

# Keep Iowa Beautiful<sup>®</sup>

Winter 2018

## KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Keep Iowa Beautiful (KIB) is announcing the winners of the 8th Keep Iowa Beautiful Photography Contest aimed at raising awareness of Iowa's natural and environmental beauty. KIB wants to learn what resonates with Iowans based on the photographs they share through this annual photography contest. The contest is a great way for Iowans to share what they like about rural and urban Iowa.

The photos will be featured in KIB's quarterly newsletter and on the KIB website during the year: [www.keeptowbeautiful.com](http://www.keeptowbeautiful.com) 43 photographers entered 130 photos.

### WHAT'S INSIDE

#### PHOTO CONTEST

Page 1 – 4

#### WARREN COUNTY JOINS HTP

Page 5

#### POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Page 5

#### HOMETOWN PRIDE

Randolph & Kellogg

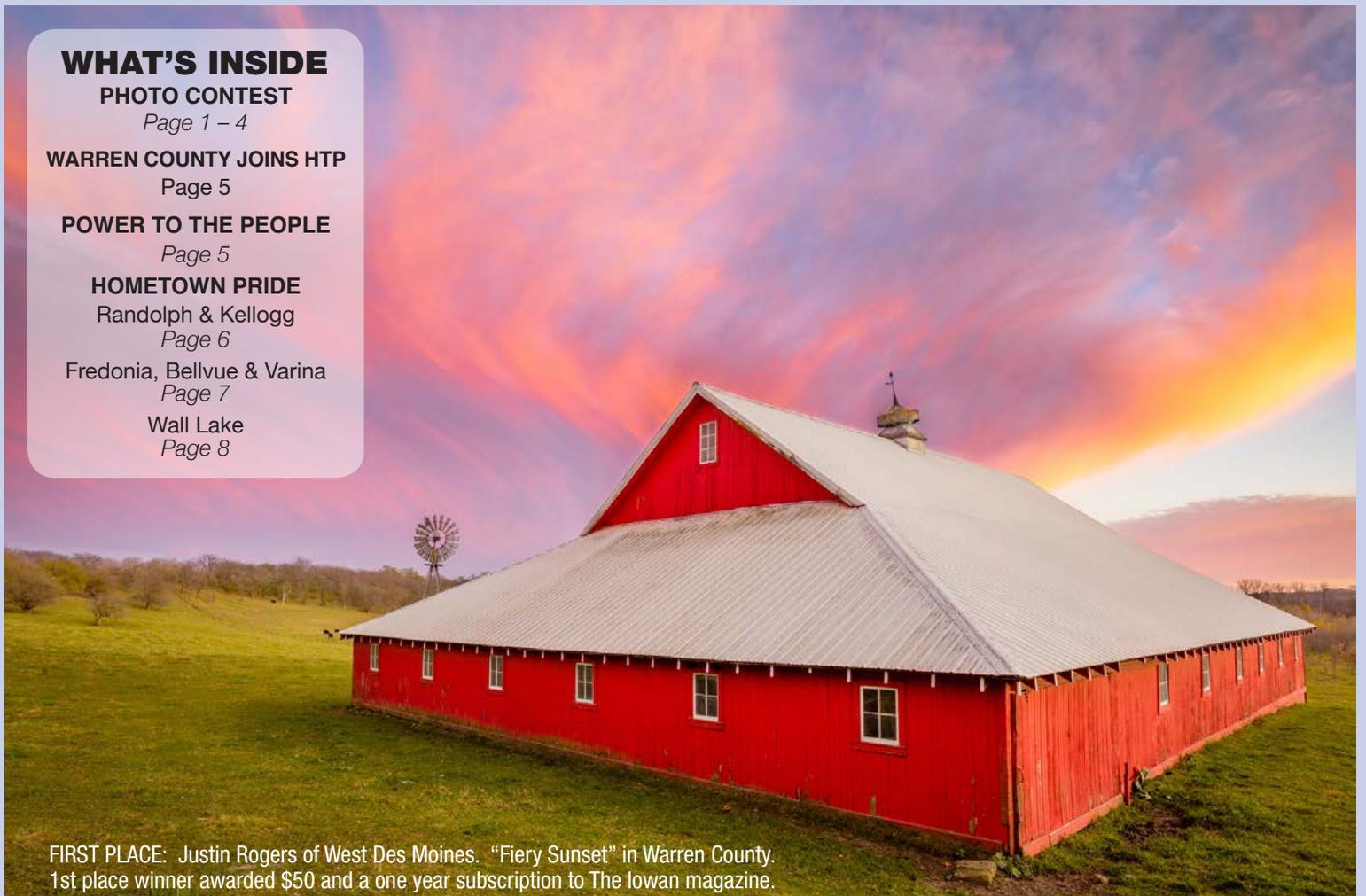
Page 6

Fredonia, Bellvue & Varina

Page 7

Wall Lake

Page 8



FIRST PLACE: Justin Rogers of West Des Moines. "Fiery Sunset" in Warren County. 1st place winner awarded \$50 and a one year subscription to The Iowan magazine.

