



The City Manager's Monthly Report is intended to provide a brief summary of City activities, with links to additional information where possible. Due to the variety and complexity of City functions, however, the report is not all-encompassing. Please always feel free to [contact the City of Bloomington](#) for more information or with questions or concerns. View past and upcoming events on the City's [calendar](#).

CONSIDERED IN FEBRUARY

City Council Regular Agenda Items

- Consideration of a Resolution directing City staff to include funds in the amount of \$450,000 in the FY 2019 budget for intersection design, plans, construction documents, right-of-way, utility relocation, and construction for the intersection of Towanda Barnes Road and Ireland Grove Road, and authorizing the Interim City Manager or Mayor to enter into an amended intergovernmental agreement with the County on the intersection improvements, as requested by the Public Works Department. **[Motion failed.]**
- Consideration of:
 - a. Presentation of the Downtown East Washington Street Redevelopment Project Area Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Plan;
 - and b. Approving an Ordinance to set a date for, and to approve a notice of a public hearing for the Downtown East Washington Street Redevelopment Project Area as recommended by the City's Community Development Department (The Redevelopment Project Area generally includes the East Washington Street Corridor bounded by North Gridley Street on the west and North Evans Street on the east including the former Bloomington High School building at 510 East Washington Street). **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of an Ordinance approving a Contract to purchase the vacant property at 404 East Washington Street (the "Smith Property" which is adjacent to the City-owned former Coachman Motel property at 408 East Washington Street) for \$95,000.00 as recommended by the City's Community Development Department. **[Motion carried.]**
- Discussion and action on various proposed ordinances to amend Chapter 21 of the City Code regarding the City's residential solid waste program, including potential modification to the garbage rates and service levels, as requested at the City Council meeting on February 12, 2018. **[Motion by Alderman Bray second by Alderman Mathy Council approves the Ordinance amending Chapter 21 of the City Code to enact provisions changing solid waste fees (i.e., a fee increase of \$4 per month for 95 gallon carts, \$4 per month for 65 gallon carts, and \$0 per month for 35 gallon carts and the low-income fee beginning May 1, 2018 and continual annual increases of 3% thereafter) and service levels to provide spring and fall bulk collection and bi-weekly brush collection be approved.] [Motion carried.]**
- Presentation of Proposed Interim City Manager FY 2019 Budget **[Presentation and discussion only.]**
- Consideration of approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Friends of the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts to establish, define, and coordinate a mutually

beneficial relationship as requested by the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts. **(Item tabled to a Work Session or Committee of the Whole Meeting.)**

- Consideration of a Resolution adopting the Twenty-Year Materials Recovery and Resource Management Plan for McLean County, Bloomington, and Normal, Illinois as requested by the Public Works Department. **[Motion carried.]**
- Discussion and action on an Ordinance implementing regulations on video gaming terminals and setting a one-year moratorium on the addition of new terminals within the City. **[Motion carried.]**
- Consideration of an Ordinance approving a petition from Macs Convenience Stores, for the approval of a Final Plat for Circle K Subdivision, (located south of General Electric Road, east of Hershey Road), subject to Tap On Fees being paid. **[Motion by Alderman Painter second by Alderman Buragas recommend this item be sent back to the Planning Commission to refer the Final Plat for a legislative public hearing and require the submission of a Preliminary Plan, which was waived.] [Motion carried.]**

