Week of PRIDE – May 24-30, 2015

We have had some questions concerning Week of PRIDE, two most notably:

What if we have an event going on the week before OR the week after Week of PRIDE?

Answer: although Week of PRIDE was acknowledged by the Governor’s office as May 24-30, 2015, if your PRIDE group already has pre planned events that will take place just before or just after Week of PRIDE, and if your PRIDE group wishes to use these events to count toward Week of PRIDE - feel free to do so!

Does this have to be a big event?

Answer: No. This can be as simple as a community clean up/fix up. As this is the first year and it has been short notice we are not asking for large scale projects (that is unless you have them already planned or have pre planned events you wish to count). Not only that, don’t forget to get youth involved in any way you can - such as a coloring contest, an essay of what they love about their community, youth community photo contest (these are examples suggested by PRIDE communities since last week). Just don’t forget, if you have any youth featured in pictures that you wish to submit, please send a photo release form, which can be found on our Community Events Page.

Do not forget to send pictures to PRIDE@ksu.edu and fill out your community Week of PRIDE report so we can collect your impact! CLICK HERE to go to the reporting survey.

Thank you for all that you do for Kansas, and we are all excited to see your projects or hear your ideas!! - Jaime Menon - Kansas PRIDE - jmenon@ksu.edu

Welcome Nancy Daniels to the CECD/Community Vitality Team!

This week (starting April 27 to be exact) Nancy Daniels joined the K-State Research and Extension
Community Vitality team! We will let Nancy introduce herself:

Hi, I am Nancy Daniels and thrilled to be the new Community Vitality Specialist and the K-State Research and Extension liaison to the KSU Center for Engagement and Community Development (CECD).

I grew up on a farm 7 miles from Rock Springs Ranch and graduated from Chapman High School in Dickinson County. My dad was a farmer with 6 children who drove 40 miles to finish his K-State Ag Education degree while 5 of his children were in grade school. I am married to Don Daniels (40 years!). Don is retired and an active community volunteer. We have 2 children and 6 grandchildren. My family of origin and offspring are a big part of my life. Fun Fact (you may tease me about how often I tell you this!): In 2013, our family was the K-State Family of the Year. We have 4 generations of K-Staters and 42 alums.

Before I came to this position, I was the Area Director for Big Brothers Big Sisters. My previous work as the Director of Community Initiatives at United Way of Greater Topeka makes me confident that we can help our local communities promote and build collaborative, community vitality-enhancing programming. We had more than 120 partners working together.

Success By 6 no longer exists, but it is gratifying to know that several of our initiatives live on in other organizations. Shawnee County Extension's Asset Building Coalition brought more than $9M in Federal Income Tax refunds back to our community last year to families whose median income was $28,000. The Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation's Mission of Mercy has given $7.5 million of donated dental care to more than 17,000 Kansans since 2003. Our KDA partner at Success By 6 told me that the Mission of Mercy was born out of our work together on the Colgate Dental Vans.

Lyndon B. Johnson said, “There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few we can solve by ourselves.” It’s my privilege to help Kansas communities, not-for-profit organizations, K-State Research and Extension local units, and our Kansas State University campuses come together to do great things for all of Kansas.

Call me at 785-532-5962 or by email at nkdanl@ksu.edu and tell me what I can do for you! - Nancy Daniels, Community Vitality/Center for Engagement and Community Development

Community Highlight – Haysville PRIDE

As many communities may know, the League of Kansas Municipalities had a photo contest earlier this year - the Kansas Hometown Showdown. Towns and communities submitted pictures in the contest, the winner will be featured on the cover of the Kansas Government Journal!

Sixty-five municipalities submitted photos, and after a six round contest Haysville was selected the winner. The photo features their PRIDE Park Fountain!
Glasco PRIDE Recognized in Local Presentation

Lyle Peterson, of the Kansas Department of Commerce, Business and Community Development, came to Glasco on Tuesday, April 28 to present a new ‘City of Excellence: 2015-2017’ sign and to recognize Glasco’s City of Excellence status in the PRIDE program.

The presentation was made at The Corner Store, where Peterson joined a group discussion about short term and long term projects that might be considered, looking to sustain and invigorate the community.

Dr. Claude Harwood, Glasco Chamber-Pride Chairman, has seen this organization in action over many years. He was pleased to see continued interest in volunteers working on behalf of the community.

The governor proclaimed the last week of May, the 24th-30th, Week of Pride. In the meantime, Glasco volunteers are challenged to design a project to implement during Week of Pride, a statewide celebration of Pride that begins at home.

All ideas and volunteers are welcome. Please take project ideas to the Corner Store and stayed tuned as Glasco prepares for Week of Pride. - Joan Nothern, Glasco PRIDE

Congratulations again to Glasco, Dover, Randolph, McFarland, Larned and Lecompton for achieving the designation of Community of Excellence!