



April 2016



Contact us at:
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Vibrant communities with a positive future.

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A Moment of Reflection and Recognition



Kansas Rural Water Association Conference



THANK YOU to the Kansas Rural Water Association for their very generous donation of booth space at the Kansas Rural Water Association Conference! It was a wonderful experience – seeing some familiar faces and having a chance to catch up with your works, and meeting new people who are interested in volunteering and bringing PRIDE to their community. What a great venue, and what wonderful hosts! A special thank you to Elmer Ronnebaum and Doug Helmke for making this a possibility! - **Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Manager** jmenon@ksu.edu

To all Kansas PRIDE Community Volunteers:

Exciting Times for the Kansas PRIDE Program. As you were informed on March 18, 2016, the Kansas Masonic Foundation gifted a \$1,000,000 donation to the K-State Research and Extension Kansas PRIDE Program ([Visit our website for the full story.](#)). The intention: to support and promote the Kansas PRIDE Program, and to create a new partnership where Kansas Masons assist PRIDE communities with their local efforts – that means more hands to help, more minds to assist in planning, more opportunities.

In 2014 the Dane G. Hansen Foundation assisted K-State Research and Extension in creating a position that serves Northwest Kansas communities in their community development efforts. The First Impressions program was revived and has brought great insight to communities in the region. First Impressions will soon be an opportunity for ALL Kansas PRIDE communities to utilize because of this successful pilot.

The Kansas Masonic Foundation and the Dane G. Hansen Foundation see community vitality as important, integral and invigorating.

I want you to take a moment to reflect: Why did this happen?

The answer is simple.

Local PRIDE Volunteers. YOU are the reason.

It was because of your hard work.

Your plans.

Your processes.

Your goals.

Your implementations

Your celebrations.

And most important - your choices to highlight and report your work.

Your work is visible to Kansas, and I want you to realize that people, and entities, outside of your community are taking notice in a big way. Hats off, accolades and applause to YOU, Kansas PRIDE Community Volunteers.

And as always, thank you so very much for all that you do for Kansas. - **Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Coordinator** jmenon@ksu.edu

Week of PRIDE 2016



On April 22, 2016 the Governor's Office will sign a Proclamation designating May 22-28, 2016 as Week of PRIDE. Although this week is designated as Week of PRIDE, we are going to exercise last year's rule: if you have a community event, celebration, or any other work that will take place from mid-April to the first week of June – you can “own” that time as your community

Week of PRIDE. The reason – anytime is a good time to volunteer!

This year there are many more opportunities to partner, and we have two organizations that your community can reach out to:

Our New Partners – The Kansas Masons! [Locate a local lodge HERE](#). If you don't have a lodge in your community – find one near you and begin building a relationship!

48-Hours of 4-H (484H)! We are cross-promoting volunteer efforts this year! [Contact your local Extension Office](#) to get 4-H Youth involved in planning and implementing your projects!

[CLICK HERE for your handbook](#) – which has many great ideas on what types of projects to tackle if you need inspiration.

We are so very excited to see what your local PRIDE groups achieve this year! - **Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Manager** jmenon@ksu.edu

Communities Receive Awards!

Spring is our major award time, and it is an honor to inform you of the community successes and projects that have received recognition this year so far!



2016 brought new opportunities in the form of Growth and Action Awards for Communities of Growth and Communities of Action, and we are pleased that we had quite a few very worthy applications!

With that, we will get to our award recipients!

Growth and Action Awards

The following communities were the VERY FIRST recipients of the Growth and Action Awards – for the Spring Round of Funding:

- Columbus
- Delia
- Elk City
- Linn Valley
- McPherson

- Humboldt PRIDE
- Iola PRIDE
- LaHarpe PRIDE
- Lakin PRIDE
- Lenora PRIDE
- Linn Valley PRIDE
- Lucas PRIDE
- Perry PRIDE
- Randolph PRIDE

Partners in PRIDE Grants

The following community projects were funded for Partners in PRIDE Spring Round:

- Grainfield PRIDE – Signage
- Larned PRIDE – Larned Pool Seating
- Lenora PRIDE – Website and Park Renovations
- Leonardville PRIDE – Entrance Signage
- Lucas PRIDE – Lucas Travel Plate Restoration

Capital Awards

Capital Awards were awarded for the following communities and projects:

Delia PRIDE

1. Built – Delia School Paint Project
2. Cultural – Delia Days
3. Social – City-Wide Garage Sale
4. Human – Library

Iola PRIDE - Natural - Disc Golf

Lenora PRIDE

1. Human – Blood Clinic
2. Social – Welcome Banners

Lucas PRIDE - Financial – Robert Durham Trust Funds

Perry PRIDE - Cultural – Evolution of Sports

Rossville PRIDE - Social – Hometown Teams

Community Partners:

The following communities submitted applications for a plaque to honor a person or organization from their community – we have not given the names as some of these awards are meant to be a surprise to the recipient:

- Alton PRIDE
- Centralia PRIDE

Congratulations to all award winners! What a great way to highlight the wonderful work that you do! If you have any questions about awards and opportunities, do not hesitate to contact us at PRIDE@ksu.edu or at 785.532.5840 - *Jaime Menon, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Program Manager* jmenon@ksu.edu

Events Calendar

April 15 – Quarterly Reports are Due

April 22 – Week of PRIDE Proclamation Signing

May 22-28 - Week of PRIDE!!