# Keep Iowa Beautiful Hometown Pride Monthly Reports

# June 2023

##  Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Clinton County Hometown Pride Community, Francis Boggus

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

1. City of Clinton HTP- The Duke Slater Memorial Committee met and reviewed the site of the proposed statue. The work has begun on leveling and grading the site and seeding the ground. Alex Frye will assist the committee for his Eagle Scout Project. Francis was contacted by the University of Iowa Office of Communications to do a video on June 15th about the professional achievements of Duke Slater. The video will be incorporated into a full-length video on Duke Slater’s legacy at the University of Iowa for incoming freshmen orientation this fall. The Clinton High School Synergy program in conjunction with Clinton HTP was able to install four murals for public art this year. Also, Francis attended the first organizational meeting of Clinton Heart & Soul. That organization is starting a planning process to gather information from the entire community for a matching $100,000 grant to establish an endowment fund to fund future public projects in Clinton. Clinton HTP will be a partner with Heart & Soul to do a full community outreach to gather input from the community over the next year.
2. Delmar HTP committee made the decision to proceed with the planning of a community nine-hole disc golf course in the community at the Historic Railroad Depot. Funding has been secured from different fundraising sources over the years and the plan is to start construction in July and be completed by September. The estimated cost of the course construction and the equipment is about $20,000. The Annual Summer Music Concert was held on Saturday, June 17th and attracted a good crowd of and the event made a decent profit.
3. The Camanche Veteran’s and First Responders banners are now being installed and over thirty have been put up. The banners will be on display until after Veteran’s Day. Additional banners were sold this year.
4. Calamus-Wheatland HTP is moving ahead with construction for a 24-hour Fitness Center in Calamus. The committee has received a state grant to renovate a derelict building in town and the project will be completed this fall.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

1. Clinton HTP is planning for the Clinton County Walk of Fame on September 24th at Eagle Point Lodge. Seven new inductees will be inducted into the 3rd Annual Walk of Fame.

 2. Delmar HTP is planning a Toy Train Show over Labor Day weekend that will draw a regional attraction from the tri-state area. Vendors and collectors will attend and over 50 tables have been reserved currently. Promotion is ongoing in two Railroad magazines: Model Railroad and Classic Toy Train.

3. Lost Nation HTP is planning for their upcoming Annual Rustic Days to celebrate the founding of their community. The event will take place over three days from July 14th to the 16th. Kickball and soft ball teams are competing, along with children’s games, a car show, and grilled cook off. Also, the Rustic Park RV Campground is now open and over $500.00 in fees have been paid by visitors. The Lost Nation HTP also donated $25.00 to the Keep Iowa Beautiful 2nd Annual Golf Tournament in Des Moines in July.

 4. Camanche HTP is planning its annual Summer Yard Competition. June will be the Best Kept Yard award, July will be for the Best Landscaping, and August for the Most Colorful Year. The winner each month will receive a $50.00 gift certificate. Planning is also underway for the annual Camanche Days on August 3rd. This is a food and beverage event celebrating the history of the town. The HTP committee is also planning the purchase of the new Christmas decorations for the main street, since it has assumed responsibility for the purchase and maintenance of the decorations for the Holiday season.

5. The Calamus-Wheatland HTP Committee is planning for the 3rd Annual Joint Fun Days on August 25,26, and 27th. Street dances, parades, race/walk, rides, and games for the children. Raffles and a car show will also be part of the festivities.

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Center Point, Hills, Springville, Shellsburg, Walker; Jessica Johnson

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

Walker

* Held Walker's first Music in the Park event and it was a great success!

Hills

* Installed flowers/flowerpots downtown.

Shellsburg

* Completion of Memorial Park Trail!
* Launched a fundraising campaign for the restoration of the historic Gold Medal Flour Mural, including a collaboration with Millstream Brewing Company to create “Pacesetter” beer to raise money for the mural.

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## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Hills will hold another Food Truck Friday on July 28th featuring Barnstormer's Coffee from 8am-12pm, and Maggie's Farm Pizza from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
* We are installing bike racks and service stations in Hills.
* Shellsburg will continue fundraising efforts for the Gold Medal Flour Mural restoration, I will be working on publicity and donor asks.
* Center Point is planning another Downtown Clean Up Day - date to be decided.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

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Grant opportunities, project funding resources, best practices.

