Kansas PRIDE Newsletter

Recognitions  Upcoming Conferences  Community News  Community Resources

Tranda Watts of Gove County Extension receives annual PRIDE Partner Award presented by Dr. Marc Johnson

PRIDE PARTNER AWARD
Tranda Watts, K-State Research and Extension Agent, Gove County, was the recipient of the 2001-2002 PRIDE Partner Award. The award is in recognition of an Extension professional that has demonstrated outstanding support of the PRIDE Program. Through her years of Extension service, Tranda has been a strong supporter of local community development. In the last year, Tranda helped facilitate community visioning sessions, and was actively involved in the PRIDE Day Youth Leadership activities. The PRIDE program is proud to honor Tranda for her long-term commitment and leadership with the PRIDE program through the PRIDE Partner Award.

News from PRIDE Communities

The following are edited news stories shared by PRIDE Communities

ALTON – The birthplace of Russell Stover hosted the second annual Chocolate Festival and had a big success! December 7 found a large gathering of folks ready to enter the cookie contest, buy chocolate goodies, enjoy live music and a cup of coffee or hot chocolate and visit with friends and neighbors. This year a 7th cousin of Russell Stover spent the day with us and the Russell Stover Candy Company furnished boxes of seasonal candies for all who attended. All cookie contest entries were to bring a baker’s dozen, with the first 12 cookies bundled together for sale and the 13th cookie used for judging. We added a youth division this year, and each division had a $25 first prize, $10 second prize, and $5 honorable mention in each division. The Alton community really supported the festival and we had guests from 6 states.

ARGONIA – RIDES TO ARGONIA
After receiving the PRIDE Community of Excellence Achievement Award and the Star Award in 2002, Argonia has expanded its PRIDE program to include bus tours from surrounding communities to see the improvements in this small community. After having lunch at River Park next to the Chikaskia River visitors may choose to stroll down the Walkway to enjoy the scenery along the river. Groups receive information about Argonia and places to see as they travel down newly painted main street lined with American Flags. Next is a visit to the Salter House Museum, mural and Salter City Park all honoring former Argonia Mayor Susanna Madora Salter, the first woman mayor in the nation in 1887. The tour then visits the community swimming pool and information is shared on the recycling program, a volunteer transportation program, and other community-wide cooperative efforts. The tour ends with a visit to some of the supporting organizations in town, and each guest receives a gift from Argonia merchants. Visiting groups have included history awareness groups, students on field trips and members from other communities just gathering ideas and information on how to make improvements to their own communities.

AND RIDES FROM ARGONIA
The Provide a Ride program is a service that provides for the senior citizens of the community. The riders can be taken to any destination within a 70 mile radius for medical visits or shopping, etc..
RIDES FROM ARGONIA cont'd

The rides are arranged through a volunteer dispatcher who is a member of the PRIDE program and she is supported by PRIDE members who can help out with calls, paperwork or even drive if necessary. A volunteer driver has been assigned for each day of the week. The drivers receive a small reimbursement for gasoline. The program has been very successful and has been used almost every day.

ELK CITY - The Elk City PRIDE Committee is working obtaining American flags to display in our downtown area.

GLASCO - Glasco PRIDE worked with three other organizations to sponsor a presentation from the Kansas Department of Transportation on "Driving Safe, Not Sorry."

In 2002 Glasco Fun Day initiated a new take on community, featuring the Scottish heritage of Glasco’s founders. The bagpipes, Highland oxen, music and food proved very popular. Each year for the next several years, a different early settler national origin will be featured. There is already anticipation for the Bohemian Fun Day 2003.

HIGHLAND - Highland PRIDE is participating in an Appreciation Dinner for Highland EMT and firemen. We have a short welcome by the PRIDE president, the mayor, and a clergy Certificate of Appreciation and gets a round of applause for their service so these volunteers know everyone in town is supporting them 100%.

PRIDE Spring Workshops:

In response to the Survey sent out in the fall, the majority of those responding indicated Strategic Planning was the top priority to be addressed in PRIDE community workshops. The sessions will be held this spring in four communities that volunteered to host the sessions. The dates and locations will be announced in a few weeks. We are excited to be working with you as the workshops are aimed at helping rural communities gain a better sense of purpose and direction. The step-by-step method of developing a comprehensive approach in planning for change will serve as a valuable tool as communities work together to shape their future.

