Vibrant communities with a positive future.

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Week of PRIDE Selfie Contest

First off, a huge thank you to all of the communities that participated in Week of PRIDE 2016, and also to all communities that participated in the Selfie contest. The result of your hard work in the Spring of 2016:

- 25 communities participated
- 356 adults and 241 youth in 25 PRIDE communities spent 2,309 hours planning and implementing community improvement projects.
- Raised over $26,460 to invest into their communities.
- 4-H Contributes- 74 youth from 15 4-H clubs assisted in 11 communities.

The first ever Week of PRIDE Selfie Contest was a huge success. The results are as followed:

- 1st Prize- Larned PRIDE with a total of 394 likes will receive a gift basket from our sponsors and $100 from the Kansas Masonic Foundation for their community.
- 2nd Prize- Grainfield PRIDE with a total of 253 likes will receive $50 from the Kansas Masonic Foundation for their community.
- 3rd Prize- Alton PRIDE with a total of 227 likes will receive $25 from the Kansas Masonic Foundation for their community.
Fall Funding Opportunities

The NEW Growth and Action are available for a second round for Communities of Growth and Communities of Action. These are limited to 5 awards (due August 15) and are extremely competitive so apply as soon as you can. The awards are for $200 each. The link will be live soon!

August 15 is also the deadline for eligible Communities of Excellence to apply for Partners in PRIDE Grant Funding.

Communities must be in good standing (enrolled, resolution submitted, reporting up to date) to be eligible for awards. Have questions, don’t 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

Let the cross promotion commence! Mark your calendars for October 8-9, 2016 – that is when 4-H Groups across Kansas will be participating in 48 Hours of 4-H (484H). Your local groups just may be looking for volunteer opportunities, so don’t hesitate to contact them to see if you can help them flesh out projects or invite them to participate projects that you might already have planned!

Ashland PRIDE adds New Colorful Banners on Main Street

Ashland PRIDE is proud to announce that our Barn Quilt “Banners” are up on Main Street! This project was the brainchild of Sue Chester who proposed the idea to the Ashland PRIDE Committee. With the hard work from Kala Maris, along with the input & financial backing of Ashland PRIDE, the plan has finally become a reality! As you’ve probably noticed, truly artistic barn quilts are going up all over town; on homes, barns, garages, & businesses!! Individuals have been creating new, vibrant styles for their décor. Now, you can “feel the passion” from the quilt block style banners right on Main Street, Ashland Kansas, with the 12 Barn Quilt Banners that the City of Ashland put up for us in Downtown Ashland on one very hot June afternoon.

A typical barn quilt is a large piece of wood that is painted to look like a quilt block. Even though the name implies that an entire quilt is painted onto the wood, it generally is only one single quilt block. There are specific guidelines to insure the best quality of a barn quilt. Although originally displayed on barns, they are often seen on fences, homes & out-buildings. Merchants have even been known to catch the barn quilt fever by hanging quilts on the sides or fronts of their businesses. The size of the squares vary; with 2ft x 2ft blocks & 4ft x 4ft blocks being most popular. The new banners on Main Street are

Mark your Calendars for 484H!

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not the typical wooden quilt block, but two-sided replicas made from a lightweight durable material treated with UV protection, perfect for years of eye-catching charm.

There are 22 counties in Kansas with barn quilt tours that bring fun and tourism to their region. Ashland & Clark County have also caught the barn quilt fever, with hopes to someday have our own Clark County tour map. These beautiful quilt blocks encourage artistic expression, preserve & celebrate the heritage of quilting, and add unique charm to homes, farms and now, downtown. So much so, that the Clark County Fair has even added a Barn Quilt division for this year’s fair! When Marci Penner heard of our accomplishment, she said “Love, love this! Am putting in notes for the [new Kansas] guidebook”!!

Ashland PRIDE expresses a BIG thank you to Sue Chester, Kala & Kevin Maris, and Doug & Ervin at the City of Ashland for helping make this dream a reality! We hope you enjoy the stunning colors & maybe even catch the fever, too! Pride encourages everyone to enhance your store front, fence, or home & brighten our Ashland community with the beautiful art of barn quilts!

**Visiting with Wilson and Lucas**

The Kansas PRIDE Board meeting was held in Wilson Kansas for the month of July. Being the first board meeting that I attended, I was both honored and thrilled to have the opportunity to see a couple of the PRIDE communities that I have heard so many great stories about.

The friendly town of Wilson immediately made me fall in love and feel at home with their kind smiles and all-around welcoming attitude. We were shown the extravagant new spray pad that was recently built by the Wilson PRIDE organization. The spray pad is in the middle of PRIDE Park which also has the recently new addition of a wooden play fort. It was said that both children and adults enjoy coming to the park, especially on these hot summer days.

After leaving Wilson, just down the road we drove to Lucas where I saw culture beyond belief. I loved seeing the beautiful art and structures like the Garden of Eden and the #2 ranked bathroom in the world. I cannot explain how happy it made me to finally be able to experience some of these beautiful sights that make these Kansas communities so unique and terrific. I look forward to visiting more PRIDE communities in the future!

-Madison Blevins, K-State Research and Extension PRIDE Student Worker madisonmb@ksu.edu

**Events Calendar**

- **August 15** – Growth and Action Applications Due
- **August 15** – Partners in PRIDE Applications Due
- **October 8-9** – MARK YOUR CALENDARS – 484H
October 15 – Community of Excellence Applications Due