City Council Special Session Items

- Discussion and direction related to the Update on the FY2019 “Big Picture” Budget, including specific direction on whether City staff should proceed with bringing back various Resolutions or Ordinances to: (1) Improve cost recovery through increased service fees; (2) Develop a business registration program; and (3) Begin charging for downtown parking at special events.
- Discussion and action on various options regarding the City’s Residential Solid Waste Program, including potential action on: (1) a Resolution directing staff to investigate and bid outsourcing the Solid Waste Program in the City of Bloomington; (2) an Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 of the City Code to enact provisions changing solid waste fees; and/or (3) an Ordinance amending Chapter 21 of the City Code to enact provisions changing solid waste service levels as requested by the Administration and Public Works Departments.
- Consideration of approving a Consultant Services Agreement, in the amount of \$20,000, with GovHR USA, LLC for City Manager Recruitment Services.
- Consideration, discussion, and direction on Downtown Task Force recommendations (nongenerator projects) and potential opportunities, including specific direction on potential changes to parking, use of right-of-way for business purposes, support of Main Street Corridor Plan, installation of downtown public restrooms, installation of downtown recycling bins, evaluation of certain S-4 zoning designations on downtown buildings and potential other zoning changes.
- Consideration, discussion, and direction on FY2019 “Big Picture” Budget related to Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects, including specifically:
 - A. Review of Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
 - B. Discussion, direction and presentation on O’Neil Pool project and potential revenue and fee options, including specifically whether City staff should draft and bring back ordinances for City Council consideration initiating fees related to video gaming and increasing the utility tax as such increases will be necessary to offset costs to allow for necessary bonding.
- Discussion, direction and presentation on Street Resurfacing, including specifically whether City staff should draft and bring back an ordinance for City Council consideration to increase the Local Motor Fuel Tax by \$.04 to fund an increase in street resurfacing.
- Update on Emergency Response Times.

- Presentation and discussion of the Connect Transit Downtown Transfer Center Site location needs and conceptual design.

[City Council Record of Motions and Votes](#)

FEBRUARY NEWSMAKERS

- [Miller Park Zoo Seeks Volunteers](#)
- [James Mack Meet & Greet](#)
- [Bloomington Alderman Adopt Solid Waste Plan](#)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT



[FY 2019 Proposed Budget](#)

- [FY 2018 Adopted Budget](#)
- [View Monthly Financial Report](#)

FACILITIES

[View Facilities Monthly Activity Report](#)

CITY CLERK

[View City Clerk Monthly Activity Report](#)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Safety

- There were a total of 472 Construction Permits issued in February of 2018, which is slightly down from the 508 Construction Permits issued in January of 2017. The value of the construction decreased from \$8,967,416 in the prior year 2017 to \$1,622,800 in January of 2018.
- No new projects were valued in excess of \$1,000,000.

Code Enforcement

- The Code Enforcement Division prepared the FOIA documentation regarding the background for 1110 Gettysburg Drive and other chronic violators for local media.

Planning, Zoning and Historic Preservation

- Staff continued work on the Zoning Ordinance update; the survey of historic properties along railway corridors, and preliminary coordination on Sign Ordinance update.
- The Planning Commission took action on approval of the Official 2017 Zoning Map.

- Three of Four ZBA cases were processed with two application approvals, one application denial and one tabled case.
- The HPC approved various Certificates of Appropriateness regarding historic plaque signage requests.

Economic Development

- Staff continued coordination of the East Washington Street TIF, among other on-going tasks.

Downtown Development ([View January-February 2018 Report](#))

- Staff continues to provide support to the Bloomington Cultural Commission which is focusing efforts for development of a cultural district(s) and coordination of community events calendars.
- The February First Friday Event “The Tour De Chocolat” was a great success with approximately 800 participants enjoying activities in the downtown.

FIRE 

[View Expanded Monthly Fire Statistics](#)

- The number of incidents the department responded to was lower compared to January, some of this has to do with the fewer number of days in February, but overall it was a slower month.
- The department responded to 809 calls for service for the month, this averaged out to 28.9 calls for service per day. We responded to 180 fire calls for the month, this was 22.25% of our total calls for the month. We had a large loss fire at 1101 Gettysburg Dr. This was a 12 unit apartment that resulted in \$650,000 damage. We also had 4 vehicle fires that resulted in \$10,800 in loss. Total fire loss for the month was \$681,200. The number of EMS call for the month was also down, we responded to 629 EMS calls for the month, this represented 77.75% of our calls for the month.
- The department provided mutual aid 20 times this month and received mutual aid 4 times.
- Our fire investigators investigated 5 fires during the month of February, and put 34.9 man hours into these investigations.
- Our EMS personnel provided 60.5 hours of preceptor time to EMS students. BACC students had 66 hours of ride time with the department.



