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STAN MACADO, planner, Kansas Department of Economic Development, holds PRIDE sign. Shown are leaders and participants at the Hill City Regional PRIDE meeting.

LOU ATHERTON, area development consultant for Kansas City Power and Light Company and co-chairman of Roeland Park PRIDE committee, discusses PRIDE projects at leaders meeting. Clarence Merrill is the other co-chairman.

SURVEY BASIS FOR COMMUNITY EFFORTS

A priorities committee suggested 26 efforts and task force members. The PRIDE committee adopted projects and appointed members and chairpersons. A meeting for task force members was held to coordinate efforts, and report progress and future plans.

Projects suggested by the priorities committee were: programs for senior citizens; study how to get beautification ordinances enforced; improve shopping center appearance; improve tennis courts; more school news; senior citizens assist in schools; adult classes in library; maintenance of thoroughfares; more use of public schools after school hours; improve storm drainage; study need for city planning commission; disposal for trash, trees, etc.; study need for medical and dental offices; pedestrian crossing; homeowner maintenance for low income citizens; publicize dial-a-ride program; study methods for registering and initiating occupational licensing of rental property; study federal grants available; study feasibility of water sports carnivals; study feasibility of Oktoberfest; study how to improve dangerous intersections; more awareness of senior citizens discount program; study how to improve street lighting; study how to eliminate sewage treatment odors; more awareness of identification of personal property to prevent loss; study how to enforce speed limits; and study how to get more retail business.

39 COMMUNITIES MAKE REPORTS

Thirty-nine cities and towns submitted record books last year. Aiden, Holsington, Nickerson; Kansas City, Norton, Pittsburg; Independence, Pratt; Baxter Springs, Johnson, Sabetha; Belleville, Kanorado, St. Francis; Burr Oak, Kirwin; Sedan; Bushton, LaCrosse, Sharon Springs; Canton, Lebanon, Spearville; Council Grove, Lindsborg, Sumnerfield; Courtland, Marion, Tribune; Ft. Scott, McCracken, Wakefield; Glade, McPherson, Walton; Hiawatha, Newton, Westmoreland.

REGIONAL PRIDE WORKSHOPS

Two hundred persons from 39 communities were in attendance at eight Regional PRIDE workshops held in November at Concordia, Topeka, Wichita, Hutchinson, McPherson, Colby, Hays, and Hill City. Subjects included industrial development, PRIDE Blue Ribbons, idea exchange, essentials in PRIDE Programs, preparing project record books, and when the judges come to the community. Planned and conducting the events were Area Extension Community Resource Development Specialist E. J. Sisk, Ken Albring, Ralph Utz, Robert, and Steve Bittet. Byron Wood and Stan McAdoo, Kansas Department of Economic Development, assisted. More workshops are scheduled at a later date.

PACEMAKERS RECEIVE PLAQUES

Kansas State University's President, Duane Ackerman, presented eight Pacemaker Plaques at State PRIDE Day to communities that have qualified by making self evaluations and meeting standards set by the State PRIDE Committee. President Ackerman gave the information below when he made the presentations.

"BELLEVILLE, the latest Pacemaker, received the honor in June of this last year. Truman Johnson, former city mayor, was one of the main spark plugs of PRIDE. He said "The council members were wholeheartedly in support of the program. PRIDE not consideration for community improvement from all citizens and provided us a vehicle to go forward." [Continued on Page 2]
HESSON was awarded Pacemaker in 1976. According to the narrative at the pacemaker award celebration, Hess has PRIDE in their town and progress as their theme. We are not afraid of progress, but rather promote and stay ready to handle it. According to the city brochure, “There is a charm about Hessan that impresses everyone who visits here. Much of it is due to its residents, cleanliness, and physical body.”

“MPERSON became Pacemaker in 1975. They won the coveted cash sweepstakes award in 1975. Mayor Fred DeLah said it is one of the best lighted cities in the world.

“A survey of the community showed the following were rated the highest by citizens: Financial and professional services available; street signs; downtown business district up-to-date; clean and attractive; clerks in stores neat, courteous and competent; hospital facilities; churches administered to individuals; and retail items readily available.”

“NEWTON, the first Pacemaker in Kansas, received the award in 1975. They have had one of the outstanding youth PRIDE programs in Kansas. A questionnaire administered to the people of Newton this year showed the city to be outstanding in hospital and dental services, churches administering to needs of citizens; nursing homes; library; and health facilities and services.”