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# KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



SECOND PLACE: Dale Hlavacek of Des Moines. "Sunrise at the State Capitol" in Des Moines. 2nd place winner awarded \$35 and a one year subscription to The Iowan magazine.



THIRD PLACE: Robert Felderman of Dubuque. "Spring Planting" in Dubuque County. 3rd place awarded \$25 and a one year subscription to The Iowan magazine.

# KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



HONORABLE MENTION: Mark Iwig of Johnston. "Grand Finale at Yankee Doodle Pops" at the State Capitol. Awarded a one year subscription to The Iowan Magazine.



HONORABLE MENTION: Carrie Bonham of Ankeny. "Old Barn" near Prairie City. Awarded a one year subscription to the Iowan Magazine.

# KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



HONORABLE MENTION: Carissa Nelson of Mount Pleasant. "Fall at the Lake" near Salem. Awarded a one year subscription to The Iowan Magazine.



HONORABLE MENTION: Justin Rogers of Ankeny. "Loess Hills Sunrise" in Harrison County.

# WARREN COUNTY JOINS HOMETOWN PRIDE

Warren County joins 9 other Iowa counties as a participant in the Keep Iowa Beautiful (KIB) Hometown Pride program, which aims to bring community members together to enhance their hometowns. Warren County Hometown Pride is a partnership of Warren County Economic Development Corporation, Warren County, and the communities of Carlisle, Cumming, Harford, Indianola, Milo, New Virginia and Norwalk.

Warren County Hometown Pride kicked off in October, and each community is now forming a local Hometown Pride team to identify and complete community improvement projects, with the assistance of a newly hired “Community Coach,” Lorin Ditzler.

Ditzler brings over a decade of experience in community development and a passion for small-town Iowa to her role as the Warren County Hometown Pride Community Coach. She previously worked as a city planning consultant for communities throughout the Midwest, and supported small businesses working and volunteering for multiple Chambers of Commerce. She holds an MS in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Iowa and a BA in English from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa.



Lorin Ditzler

“The communities of Warren County are coming together to take the next step in building the future of their hometowns,” said Ditzler. “I’m excited to learn more about the hopes and goals of Warren County residents, and to help put those goals into action.”

The Hometown Pride programs is also established in Clinton, Dubuque, Fremont, Jackson, Jasper, Jones, Louisa, Pocahontas and Sac Counties and three Des Moines Capitol neighborhoods. This area covers 68 communities and 3 neighborhoods. KIB is building strong communities with sustainable futures. To learn more about the Warren County Hometown Pride program, contact Ditzler at Lorin@warrencountyhometown.com or go to [www.warrencountyhometown.com](http://www.warrencountyhometown.com).

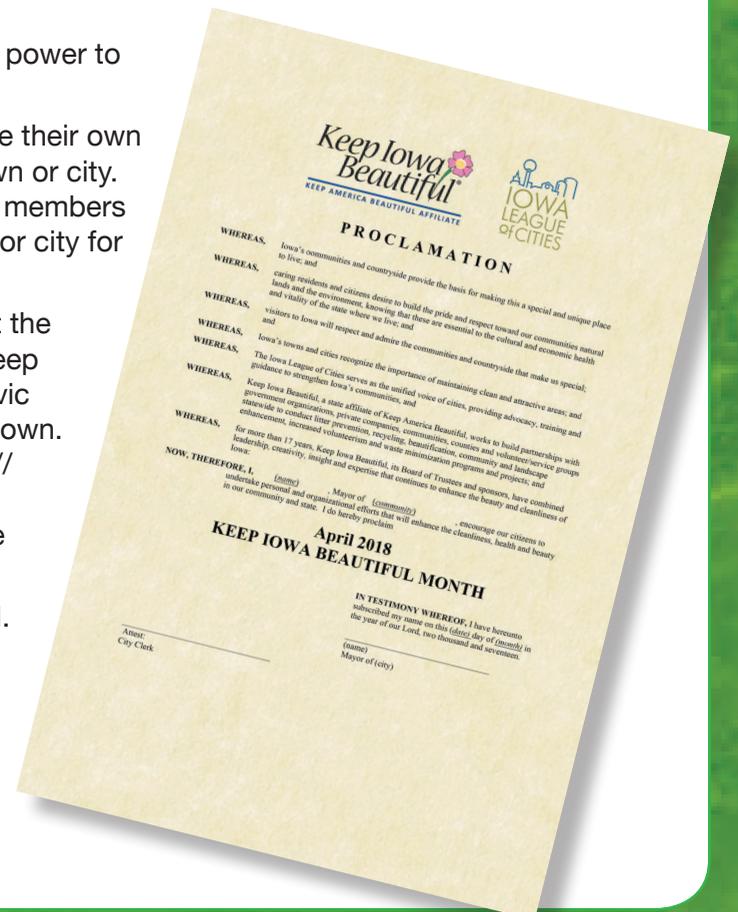
## THE POWER OF PEOPLE: A PROCLAMATION

At Keep Iowa Beautiful, we believe that Iowans have the power to affect change right within our communities.