Public Education

Training provided to community

- Fire Extinguisher Training to Martin Health Employees
- Fire Extinguisher Training to Benjamin Elementary Teachers/Staff
- Fire Safety to Cub Scout Group at Corpus Christi

- Fire Safety to older adults at 2nd Pres.
- Fire Extinguisher video for Country Companies
Fire, Lockdown, and Shelter in Place drills

- N/A

Social Media

- From 6718 likes to 6997 at the end of the month
 - Boosted Hiring post to reach 36K
 - Replace Smoke alarms 4K
 - Gettysburg Fire 13K
 - 2 Ways out 6.2K
 - CPR Training provided to Villas of Holly Brook

Community Events

- Car Seat Installation Day

Recruitment

- Evans Junior High Career Fair
- ISU Career Fair with PD and HR
- 3 Career Talk Presentations to 5th grade classes

Personnel Training

- Webinar – Mental Health in the fire Service
- Adobe Photoshop class at LRS (2 Days)
- Attended Juvenile Fire Setter Class to get all Fire investigators certified

Fire Department Training

- Training topics have been grouped into eight categories. They are Administrative, ARFF, Driver/Operator, EMS, Fire/Rescue, Safety, Hazmat, & Officer. ([February 2018 Training Report](#))

HUMAN RESOURCES

➤ [Apply for current job postings](#)

➤ [View Safety Report](#)

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL ARTS ([New & Improved Website!](#))

Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts

[View the BCPA calendar for past & future event info](#)

- Presented Programs:
 - PUSH: Dracula – February 3, 2018
 - Gobsmacked – February 7, 2018
 - Nugget & Fang – February 20, 2018
 - Sister Hazel & Carbon Leaf – February 23, 2018
 - Ed Asner – February 24, 2018
 - Otherwise Known as Sheila The Great – February 28, 2018
- Total Attendance for all events and classes: 8,089

- Facilities Usage: Auditorium Public Events 8; Auditorium Non-Public Events 12
- Ballroom and Other Space: Public Events 2; Non-Public Events 5
- Community Interactions: Radio – 6; Community Outreach – 0

Golf Courses

- 183 rounds of outdoor golf were played at Prairie Vista. This is down considerably from our record of 995 rounds played last February. However, the rounds played for this month are still 40% higher than we see in a typical February.
- Inventory for the pro shops for the upcoming season has begun to arrive and staff is busy checking it all in and preparing it for sale.
- Titleist has chosen to renew their third season of 'Titleist Thursdays' at The Den at Fox Creek. 10 weeks of tour level club fitting will take place each Thursday at the course bringing in golfers from all across Central Illinois. The Den is the only facility in Illinois south of Interstate 80 to serve as a host site for this program.
- Two of our golf course greens keepers successfully completed their recertification for the Illinois Applicator's License which is required to legally apply chemicals on the courses.
- The indoor golf simulator at Prairie Vista continues to do very well. During the month, 82 hours were booked in the simulator. This is up 64% from last February.