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Jackson County; Amanda Dupont

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Honed in on some fundraising ideas for the Baldwin group.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Working with the new Clerk in Preston on the upcoming Walk Around.
* Determine what project is next for LaMotte.
* Working with the group to apply for another grant to support park improvements.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Maquoketa, Asbury, Peosta, Rickardsville, Sageville, Holy Cross; Tricia Wagner

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Maquoketa put on their first month of Summer Concert Series events each Thursday evening in the Green Space, and all were very successful. Each concert they held in a different part of the park and surveyed the audience to see where they preferred the band to be positioned, in planning for constructing the new permanent stage structure. They have also formed a fundraising subcommittee to begin raising money for the Green Space Redevelopment, and we will begin that process in July.
* Holy Cross has identified the first building to paint a mural on, and has been granted permission by the City to do so as it is city-owned. They have also found a potential artist to paint this and future murals. They are hosting the first annual Independence Day celebration this weekend (they've changed the name a couple of times but it is essentially a 4th of July event) and they will host some youth baseball games, activities and an outdoor movie. They will also ask for community feedback at this event to get input on the subject matter for this first mural, and those following. They are thinking a baseball theme because it is a big pastime in the city and region, and to tie into the Field of Dreams games/tournaments, and Field of Opportunities potential.
* Peosta held their fund raiser kick off at Kelley Oaks Park inviting several businesses to come do a walk through of the park and see the plans, and ask for sponsors. I will have the results of this on my next report! They also received the new playground equipment and have it in storage until they are ready to install it.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Maquoketa's Summer Concert Series continues.
* We are going to write a REAP City Parks and Open Spaces grant to help fund the Peosta Kelley Oaks Park project. That is due mid-August.
* We may write a REAP City Parks and Open Spaces grant for Maquoketa's Green Space Redevelopment project as well. Fundraising planning and other grant research/writing for this will also take place.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Pocahontas County; Margo Underwood

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* I provided a Hometown Pride Update at the monthly Pocahontas County Economic Development Commission Meeting and they approved funding for the 2023-24 Hometown Pride Program in Pocahontas County. The PCEDC has been a long-time partner (10 years) of the Hometown Pride Program.
* I coordinated a meeting with the City of Laurens and Bill Menner and his IRD team to discuss the Power of Connection Grant application that we submitted for the City of Laurens. We asked for a $5,000 grant to help fund a Multi-Parks Comprehensive Plan. Matching funds would be provided by the City of Laurens, Laurens Hometown Pride and the Laurens Industrial Foundation.
* Five new recycled plastic park benches were installed in Heritage Park in Pocahontas. The new benches were purchased with a Build with Bags grant received from the IGIA this year. Thank you to IGIA, KIB and all the project partners! A photo of the new benches is attached with this report.
* I attended the IEDA Downtown Forum on June 26. It was excellent!

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* On July 8, there will be a community dedication of the new John Rolfe sculpture in Rolfe. Artist Tim Adams will be sharing remarks about the sculpture during the program. This is the first community sculpture installed in Rolfe. The Rolfe Hometown Pride Committee raised the funds and coordinated the art project.
* Laurens, Pocahontas and Rolfe will be having their community celebrations during July. Hometown Pride Committee members are helping with these events.
* Havelock and Laurens Hometown Pride Committees will be installing new recycled plastic picnic tables and trash receptacles in their city parks. These items were purchased with Build with Bags grants received from the Iowa Grocery Industry Association.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Colesburg, Delaware, Delaware County, Delhi, Edgewood, Hopkinton; Marla Quinn

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

Colesburg - Committee members have installed their benches, picnic tables and lifeguard chair at their pool which were funded by a $4,000 Foundation for the Future of Delaware County grant. A $100,000 Catalyst grant was secured for a project in town that involves splitting one big upper story apartment into two and rehabbing the storefront for a new business.

Delhi - Received $7,500 from the McElroy Trust for their pickle ball courts project.

Hopkinton - Light pole banners are up! The green space is coming along and the trellises are up, along with some plantings. Seating to come.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* June 30/July 1 - Colesburg Fun and Fireworks
* July 29 - Delhi Daze. This involves a parade, vendors, food. The committee will have a float, promoting the pickle ball courts and will be selling chances for a 50/50 raffle.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Worthington; Dylan Michels

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Community baseball field bleachers have been replaced.
* Community baseball field fencing has been repaired.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

N/A

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Luxemborg; Dylan Michels

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Discussing future plans.
* Considering renting out baseball diamonds for little leaguers and using the money for trail funding.
* Applying for Iowa DNR REAP grant to assist with trail funding.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Future planning for summer in the park event.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Cedar County; Jennifer Walker

