



Contact us at:
PRIDE@ksu.edu

Vibrant communities with a positive future.

Pretty Prairie

On Monday, February 23 at 7pm to 9pm I had the pleasure of visiting with Pretty Prairie at the request of Jan Steen, the Community Development and Technology Agent for K-State Research and Extension Reno County Extension, to speak about Kansas PRIDE. We were joined by Renee Lippincott and Bob Fettke, Regional Project Managers with the Kansas Department of Commerce who serve the South Central Region of Kansas.



Pretty Prairie boasts [Kansas Largest Night Rodeo](#) – just an FYI if you are interested in those types of events – it will take place July 15-18 of 2015.

The residents of Pretty Prairie that attended the meeting were a positive, up beat group of people who were interested in what Extension, Commerce and Kansas PRIDE had to offer. Jan Steen summarized what the local Extension unit could offer in the way of educational workshops and technology assistance. I then presented the community with the benefits of Kansas PRIDE and Renee and Bob

assisted me with a short assessment of the community member's interests for Pretty Prairie.

It sure was great to meet with such a great group of people and show them resources our partnership has to offer! – *Jaime Menon, KSRE Community Vitality/Kansas PRIDE*

Farmer's Market and Local Food Promotion Program Grant Writing Workshop



The Regional Rural Development Centers in cooperation with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) have developed workshop materials and resources focused on improving the funding success rate of applicants to USDA AMS grant programs, specifically the Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) and the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP).

K-State Research and Extension is participating in this project, and offering this training program to assist individuals and organizations in their efforts to

secure AMS resources to further the provision of local foods. Dates for the workshops are as follows:

March 27, 2015 - 12:30-4:30 Shawnee County Extension, Topeka, Ks

April 15, 2015 - 12:30-4:30 K-State at Salina, Salina, Kansas

April 23, 2015 - 12:30-4:30 Douglas County Extension, Lawrence, Kansas

Visit our webpage to register:

kansasprideprogram.ksu.edu

Contact Trudy Rice – trice@ksu.edu or at 785.766.3996 with any questions.

Week of PRIDE!

Instead of holding a Day of PRIDE in regions across the state, the Kansas PRIDE, Inc. board of directors wants to see your communities shine! More information will follow in the upcoming weeks, but we ask that you mark your calendars and we hope you join in on Week of PRIDE!

Mark May 25 – 31, 2015 as Week of PRIDE! More information coming soon!

First Impressions for NW KS

Have you ever wondered how your community looks through the eyes of a stranger? We only get the opportunity once to make a first impression and we hope strangers see our communities in a positive light. First Impressions is a program that allows you to see your community through the eyes of a first time visitor. A volunteer team makes an unannounced visit to your community and explores your community. As they are visiting, they'll capture pictures and the taste and feel of the community. The results of the visit are then written up and presented back to the community in a town hall type of meeting. It provides the opportunity to see where you are doing well and also not so well. In return, your community is asked to participate in a similar experience for another community. If you would like more information on First Impressions contact Nadine Sigle, KSRE Extension Associate, at 785-346-6256 or email at nsigle@ksu.edu. **For 2015,**

this program will only be available for communities that reside in the Dane G. Hansen service area (bound by I-70 and HWY 81). It is hoped in future years we will be able to expand it to other part of Kansas. – *Nadine Sigle – NW Community Vitality*

Did you know...?

That you can search reports from our online database to find project ideas, communities doing similar projects, communities doing projects that your community is interested in...imagine the networking! All a part of the new system! We are in the process of recording webinars to watch the educational webinar about the updated enrollment options and opportunities with networking. Keep your eyes on your email inbox and Facebook for the links in upcoming weeks!

Events Calendar

March 24-26, 2015 at the Century II Convention Center – Kansas Rural Water Association Conference – Jaime Menon will be at the vendor Trade Show – if you are attending come by and say “Hello!”

Mark your calendars for **April 14 & 15, 2015** - the **Rural Opportunities Conference** will be held at the Meriden Center in Newton, KS! Attendee registration will open on Wednesday, Feb. 11. Check the website below for more details! [CLICK HERE](#) for the website.

First quarter reports are due **April 15, 2015**

Week of PRIDE – May 24 through 30th, 2015 – Mark Your Calendars! More details in upcoming months!

It's that time of the year again! Have community events you want us to put on the Kansas PRIDE Community Events calendar? Let us know by dropping us an email at PRIDE@ksu.edu! There are not many events on the calendar for this year as yet, but if you want to check out the page, [CLICK HERE](#).