Miller Park Zoo

- Revenue from admissions was down 9.9% for the current fiscal year. Last year, the revenue from admissions broke the all-time record for the Zoo in a fiscal year. This represents the sixth consecutive year the all-time attendance revenue record was broken. Attendance was down 10.8% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's attendance. This represents the second consecutive year the all-time attendance record was broken. Revenue from Education Program Fees and Rentals was down .8% for the current fiscal year.
- Revenue from Concessions, Carousel, and Animal Food Sales was down 5.8% for the current fiscal year compared to last year's numbers. The Zootique sales were down .6% for the current fiscal year, and overall Zoo revenue was down 8.5%.
- Acquisition: 1 Clown Fish, 8 Chromis, 6 Peppermint Shrimp, 2 Sally Lightfoot Crabs, 2 Male North American River Otters, 1 Female Red Panda, 1 Pink Toed Tarantula
- Disposition: 1 Male Pallas Cat, 1 Male Cotton Top Tamarin, 1 Female Snow Leopard, 1 Budgerigar, 1 Female Kookaburra, 1 Red-Eyed Tree Frog, 1 Male Pygmy Slow Loris, 1 Colorado River Toad
- Other:
 - Held Animal Enrichment Day
 - Had Free Fridays in February
- ATTENDANCE
 - February 2018: 2,359 (Down 73%)
 - February 2017: 8,817

Recreation

- We held our annual Daddy/Daughter Dance, and were at capacity with 80 pairs participating.
- Basketball Games ended this past weekend. All teams made huge improvements on defense and offense plays after playing 4 to 5 games the past four weeks.
- The Softball Manager Meeting was held, with higher attendance and new teams attending.

Pepsi Ice Center 

- Due to this being an Olympic year open skate numbers have increased.
- We held an Olympic Themed Open Skate which brought in 169 skaters to participate in on-ice games and activities.
- We offered a free Learn to Skate class and had thirty new skaters participate.

SOAR 

- SOAR had a team of athletes, coaches and family members participating in the Special Olympics Polar Plunge. We were the fifth highest money raising team with 13 members raising \$3,570.
- We held our Valentine's Day Dance and welcomed a group from Champaign Urbana Special Recreation.
- Our Special Olympics Soccer program returns to the National Guard Armory for practices. We are hoping to make this a permanent collaboration.

Parks Maintenance*Horticulture* ([View pictures here](#))

- Holiday decoration removal 65 man hours.
- Tropical rain forest trimming at Miller Park Zoo.
- Park sign installation at Miller Park Pavilion.
- Purchase and set up of new turf sprayer.
- Equipment maintenance and servicing 320 man hours.
- Snow removal all Parks and City Hall, Credit Union, Township Center and Constitution Trail.

Forestry

- 47 total trees removed, 40 due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- Circuit trimming section C5 in central Bloomington.
- Tree valuation of 18 trees at Lake Bloomington for Ameren transmission line.
- Tree valuation of 3 trees at East Bay Camp Lake Bloomington.
- 44 stumps removed, filled with dirt and seeded.
- 156 preventative maintenance trims performed.
- Large storm damage on house at 622 S. Clinton, tree taken off house and completely removed.

Utility

- Monthly HVAC inspection and repairs at Parks and Facilities
- Monthly HVAC inspections and repairs at the Coliseum and the BCPA
- Completed monthly Park inspections at all City Parks
- Completed annual spring start up HVAC maintenance at Holiday and O'Neil pools
- Worked with Entec to improve building monitoring of the Zoo rain forest
- Designed and installed 4 new Park entrance signs
- One Utility staff attended playground installation school in Alabama
- Installed new solar lights on new Park signs
- Complete re-build of Dawes Place picnic shelter. The utility staff designed and built a new enclosed roof structure for Dawes Place. The original structure was open air and provided very little shade. The original pillars were salvaged and repaired prior to construction. Other items that were added are a new mulch surface, a custom made picnic table and a barbecue grill. The existing plant beds will be improved and planted in the spring of this year. This shelter will be enjoyed by the neighbors for many years to come.

POLICE **Crime Maps and Statistics****Crime Investigations Division (CID)**

CID assigned 76 new cases this month. CID closed 47 cases in February with the following dispositions: 19 cases were cleared by adult arrest, 0 cleared with juvenile arrest, and 28 were administratively closed, exceptionally cleared or were unfounded.

Cyber Crimes

The Cyber Crimes Unit, which investigates crimes involving but not limited to child pornography, network intrusion and online scams, continued to operate in cooperation with the US Secret Service (USSS) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). The unit has eight open/active cases.

