should be and could be operating. This flexibility shows the resilience of our businesses determined to provide the community with the great service and products we have all come to enjoy. This is a great time to show our businesses our appreciation for all they have been through over the past year and continue to support them through shopping local this coming year and beyond.

## **Chamber News**

#### A warm welcome to our new members...



NWI Endodontics
Dan Hiserote
712-722-3216
www.nwiendo.com

VanderPol Excavating 712-737-4050 www.vpexc.com





Wieringa Seeds Inc. Wieringa Seeds Harry Wieringa 712-722-2247 Harold.wieringa@plantpioneer.com

#### **Ribbon Cutting**



Congratulations to Kari Hickman on her recent ownership of Petals and Perks! It's exciting to see a 30+ year business started by Laura Sneller continuing it's legacy in Sioux Center. We appreciate Petals and Perks dedication and service to our community!



## **Leadership Sioux Center**

In January, Leadership Sioux Center spent time learning about County Services and County Government from Community



Health Partners, ISU Extension and Sioux County Engineers. This year's LSC participants have been working hard to apply for a \$100,000 Catalyst Grant from Iowa Economic Development Authority. Every group presented fantastic ideas of ways to improve our community with the use of these funds! A lot of behind the scenes work and effort went into these projects!



## **Save the Date!**

We have some exciting things planned for this spring, so be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming events!

# 17 & 18 MARCH

## **Indoor Fair**

3-8 pm Dordt University Rec Center Vendor Registration is now available on the Sioux Center Chamber website!

## Annual Ag Event

Sponsored by the Chamber Ag Committee

11:30-1:00 pm

Terrace View Event Center
Featuring a welcome from Mike Naig,
Secretary of Ag and Keynote Speaker,
Joe Kerns, Kerns and Associates.

## 25 MARCH

23 APRIL

## **Spirit of Community**

6:00 pm

Terrace View Event Center Featuring Tommy Ryman, stand-up comedian www.tommyryman.com

## **Event Details**







#### **Homecoming Grant Available**

The Sioux Center Chamber is pleased to announce that they are now accepting applications for the fourth year of the Homecoming Grant. The Homecoming Grant is a program that awards \$6,000 to college graduate who is originally from Sioux Center and has accepted employment in Sioux Center. Recruiting and retaining talent for local businesses continues to be a strategic priority of the Sioux Center Chamber. "Creating this grant has given us one more recruitment tool to bring talent back to Sioux Center and encourages college graduates to make Sioux Center their home," states Barb Den Herder, CEO of the Sioux Center Chamber.

#### THIS GRANT IS FOR ANYONE WHO...

- Has or will graduate from a two- or fouryear college in 2019, 2020, or 2021
- lived in the 51250 ZIP code when they graduated from high school
- has accepted an offer for a position in Sioux Center
- has student debt more than \$6,000

The grant award is \$6,000, which will be given over a 4-year period (\$1,500 per year) and will be paid directly to the student's lender. Applicants must remain employed by the same employer for the 4-year period in order to receive the full grant amount. Eligible applicants can complete an application at www.siouxcenterchamber.com.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2021 AND THE AWARD WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY APRIL 30, 2021

## **Library Announcements**

#### WINTER PROGRAMS

The Winter Reading Program will be held from January 27 through March 6 at the Sioux Center Library. Need something to do while you are stuck indoors through the winter months? How about read for prizes! The Winter Reading Program is for kids in 5th grade and up through adults. Stop in at the library to set up your Beanstack account or pick up your paper copy.

#### POP UP PLAY DAY

Parents – take your children to the Sioux Center Library on Thursday, February 4 and 18 for Pop Up Play Day! This is a great time for you to visit with other adults and let your little children play with some new toys! Pop Up and Play times are from 9:30-11:30am.

#### **BOOKMARK HISTORY BOOKCLUB**

The Sioux Center Library has a new bookclub, Bookmark History Bookclub, for all those children who love history! Kids, TK-3rd grade, are invited to join us as we explore important history and learn ways in which we can change our own world! Register now through our website at www.siouxcenterlibrary.org.

#### DROP-IN TECH HELP

Did you get a new device for Christmas and are unsure how to use it efficiently? Then stop in at the Sioux Center Library during Drop-In Tech and let our tech expert lend a hand! Drop-In Tech will be held on February 9 and 23 from 1-3pm.

#### **TEEN POPCORN & PAINTING**

Teens – join us at the library for a Teen Popcorn & Painting session on February 15 led by your local librarians! We will have popcorn for munching and canvasses for painting! Space is limited to 12, so sign up soon! This is a fun activity for your day off on President's Day!

