



Vibrant communities with a positive future.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ❖ Week of PRIDE – In Allen County
- ❖ Fall Funding Opportunities
- ❖ Mark your Calendars – 48 4-H
- ❖ Growing an Entrepreneurial Community
- ❖ Pinterest, Twitter and Instagram

Allen County PRIDE Communities Meet with County 4-H Clubs and Masons



A County-wide covered dish dinner and meeting was held on Thursday evening, May 26th at the Iola Masonic Lodge. Thirty-four were in attendance which included the Iola Community Involvement Task Force (CITF)/PRIDE, Moran PRIDE/Thrive, La Harpe PRIDE and Humboldt PRIDE. Also included in that number were representatives of the county 4-H clubs which consists of Prairie Rose, Square B, Iola City Slickers, Logan Pals and Prairie Dell. The Iola Masonic Lodge also had members in attendance.

I began the meeting with a brief overview of the Kansas PRIDE Program, the Kansas Masonic Foundation and 4-H. She then asked each organization to talk about their local clubs.

A lot of networking was accomplished as each group stood up and shared their various projects they have worked on in the past as well as their project dreams for the future. Many commonalities were found as group reports were given and in the end common ground was discovered as the different organizations pleasantly discussed how they might be able to help each other out.

A suggestion from Iola Mason, Jerry Skidmore, was introduced. He wondered if the PRIDE groups, the 4-H Clubs and Masons could work together to help clean-up yards and houses throughout Allen County, especially on the major roadways that lead travelers through the communities. All were in agreement that this could possibly become a county-wide project. Skidmore also would like to see the 3 different entities meet once or twice a year to touch base and see where they are all at regarding projects.

Iola Masonic Lodge Master, Curtis Utley, encouraged the various groups to come to the Masons when they have needs, financial or laborious. Carla Nemecek, with K-State Research and Extension, encouraged the PRIDE organizations to call on the 4-H Clubs when doing community projects, as they would like to be a part of those projects, as well.

All groups agreed they had learned a lot from the evening and about the other clubs. New friendships

were made and new ideas were shared. Jennifer Murphy, Southwind District 4-H Agent, is planning to do similar meetings in Neosho County and Bourbon County soon. **Barbara Anderson with the Kansas Department of Commerce** Barbara.Anderson@ks.gov

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

Mark your Calendars for 484H!



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!

Growing an Entrepreneurial Community



Building an Entrepreneurial Community: Last month I told you about Jim Correll's Top 10 list for creating an entrepreneurial community, based on a decade of work in Southeast Kansas.

His list can be categorized as:

- 1) Helping children, youth and adults think entrepreneurially.
- 2) Helping businesses start, develop and transition successfully.

This month I will focus on Jim's suggestions for helping businesses start, develop and transition successfully:

- 1) **Become a community of entrepreneurial thinkers:**
 - a. Encourage entrepreneurs to gather for weekly informal gatherings. It only works when entrepreneurs are motivated to interact, but the research is clear that entrepreneurs are encouraged by peers and mentors.
- 2) **Become a Network Kansas "E-Community"**
 - a. E-Communities provides gap financing for new business loans and other entrepreneurial mindset opportunities. <http://www.networkkansas.com/communities/entrepreneurship-communities>
- 3) **Don't spend money on community branding consultants or business recruiters.**

- a. Branding consultants will tell you things you can figure out on your own;
 - b. Businesses won't come until your local economy heats up; then you won't need a recruiter.
- 4) **Develop your own Shark Tank scenario**
- a. Instead of spending on a consultant, sponsor start-ups at \$5,000 each.
- 5) **Learn about SBIR/STTR grants for small for-profit entrepreneurs**
<https://www.sbir.gov/about/about-sttr>. Jim says, "Some very small mom and pop operations have been very successful" with these grants.
- 6) **Help offer Network Kansas "Economic Gardening" to grow existing businesses**
- a. Assistance to help established, growing businesses get to the next level. Youtube.com has a number of testimonials about Economic Gardening.
- 7) **Promote business succession planning.**
- a. K-State Research and Extension and the Small Business Administration (SBA) have resources. Perhaps some of those youth who were exposed to these businesses early on will become the new owner!
- 8) **Build a Fab Lab or Maker Space.**
- a. Jim says, "Every community has enough money to support one when people realize what it will mean for community pride and the local economy."

The Kauffman Foundation is a national leader in entrepreneurial research. Kauffman says there are some key ingredients for creating an entrepreneurial community and every community is different. I find Jim's list to be consistent with the Kauffman list, but I reiterate the message: ***you know your community; do what's right for you.*** If I can help with resources from K-State Research and Extension, Kansas State University or non-profit partners please call!

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Pinterest, Twitter and Instagram



Kansas PRIDE has been hard at work trying to create numerous outlets that help not only get information out to the communities, but in a fun way!

Kansas PRIDE now has all four of the main social media programs: Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram and Twitter. If you are unaware of any of these applications, the main purposes of them are as follows:

Facebook – If you search for the Kansas PRIDE Program, you will be able to like our page and watch every day as we post numerous updates, information and even contests! You can like our pictures and post comments on anything that you enjoyed looking at.

Pinterest – Pinterest is a world of pictures and fun ideas. If you go to Pinterest, you can again search for Kansas PRIDE and you will see on our profile that we post numerous different pictures and articles of ideas for community projects, healthy recipes and much more!

Instagram – Instagram is something new that Kansas PRIDE is trying. We haven't quite gotten it up and running yet, but we will let you know as soon as we do. This program is another place where we share pictures, but this time we take the pictures ourselves of different communities, projects and activities and with your permission would post them to where anybody that follows our page could see.

Twitter – Our Twitter page can be seen by searching Kansas PRIDE or @KSREComVitality. Here we can send "tweets" that any of our followers can see. A lot of these "tweets" come directly from our Facebook page or will be more information that we want to get out to you! Just simply follow our page.

This may seem like quite a load of social media, however even if you just decide to follow one of our social media pages, you are sure to get all the information you and your communities need while still having fun looking at

pictures and ideas. You can find any of these social media outlets by searching for them on your web browser.

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

Events Calendar

July 15 – Quarterly Reports are Due

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