United States Marshal Task Force

The Bloomington office opened 13 felony cases and closed 11 of them. 10 hands-on felony arrests were made.

The Task Force arrested a subject wanted for residential burglary and recovered 2.8 grams of crack cocaine, located and arrested a subject wanted for criminal sexual assault and located and arrested a subject wanted for aggravated discharge of a firearm.

VICE Unit

The Vice Unit opened 10 cases, closed nine, and served two search warrants. They purchased 7.8 grams of crack cocaine, 4.6 grams of powder cocaine, 18 grams of cannabis, and .9 grams of heroin. They seized 2.9 grams of crack cocaine, 128 grams of methamphetamine and .1 gram of heroin.

Street Crimes Unit

Street Crimes made 18 probable cause arrests and 4 warrant arrests. They seized 21 grams of cannabis, 2 firearms and 4 vehicles.

Criminal Intelligence and Analysis Unit (CIAU)

During the month of February, staff in CIAU provided support in one homicide, a street level shooting and multiple theft cases. CIAU also produced a social media post related to eight theft cases with losses over \$10,000. The suspect was identified in under 30 minutes due to the post. Staff produced several analytical products for court on two 2016 violent felonies.

First Shift 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

During the month, there was one selective speed detail and 15 school zone details. Many officers attended training in February including: Mental Health Awareness and De-Escalation, Evidence and Crime Scene Photography, PPCT, Vehicle Dynamics, CNU, Patrol Drug Investigations, SWAT, Child Death Investigation and Tactical Vision.

Second Shift 3 p.m. – 11 p.m.

During the month, numerous step details were conducted. Many officers attended training in February including: Mental Health Awareness and De-Escalation, Evidence and Crime Scene

Photography , Tactical Vision, SWAT, Breath Operator, Vehicle Dynamics, SFST, Patrol Drug Investigations and Criminal Law.

Third Shift 11 p.m. – 7 a.m.

In January, 3rd Shift Officers recorded 16 DUI arrests.

Notable calls for service include, during an attempt to repossess a vehicle on Mill St, the owners fled in the vehicle striking the tow truck and the two truck drivers. Officers stopped the vehicle and arrested the owner for DUI. Officers responded to a call of shots fired at a house in the 900 block of West Olive. Officers on a routine patrol of the Market Street parking garage discovered a deceased male in the stairwell, no foul play suspected.

Administration

- The Public Affairs Officer submitted several news releases, posted on social media, conducted some radio interviews, initiated and promoted new Downtown Neighborhood Watch promotion and initial meeting, was the keynote speaker for safety and bank robbery training at a local bank, served as the local media liaison at local Special Olympics event, promoted and attended Jefferson Street Community House events, instructed two classes for state conference for City of Bloomington inspectors in Springfield, attended a recruitment fair at Illinois State University, assisted on social media based cases, facilitated several community engagement events, was the keynote speaker for the Illinois State University Criminal Justice Associate and assisted with the promotion of police events.
- School Resource Officers responded to one bus accident, one runaway, conducted talks about finger prints, and the Chief judged a contest at Evans school for the School Resource Officers' office door decorations. Officers met with 11 students about to fight and calmed them down, removed 12 students from class for poor behavior and lack of cooperation with school administration, transported 13 students home after they were suspended for poor behavior and fighting, spoke to 11 parents regarding behavioral issues, theft and battery, spoke with 47 students throughout the month regarding behavior, challenges to fight and grades and had 16 calls for disorderly conduct.