#### MAD SCIENTIST'S CLUB

The Mad Scientist's Club is not your ordinary book club! This is a book club for 2nd-4th graders at the Sioux Center Library. We will use non-fiction books and experiments to read about and explore science topics. Come explore the earth as we examine and experiment with fossils, rocks and magnets. Registration is open through or website.

#### STANLEY THE READING DOG

Stanley the Reading Dog will be at the library on February 3 and 17. Parents can call the library to schedule a time for your child to read with Stanley.

#### CREATIVEBUG CRAFT / LEGO CLUB

Adults are invited to join us at the Sioux Center Library on February 10 for a Creativebug Craft. We'll be using one of our own E-Resources and following their instructions on how to make nautical rope bracelets! The Program is limited to 12 people, so sign up now while there are still spots available! www.siouxcenterlibrary.org. This program is being held at the same time as Lego Kids Club so parents can drop their kids off for Lego Club and come on over!





## **Chamber Member News**

#### Open House planned to discuss Open Space Park concepts

An Open House to give residents an opportunity review and discuss proposed master planning concepts for Open Space Park is set for Monday, Feb. 1, at the Sioux Center Public Library. At the Open House, residents will be able to review

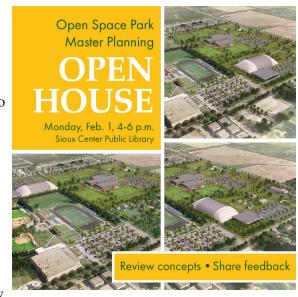
prints of proposed concepts and discuss pros and cons of each with City Council members, Heritage Village board members, Joint Use Committee members (representing the City, Dordt University, and Sioux Center schools), and others.

"This open house is another opportunity for people to weigh in and help the council process what is best for Sioux Center not only for now but also for the next 20-40 years," said Mayor David Krahling.

The city council is currently considering three proposed concepts for the future use of portions of Open Space Park, specifically the location of Heritage Village and a proposed indoor turf facility. The concepts were developed through conversations with the Heritage Village Board, Parks Board, Joint Use Committee, and other community members.

The Open Space Park Planning Open House will be held from 4-6 p.m. at the Sioux Center Public Library in meeting rooms A/B Social distancing will be in place and masks are strongly encouraged. English/Spanish interpretation will be available. Those unable to attend will be able to review

the concepts and share feedback online or in print at the Sioux Center Public Library.





#### Dordt University invites law enforcement, social workers, counselors, and healthcare workers to a special event

On Friday, February 19 at 7 p.m., Dordt University will host a panel of Northwest Iowa experts dealing with topics related to law enforcement, mental health, healthcare, and more. In addition, there will be a special screening of the HBO documentary "Ernie and Joe: Crisis Cops," and a chance to hear directly from Joe, who serves on the San Antonio Police Department Mental Health Unit and Crisis Intervention Team. There are options to attend this event either via Zoom or in-person.

To RSVP visit: https://ernieandjoe.eventbrite.com



## In Other News...

## Dordt offers Iowa High School Coaching Authorization

Dordt is now offering an online Iowa Coaching Authorization course. This course is required for anyone who wants to coach a high school sport in Iowa but is not a teacher. Learn more at Dordt.edu/iowa-coaching-authorization.

#### Dordt University launches Thrive Center for Applied Behavior Analysis

Dordt has launched the Thrive Center for ABA, which will serve the Northwest Iowa region in the areas of behavior



therapy and skills acquisition. The center will utilize Applied Behavior Analysis, a research-based intervention strategy shown to positively impact programming in schools, homes, and the community for those with autism. The center will offer

services for children ages two through six, with plans to expand and serve older children and adults in the future. To learn more visit Dordt.edu/thrive-center.



#### **New All Seasons Center/Rec Director makes relationships priority**

New All Seasons Center and Recreation Director Dave Egdorf is bringing a relationship-focused mindset from day one. Egdorf, of Sioux Center, begins in the role Feb. 15. "Recreation brings people together," Egdorf said. "It helps kids get active



and helps people build new relationships."

As Sioux Center's All Seasons Center and Recreation Director, Egdorf will be responsible for all of the All Seasons Center facilities, including the indoor Vernon Ice Arena and Siouxnami Waterpark with the indoor

aquatic center. He will also oversee the City's Recreation and Arts Department, which offers youth and adult programming year-round. "We are excited about the opportunity to have Dave as Recreation and All Seasons Center Director," City Manager Scott Wynja said. "Dave has done a great job in his position as Assistant Parks Director, and his excitement, passion and high level of enthusiasm will be a great fit in this new position."

This role is opening with current All Seasons Center and Recreation Director Dave Ruter retiring Feb. 28. Ruter has shaped many of Sioux Center's recreation programs and helped open the All Seasons Center facilities. "Dave Ruter has done a great job over his years at the city. I'm excited to continue that, learn from him and bring my energy to this job," Egdorf said.