“OBERLIN, in Western Kansas, was the second city in the state to be recognized as Pacemaker. Information at the ceremony when they received their certificate indicated the city was ‘Renowned for their store front remodeling, side walk canopies, and distinctive street lighting. It is a striking example of what good planning can do to make a community more attractive to potential customers in the area.’

“With only 5,000 people in the county, the citizens have demonstrated how urban and rural residents can work together to improve farm markets and increase retail trade. ‘RUSSELL was the fifth community to achieve Pacemaker status. Harry Hensley, PRIDE chairman at the time, said ‘The key to our many accomplishments has been the cooperation among the PRIDE committee, chamber of commerce, city council, county Extension agents, and other groups in the city and surrounding rural area.’

EIGHT COMMUNITIES APPROVED

Eight communities were approved in the PRIDE Blue-Ribbon Program at the November meeting of the State PRIDE Committee, according to Tom Kline, chairman.

They were: BURR OAK - police protection; COURTLAND - culture and arts; HERINGTON - agriculture and agri-business; KIRKIN - library; MANHATTAN - solid waste; RUSSELL - housing; PHILLIPSBURG - airport; and ULYSSES - library.

Five communities were not approved in agriculture and agri-business, water, beautification, housing, and recreation and parks.

Cities or towns enrolled in PRIDE may evaluate themselves in any of the 22 blue ribbon areas at any time and seek application to be appraised by outside evaluators. When they have passed all categories and sub-categories, they are awarded Pacemaker status.

If a community is not approved, they may correct deficiencies or provide additional information, and re-submit another form for consideration.

The purpose of the blue ribbon phase is to: (1) assist communities with self-evaluations (2) suggest possible assistance (3) give recognition when cities and towns are judged to be adequate for their size and situation, and for their citizens.

ERNEST MOORE, right, executive director, League of Kansas Municipalities, looks at PRIDE materials on display at the annual city convention in Wichita. On the left is Harold Tarlton, Holtsinning city manager. Five-hundred cities belong to the league, and over nine-hundred people attended the convention.
FIRST STEP FOR PRIDE

"Progress is not automatic; the world grows better because people wish that it should and take the right steps to make it better. If things are ever to move forward, somebody must be willing to take the first step and assume the risk."

— Jane Addams
SEBELIUS IS PRIDE SPEAKER

Congressman Keith Sebelius was the speaker at the Regional PRIDE Workshop in Concordia in November. He commended citizens participating in the PRIDE Program and answered questions relating to opportunities and problems in the second congressional district.

Dr. Fred Soering, associate director, Extension Service, Kansas State University, discussed community development and Kansas State University’s role in improving cities and towns. Other programs included talks by Byron Wood, Kansas Department of Economic Development; the Belleville Pacemaker Story in pictures; and an idea exchange. There were 50 persons in attendance from nine communities.

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MILFORD TASK FORCES

Twenty-three PRIDE projects and task forces adopted by the PRIDE committee were:

- trees and shrubs, traveling library, study feasibility of tennis courts and skating rink, fire fighting demonstration, mosquito control, improve parks and ball diamond, identify public buildings, contest for Christmas decorations and yards, clean-up, fix-up campaign, improve boat ramp and marine facilities, welcome committee, energy conservation, study possibility of golf course, more business, study possibility of library and museum space, more newspaper publicity, more summer outdoor recreation, history book of Milford, courses in medical emergencies, sirens identification, music in the park, arts in the park, annual community pot-luck dinner, more senior citizens programs, and more use of school for meetings and recreation for all ages.

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and chairpersons after receiving the report from the priorities group.

Projects adopted by the PRIDE committee were: improve sidewalks; better drainage; improve downtown; Christmas decoration contest; recreation for children; improve water supply; lighting, restrooms, and concession stand for ball park; improve street signs and house numbers; save the Legion building; yard of the month contest; study possibility of girl scouts and brownies; study possibility of tennis courts; more nursing home occupancy; study mosquito control; tree board; street parking lines; more recreation for senior citizens; study how to get more art and culture; study need to improve yards and paint houses of elderly; clean-up, fix-up campaign; study possibility of new businesses; meals on wheels; study possibility of funds from Ryan estate; doctor search; better school signs; more housing; improve park; more community improvement publicly; and paint signs.