Downtown

- There were 12 days of Downtown Hireback with a total of 44 pairs of officers, including 12 pairs assigned from 3rd shift patrol, worked during the month. Notable incidences include officers located two subjects had climbed over the fence at a bar to get into the beer garden on February 3rd. On February 9th, a male was escorted from a bar when he was refused service and provided water due to his intoxication level. He tried to regain entry and was forcibly removed from the bar. During this time he fell into against a police vehicle parked on the street causing damage to the front fender. February 22nd, five patrons were issued OVs for either minor in a tavern or fraudulent identification, bar staff was spoken to regarding keeping a closer eye on identification provided by patrons. February 25th, a male was involved in a fight which resulting in his transportation to the hospital for injuries. A suspect was later arrested for aggravated battery.
- Totals for the month include 265.25 overtime hours, 227 bar checks, 14 OVs, seven parking citations, 14 fights, 23 calls for service, two arrests, and seven towed vehicles. Ordinance violations were issued for one for challenge to fight, one for battery, two for fraudulent identification, nine for minor in a tavern, and one other.

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

[View Police Communications Report](#)

- Telecommunicators answered 1,513 calls in less than 10 seconds and 45 calls in less than 20 seconds. This gives the communication center a 97% rating of calls answered within 10 seconds. The State of Illinois mandates that 90% of incoming 911 calls must be answered within 10 seconds.
- The Communications Center Manager (CCM) continued to work on the Telestaff project and the Emergency Operations Center. CCM attended the McLean County Disaster Council, Starcom Advisory Subcommittee meeting and the IL-TERT monthly meeting. Alert ordinance violations issued to date: 0.

PUBLIC WORKS

- NOTHING REPORTED

WATER

[View 2016 Water Quality Report](#)

[View Expanded Water Department Reports](#)

- Daily pumpage for February, 2018 was 8.8 million gallons per day, 0.6 mgd lower than the previous month. February, 2018 was 1 degree F warmer than average (30 F avg for February, 2018 versus 29 F long term average). Total rainfall for February, 2018 departed from the previous number of month's trend of precipitation deficits. February, 2018 precipitation total was 4.5", which is 2.57" higher than the long term average for the month.
- Nitrate levels in the both the Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir are rising from the increased streamflow, but are currently both well below the 10 mg/l nitrate-nitrogen limit. Laboratory staff are closely monitoring the lakes and streams, and will continue the increased frequency of sampling over the next few months.
- Water levels in both Lake Bloomington Reservoir and the Evergreen Lake Reservoir rose after the heavy rainfall and snowmelt that occurred during the last half of February, 2018. Pumping operations were switched from Evergreen Lake to Lake Bloomington on February 12, 2018. Evergreen Lake was again utilized starting February 22nd, to avoid possible diminished water quality from Lake Bloomington after the heavy rains. Lake Bloomington received enough runoff to raise the level from 4.8 feet below spillway to have water flowing over the spillway. Evergreen Lake, with a much larger volume and a smaller drainage catchment than Lake Bloomington, rose approximately 2 feet. Normal precipitation between now and the end of spring should bring both reservoirs back to full capacity.
- Continued to replace and repaired water service lines and curb stops. Staff replaced and or repaired 27 service lines. Several of these were very old lead (the metal) service lines. Removal of lead from the system helps the City maintain safe water quality and is in accordance with lead water standards.

- The Department located/cleared 1,308 JULIES and issued 61 JULIES.
- Repaired 9 water main throughout the City.
- Serviced 3 fire hydrants throughout the City.
- Installed 53 Radio Frequency (RF) meters during February. The Department has converted approximately 98.2% of the total meter inventory.
- Staff installed 15 new residential water meters during the month of February and replaced 403 residential water meters.
- Staff installed 11 compound meters and replaced 5 meter measuring elements during the month of February.
- Drilling for the St. Peter Aquifer - Test Well 1 began in August and was completed in November. Test Well 2 drilling began in December and reached total depth at the end of January. Test Well 2 surging and test pumping on is planned to occur in March.
- The Billing and Cashier representatives handled 4,004 incoming phone calls and placed 2,861 outbound phone calls in February 2018.
- The Water Director visited three classrooms at Chiddix Junior High School in late February to speak about engineering, water conservation, ecology efforts of the Water Department, and Department projects. In addition, each student received a leak detection kit along with a request to test their toilets for leaks.