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* On Memorial Day, the Doughboy sculpture was welcomed home to Mechanicsville after being fully restored.
* WB Parks & Rec/KIB committee reviewed results from the communitywide survey and began goal setting for the next 5 years.
* The Hardacre Theater in Tipton continues to make progress on its fundraising campaign.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Photographing and inventory of CCEDCO placemaking signs.
* WB meeting to review draft of park plan.
* Cedar County Mayors' Meeting

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Delaware, Masonville and Earlville; Katie Steffensmeier

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Submitted another grant for playground equipment/rubber mulch for Delaware.
* Received $6,000 grant for the project.
* Completed a shadow of another community meeting.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Working on committee development.
* More grants, possible large ask from a wind turbine company in the works we are meeting at the end of the month regarding setting up the meeting.
* Researching more grants for Delaware part project/ Landscaping etc.
* Hoping to hear from recently applied for grants.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

N/A

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Clinton County; Francis Boggus

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Camanche HTP secured 13 new banners to celebrate Hometown Heroes that will hang on the main thoroughfare from Memorial Day to Veteran's Day.
* Camanche HTP will also be responsible for the Holiday banners that will be in place from November to January. And the planning has started for the summer awards for June, July, and August for the best yards and landscaping in town.
* Delmar HTP has secured and committed funding for the design and construction of a nine-hole disc golf course on the historic Milwaukee Road Depot property. Construction will commence this summer and the plan is to have it completed by the end of August.
* The Clinton HTP Synergy students have worked on and completed four murals this year.
* The Community Coach of Clinton HTP, Francis Boggus was contacted by the University of Iowa Office of Communications to be interviewed for a video on the professional accomplishments of Frederick Duke Slater, the Iowan All-American and All-Pro football player. This video will be shown as part of the orientation program for incoming freshmen students at the University of Iowa this fall.
* Calamus-Wheatland HTP Committee is starting construction of the renovation of a derelict building in town that was awarded an IDEA grant. Upon completion, the building will be used for new businesses in Calamus.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Lost Nation HTP committee is planning for the annual Rustic Days event on July 14, 15, and 16th. This three-day event will have a car show, parade, ball games, children's games, and a Bar-B-Que cook-off competition. This is the major fundraising event for the committee.
* Calamus-Wheatland HTP is planning its Cal-Wheat Fund Days for August 25, 26, and 27th. This is the major fundraising event for the joint committee. A 5-K run and walk, parade, car show, children's games, street dances, and ball games followed by a Sunday Dinner and raffles will be the highlight of the festivities.
* Delmar HTP is planning for the second Annual Train Show at the Historic Railroad Dept in Delmar on September 3rd. This Hobby Train Show is being promoted across the USA in Classic Toy Train Magazine. Over 55 vendors from the Midwest have reserved tables so far. The Delmar Train show will also be held in conjunction with a Car Show.
* The Calamus-Wheatland HTP is also planning for the renovation of a building in Calamus for a 24-hour fitness center. Planning is underway and grant funding will be sought over the next year for this project.

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Manchester; Dan LoBianco

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Seeding at dog park site completed. Due to drought conditions, watering regularly
* Dog park fund raising held the first public event fundraising effort and first secured corporate gift.
* The Dog park rules committee reached the final draft and obtained estimates and mock-ups of signage.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Exploring grants – REAP is most logical, so the group is working on that.
* Fencing funding and final design needed.
* Locations of initial group of downtown historic building markers still in works.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

Examples of successful funding programs.

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Ryan; Dan LoBianco

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Received a $5,000 grant from the Endowment Fund for Pickle Ball Courts adjacent to the Ballpark.
* Pavilion and ADA path at 50% construction level.
* Brief Presentation made for gathering of local service/church groups.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Completion of construction of Pavilion.
* Writing MLB grant narrative & solid written equipment bids.
* Pickleball court installation to begin and need Bob Johnson contact info to request further funding.

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

See above for written info on fund raising success stories.

## Hometown Pride Community and Hometown Pride Coach

Greeley; Dan LoBianco

## Please share your top 3-5 successes from the past month:

* Design for Banner/Flag Brackets chosen, and vendor selected
* First deposit made from cooperage can/bottle recycling program with trailer for anyone in community to use for donations.
* Most planning finalized for September Classic Car show fundraiser and community engagement event well.

## Please share 3-5 upcoming events or plans for this month:

* Holiday events gleaned and planned.
* The city still needs to be involved in ribbon cutting and buy-in for street lamps.
* Banner/Flag Brackets installation schedule and final funding needed

## What help do you need from Keep Iowa Beautiful or other coaches?

Ditto from Manchester and Ryan