That’s why we urge city and community leaders to initiate their own Keep Iowa Beautiful Proclamation tailored to their own town or city. In this personalized proclamation, leaders and community members commit to working toward efforts that enhance their town or city for the betterment of the beauty of Iowa.

The first appearance of a community can say a lot about the people, pride and businesses within them. During April, Keep Iowa Beautiful Month, please urge your community and civic leaders to draft and formally sign a proclamation for your town. A sample, editable Word document is available at <https://www.KeepIowaBeautiful.com/aboutus/enhancement-programs/april-proclamation/> You may use any part of the sample proclamation.

When you do, share it with us at [info@KeepIowaBeautiful.com](mailto:info@KeepIowaBeautiful.com) along with photos marking the day of signing. We’ll proudly amplify your efforts by sharing it with Iowa legislators, our social following and our Keep Iowa Beautiful sponsors to applaud your commitment to keeping Iowa beautiful!



# HOMETOWN PRIDE COACHES CORNER

*Building Stronger Communities – Developing Sustainable Futures*

## Hometown Pride – Fremont County-Randolph

### BANNERS IN RANDOLPH

“Pride in our Past, Faith in our Future” is the theme of the street banners flying on the Main Street of Randolph, Iowa. The Hometown Pride committee designed the banners and raised the money to pay for them. They were created and installed by a local business.

Each side of the six two-sided banners has a different message including Welcome to Randolph, Salute to Agriculture, Salute to Veterans, a picture of the old school mascot, a historical picture of the old rail road depot, and Thanks - Come Again.

“The banners have generated many compliments from those traveling to and through the community,” said Linda Heywood, City Librarian.



## Hometown Pride – Jasper County-Kellogg

Kellogg Hometown Pride has been gaining momentum since it's start in 2017. A major community feature in Kellogg is Holmdahl Park, located along the South Skunk River in south Kellogg. Hometown Pride was pleased to discover \$18,000 in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds in the City's budget for Holmdahl Park repairs that remained unspent since the last flood event in 2010. Hometown Pride inquired as whether or not these funds were still available to be spent; were delighted to find that they were; and developed a project to purchase and install a beautiful state-of-the-art playground.

After weeks of preparation, on Saturday June 3 twenty-five Hometown Pride volunteers descended on Holmdahl Park. As shown in the photos, the construction of the playground was completed in four hours, supervised by an employee of the playground equipment company. This is just the beginning of what we hope will be many improvements and upgrades to Holmdahl Park that will be undertaken by Hometown Pride.



# HOMETOWN PRIDE COACHES CORNER

*Building Stronger Communities – Developing Sustainable Futures*

## Hometown Pride – Louisa County-Fredonia

Fredonia (pop 239) is located on the eastern bank of the Iowa River at the confluence of the Cedar and home of the Convict Road - <http://www.louisacountyiowa.org/pdf/sands.pdf>. The City and Hometown Pride group there in Fredonia are celebrating their past with much needed new 'Welcome' signs featuring the Convict Road logo. Other Hometown Projects in the works are street signs, cross walks leading to the city park, improvements to city hall and a basketball court in the park.

Pictured with the sign are city council members Julie Frank, Sharon Torres, Penny Morgan, Rob Bright, Bob Reid and Lisa Exline.



## Hometown Pride – GWMRR-Bellvue

The new Felderman Bridge was recently dedicated by Governor Kim Reynolds linking Bellevue's Felderman Park and Bellevue State Park. The new pedestrian/bike bridge connects trails and parks around Bellvue but Dubuque's Mines of Spain State Recreation area.

"Funding has been raised for dozens of projects to create a regional arts, cultural and recreational destination," according to Dave Heiar, director of Jackson County Economic Alliance and Hometown Pride community coach for the Grant Wood Loop.

"This is part of a regional concept that benefits not only the Bellevue area but this part of Iowa and the entire state."



Left to Right: Jackson County Supervisor Mike Steines, Willie Felderman - brother of family that sold land, Bellevue Mayor Chris Roling, Mary Felderman - former land owner, Mark Felderman - son, Governor Kim Reynolds, Lieutenant Governor Adam Gregg, State Representative Andy McKean, Iowa Parks Foundation President Joe Gunderson and Parks to People Project Coordinator and Hometown Pride Coach Dave Heiar.

## Hometown Pride – Pocahontas County-Varina

Varina Hometown Pride Committee members are pictured showing information and photos of new potential community projects that were identified in the Iowa Living Roadways Community Visioning Program that they recently completed with Trees Forever, Iowa DOT and ISU College of Design. Varina with a population of 73 is one of the smallest communities in Iowa to participate in the Community Visioning Program





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## **HOMETOWN PRIDE COACHES CORNER**

*Building Stronger Communities – Developing Sustainable Futures*

### **Hometown Pride – Sac County-Wall Lake**

Sprucing up the Wall Lake Depot building was completed by volunteers using Diamond Vogel paint granted from KIB's Paint Iowa Beautiful program.