INFORMATION SERVICES

- NOTHING REPORTED

LIBRARY

[Bloomington Public Library Website](#)

[January, February, March, April Program Guide](#)

Highlights:

- We completed and distributed the Unit 5 student cards for all elementary students who live in the Bloomington Public Library and Golden Prairie Public Library District service areas.
- 120 adults joined us for our craft supply swap.
- 79 teens participated in the Central IL Rubik's Cube Competition with State Farm.
- 106 people joined us for Storyteller Bobby Norfolk.
- 64 kids (0-3 years old) participated in the Read to Your Bunny program.

Stats:

- 25,962 people visited the Library (a daily average of 927)
- 91,030 items were checked out
- 234 new cardholders were added
- 7,101 holds were filled
- 2,429 items were added
- 358 items were delivered to 37 homebound residents

- 534 items were delivered to 8 deposit collection sites
- 2,796 people used our Wi-Fi for a total data usage of 1.69 TB
- 141 groups reserved our meeting rooms
- 47 programs offered for all ages
- 1,236 people attended programs

GROSSINGER MOTORS ARENA

Events Calendar

February 2018

- We held 41 ice rental events in the evening or weekend hours for local youth and adult hockey leagues.
- We hosted 1 **Illinois State Hockey** game, their last home game of the season and Senior Night.
- We held 3 **Flying Aces** Hockey games and 13 **Flying Aces** Hockey practices on our ice.
- **Downtown Bloomington's Indoor Farmer's Market** was held on Saturday, February 17.
- **Illinois High School Association Cheerleading Finals** took place on Friday and Saturday, February 2 and 3 with 100 teams from all over the state competing over a two-day tournament.
- **Brad Paisley, Dustin Lynch, Chase Bryant and Lindsay Ell** rocked the Arena on February 15 to a crowd of more than 5,000 fans.
- **Bloomington Bacon & Beer Festival** kicked off its inaugural event with ten local restaurants and more than 100 craft beers featured on the Arena floor. This sold out event was very well received and we intend to make this an annual event and expand upon the concept next year with additional room made available on the concourse level.
- **Illinois High School Association Dual Team Wrestling Finals** teams packed the house on Saturday, February 24 as hundreds of wrestlers competed for the state title.
- **The Bloomington Edge** played an in-house scrimmage on February 25, which was to be their first home game of the season. Due to contractual issues, their season has been postponed until this summer.

Upcoming Events include:

- **Central Illinois Flying Aces** continue the season with games on March 2, 3, 9, 10, 18, 23, 24 & 30.
- **Central Illinois Girls Hockey Association** will host a tournament on March 2 and 3 with 8 regional teams participating in the two-day tournament between the Arena and the Pepsi Ice Center.
- **Downtown Business Association**, now known as the Downtown Development Group will host their meeting at the Arena on Wednesday, March 7.
- **Cole Swindell** brings his "Reason to Drink" tour to Bloomington on March 17. Joining Swindell for each of the dates on his first headlining tour are two of country music's biggest rising stars **Chris Janson and Lauren Alaina**. Tickets are on sale now at \$49.75 and \$29.75.
- **Judas Priest with special guests Saxon and Black Star Riders** will hit the Arena stage on April 8, 2018 with their FIREPOWER 2018 World Tour. Tickets are \$43, \$48 and \$58 and they are now on sale.

- **Alabama with Montgomery Gentry** is scheduled for Saturday, May 12. Tickets are now on sale. They have scored 43 No. 1 singles, including a record 21 in a row – a feat that likely will never be topped.

We continue to work on the following major items:

- Recruitment of a Director of Programming and Marketing
- Suite and Sponsorship partnerships

Venuworks is pleased to be a partner with the City of Bloomington to present live entertainment and sporting events at Grossinger Motors Arena. We appreciate your confidence in us.