GRANTS and PRIDE COMMUNITY RESOURCES

PRIDE communities are often seeking grant resources to pursue community goals. The Kansas PRIDE program is pleased to pass along resources that we believe may help communities operate more effectively or succeed in their projects. You may wish to bookmark the PRIDE Community Resources web page.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS and CONFERENCES

RC&D TO OFFER GRANT WRITING III: PROPOSAL COMMUNICATION: MARCH 4-6, 2003

This workshop will allow the grant writer to learn how to communicate the proposal's purpose. The instructor will review different written and oral styles of communication to foundations. Class members will compose letters and be taken through a series of enactments of selling proposals to the foundation grant administrator.

Workshop Instructor Dr. Don Udell is a grant writer as well as reviewer of grants for several foundations. His workshops provide the grant writing aspect of proposals as well as the foundation’s proposal expectations. He is in high demand from many organizations across the nation. Whether you are a novice or experienced grant writer, this workshop is for you.

March 4, 5, & 6, 2003
K-State Extension Office
600 West Woodside
McPherson, KS

Workshops are $200 for the 3-day workshop. All sessions will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. Maximum attendance will be 30 participants on a first-come-first-served basis.

To register or for more information, contact:
Central Prairie RC&D
1817-16th Street
Great Bend, KS 67530
Phone: 620-792-6224 Fax: 620-792-4875
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP DAY
Announcing Community Leadership Day: "Celebrating Community Leadership: Past, Present, and Future"
A day to celebrate the achievement of our "500 in 5" goal and to enhance the capacity of community leadership programs.
K-State Student Union, Manhattan
Friday, March 28, 2003
Mark your calendars!!
For more information, contact the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development, 216 Call Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506.
Tel: 785-532-7690 Fax: 785-532-7036
http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/huckboyd/

LEADERSHIP LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
PRIDE representatives interested in leadership might consider attending the 7th Annual K-State Leadership Seminar on April 3, 2003 from 9:00am to 2:00pm in the K-State Student Union in Manhattan.
Jeffrey Cufaude, Principal & Founding Partner of Idea Architects, will present "The Character of Our Commitments". Cufaude will engage participants in various activities and discussions addressing the theme of commitment to self, others, and commitment to a cause. A great workshop for those involved in leadership!
The registration fee is $20 and includes morning refreshments, lunch, and seminar materials. To request a seminar brochure (available February 1), contact the Kansas PRIDE Program at 785-532-5840. The deadline to register is March 28, 2003.

KCCED CONFERENCE
The 2003 annual conference, “Economic Development in Hard Times: Keeping Communities Strong,” will be held in Hutchinson on April 9 - 10 at the Plaza Hotel. Lt. Gov. John Moore will deliver the keynote luncheon address on Thursday, April 10th.
For further information about the conference visit the conference website at http://www.ksu.edu/kcri/kcced/index.html

PRIDE DAY CONFERENCE 2003
Make plans now for your PRIDE members to attend the PRIDE DAY Conference and recognition banquet this year. The conference will be held at the Great Bend Holiday Inn and conference center, on SEPT. 27, 2003.

YOUTH RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES COMING SOON
There is a NEW category for youth recognition awards this year through PRIDE. This year two categories will recognize Youth Community Service and Youth Leadership in PRIDE communities.
The Youth Community Service Award will recognize local Junior and Senior High school students that have provided outstanding volunteerism by helping out in the community. Youth that have volunteered at day care centers, libraries, helped with local programs, clean-up projects or fundraisers can be recognized through a nomination for this award. For a copy of this nomination form, click here.
The Youth Leadership Award will recognize youth that have demonstrated leadership with others in their community improvement efforts. Youth qualifying for this award may have initiated a new activity or program, involved a new organization or network of volunteers in a project, or provided a vision and motivation to inspire others in the community to action. For a copy of this nomination form, click here.

LOCAL FOOD DIRECTORY AVAILABLE
The Kansas Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops and the Kansas Rural Center have come together to develop the Kansas Locally Raised Food Directory, which offers consumers a way to locate products grown in or around their communities.
Located on the KCSAAC Website, the directory is free to access and enroll in. It is not limited to fruit and vegetable products, as meat, poultry, dairy, baked and grain products are also included. PRIDE communities supporting a farmers market or producing goods may wish to contact the directory. The directory can be viewed at:
http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/kcsaac/fooddirectory

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The Kansas Department of Commerce & Housing, K-State Research and Extension, and private-sector companies and associations partner together to make the PRIDE program successful. For assistance contact the PRIDE staff: Beverly Wilhelm at (785) 296-3485; Dan Kahl at (785) 532-5840.