

Car used in PRIDE taxi service at Anthony, Kansas.

### PRIDE TAXI SERVICE

A public transportation service is gaining popularity in Anthony, a city with a population of 2,900 people.

The service, which utilizes a single automobile, has been underwritten by city revenue sharing funds and \$5 a year membership fees from Anthony residents.

According to Rev. Dan L. Bettis, chairman of the committee on transportation of Anthony's PRIDE Program, the number of people using the service has grown since the program was instituted.

The program had its beginning in the fall of 1973 when a survey was taken to determine what was needed in Anthony.

What stood out was the need for transportation, especially for the elderly," Rev. Bettis said. Plans were then made for a transportation service without the direct use of federal funds. "We decided that everyone wishing to use the transportation service would buy a yearly membership of \$5 to provide capital for the service," Rev. Bettis said. It was also decided to charge 25 cents for each ride within the city limits of Anthony. "But there were other things to be considered. We had to have more than just a taxi service. Drivers have to help citizens out of the car and help carry packages," according to Rev. Bettis.

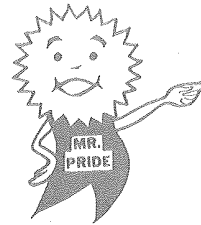
Another problem to get the car to the passenger, without an elaborate radio system. This task was handled by a two-way radio in the car. The caller dials a number at the police station and a dispatcher at the Anthony Police Department relays the location of the caller to the car's driver.

Another problem involved a car. Eager to get the taxi service started, a car belonging to the local school system was used when the service started. Later the Anthony City Commission used federal revenue sharing funds to buy a new automobile, offered by a local dealer at cost. Since the program has started, Rev. Bettis says 200 people have paid the \$5 for the service, even though many have not yet used it. He said the service was also used by many when the roads became icy and slick.

The taxi service operates Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# A Kansas Community Development NEWSLETTER



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SOME OF THE MEMBERS of the Industrial Developers Advisory Committee that revised the PRIDE blue ribbon evaluation form for industrial development at their quarterly meeting in Manhattan in February. (Left to right) Bud Grant, Kansas Association of Commerce and Industry; Fred Wendt, Wichita Area

Chamber of Commerce; Gene Cole, Great Bend Economic Development Commission; Kenneth Lunt, Kansas Gas and Electric; Jim DeMarco, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce; and Lud Fisher, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce. The committee advises the Kansas Association of Commerce and Industry.

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### STATE PRIDE COMMITTEE MEETS

The State PRIDE Committee met in March and approved the following sub-categories in the blue ribbon program:

TRIBUNE - Tourism, Culture, Library, Beautification

WAKEFIELD - Tourism

They selected October 24 as the tentative date for the State Awards Banquet.

The communities that have received approval for the most blue ribbons are: Newton and Hillsboro--7; Hesston--6; Arkansas City and Oberlin--5; Ulysses, Clifton and Marion--4; and Chanute and Pittsburg--3.

New evaluation forms have been designed for agriculture, agri-business, education, industrial development, and housing. In order to receive approval for housing, agriculture and agri-business, the community must make a survey of the situation. The results of the survey may be used to provide evidence that the communities are adequate in these categories.

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THREE OF THE LEADERS giving reports at Norton, Kansas public PRIDE meeting (Left to Right) Clifford Meireis, County Extension Director; Bill Rouse, Chairman of Board, First State Bank, and PRIDE Chairman; and Dick Boyd, President of Chamber of Commerce.

### PUBLIC CONSIDERS PRIDE PROJECTS

One hundred persons attended the public meeting and soup supper in Norton to hear reports from PRIDE project committees and representatives of other groups. Forty reports were given.

The PRIDE projects proposed by the steering committee were: clean-up, fix-up; study need for recreation levy; study need

for more youth recreation; more senior citizen activity; study need for historical society; more housing; plan for downtown improvement; yard of week recognition; increase swine and beef production; update city brochure; business expansion and analysis; bi-centennial promotion; more community cultural arts.

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### COMMENTS FROM BLUE RIBBON RECOGNITION EVALUATORS

TRIBUNE (Melvin Baughman, Kansas State University) Beautification—"Tribune is a very neat town. I am continually amazed by the pride these people have in their town. It is a model community in this respect. The tree board is well organized and will likely work on screening unsightly areas and plantings at entrances of town. The park near the water tower will be a real show place when completed."

TRIBUNE (Zoe Slinkman, Kansas State

University) Cultural arts—"Leadership and continued local involvement is demonstrated."

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#### KANSAS PRIDE COMMITTEE

Chairman - Ernie Mosher, Executive Director, League of Kansas Municipalities  
 Vice-Chairman - Robert A. Bohannon, Cooperative Extension Service, K.S.U.  
 Vice-Chairman - James H. DeCoursey, Jr., Kansas Department of Economic Development  
 Treasurer - Lou Atherton, Kansas City Power and Light



RANDALL DAWSON, President of the Farmers and Merchants Bank and Chairman of Mound City PRIDE Program writes how his community was successful in the PRIDE Program.

### FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

(Mound City won first place in the 501-1,500 population category)

"The formula for success in the Mound City PRIDE Program is a simple one. It was a question of seeing a need and doing something about it, and this is possible only when a town has the kind of people Mound City has. No community effort can be successful without people who are willing to put themselves into it and put themselves out for it, and there were many Mound Citizens who did so, resulting in the town winning first place in the statewide program in 1973.

Step by step the program was as follows:

1. Questionnaires sent to interested citizens to get their ideas on what Mound City needed.
2. PRIDE Committee members met with various civic groups and enlisted their cooperation.
3. Steering Committee and PRIDE leaders compiled the statement of goals from the questionnaires and comments of various groups and citizens.
4. Steering Committee appointed committees for various goals.

5. Chairman called a general meeting of all committees and members and any other interested citizens to confirm aims and goals and to outline the duties of each committee, acquainting them with procedures to follow, methods of publicity, and other pertinent information.

The committees then went into action on their various projects, meeting together as many times as needed to accomplish their goals. The Linn County Extension office served as a resource agency, and the newspaper, the Mound City Republic, was invaluable in keeping the community informed and generating a high level of enthusiasm.

As far as accomplishments are concerned, Mound City completed 29 of the 33 projects scheduled. Among these was the establishment of 14 new businesses in town, resulting in all seven of the empty buildings on Main Street at the beginning of year occupied by the end of the year. Of special note was a group of community-minded citizens forming the Mound City Development company, purchasing an empty building on Main Street and renovating it into new quarters for the Linn County Extension Service and a new restaurant much needed by the community. Several existing businesses in town repaired and redecorated their quarters as part of the PRIDE Program action. A physician, whose education Mound City has underwritten, graduated from medical school and began his internship, with plans to open his office in Mound City by late 1974.

Mound City is a small town, with slightly over 750 people. The accomplishments chronicled in the scrapbook entered in the state contest at the end of the year represent the investment of thought and time by citizens who recognized the needs of their town and were willing to do something about it."

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