

NEWS

Keep Iowa Beautiful new mini-grant winners are announced

Press Release



Keep Iowa Beautiful is proud to announce the recipients of the Plant Iowa Beautiful mini-grant program.

This initiative, designed to support local beautification efforts across the state, provides funding for projects that enhance publicly accessible spaces and foster community spirit.

Out of 150 organizations that applied, 12 projects,

including one from Riverton Hometown Pride, were selected to receive a \$500 grant.

These projects range from tree plantings and community gardens to streetscape enhancements and landscaping in parks. This program is made possible through

generous sponsorships from Landus Cooperative and Keep America Beautiful (KAB).

Plant Iowa Beautiful seeks to support KAB's "Greatest American Cleanup" initiative; a national effort to beautify the country in preparation for the United States' 250th birthday.

"Beautification is a powerful catalyst for civic pride," said Andy Frantz, Executive Director of Keep Iowa Beautiful. "When residents

come together to improve their shared spaces, they aren't just planting trees or flowers—they are investing in the heart of their community. This collective effort builds a stronger sense of belonging and shows that Iowans take immense pride in where they live, work, and play."

Projects were selected based on their community value and visibility, the extent of volunteer involvement, and their overall feasibility and alignment with the

program's goal of creating vibrant, attractive public spaces.

By engaging local volunteers, these 12 communities are ensuring that Iowa looks its best as the nation approaches its semiquincentennial celebration on July 4, 2026.

For more information on the Plant Iowa Beautiful program and other Keep Iowa Beautiful initiatives, please visit www.keepiowabeautiful.org.

Traveling

Teresa Crecelius
Porch Time with T

As I was growing up in a small rural community before social

media, I had no idea that other people lived differently than we did in the Midwest, on the farm.

An occasional commercial for Worlds of Fun or Branson may come up on the TV and I would wish we could afford to go there. None of my friends took elaborate trips. No one did all-inclusive activities or traveled to other countries. In fact, most were like us and rarely left the area or state. Now, as we see on social media, and since we have reached our elder years and travel a bit more, I learn just how many places people go. I am not sure what changed but it sure has. I didn't even see an ocean till

I was 60 and many children have already experienced these things.

Camping was so fun to me as a child, but it was my parents who budgeted for us to go. Mom made salads and brownies for days to take along to save on eating out. I do remember her being stressed out, which now I understand.

We try to sort out what our priorities are and travel to see our seven kids and 18 grands every chance we can, and depending on the budget at the time (yes, unlike many we still can't spend all we want and refuse to fill credit cards to do things at our age, been there done that). Age creeps up and even camping

proves a lot harder with setting up, fighting traffic etc. Makes me remember my mom's exact words, "Teresa Anne it's easier to just stay home."

We still have a few places we want to go see together, people we want to visit, either with a camper (best way when traveling with a 100-pound fur baby) or save up for motels and eating out. As with many people, we are making up for lost time and will keep on keeping on, doing it our way" and live "outside the box", follow our dreams "Till we can't." May you always follow your own trails and make the memories.

The Hamburg Reporter

109 S. 9th Street
Nebraska City, NE 68410
402-713-0004

PUBLISHER | Jeremy Gulban
jgulban@cherryroad.com

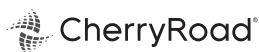
MANAGING EDITOR
Kirt Manion
402-713-0004
kmanion@cherryroad.com

REPORTER | Julie Davis
jdavis@cherryroad.com

ADVERTISING
Vanessa Rudolph
vrudolph@cherryroad.com

OBITUARIES CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS
obits@hamburgreporter.com
classad@ncnewspress.com
legals@hamburgreporter.com

SUBSCRIPTIONS
620-860-4774 | circhelp@cherryroad.com
WWW.HAMBURGREPORTER.COM



Postal Statement: The Hamburg Reporter (USPS 233-400) is published weekly on FRIDAY by CherryRoad Media. Periodical postage paid in Hamburg, IA 51640. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Hamburg Reporter 109 S. 9th Street, Nebraska, NE 68410. NOTICE: All property rights, including any copyright interest of an advertisement produced by CherryRoad Media, using work and/or typography furnished or arranged by the paper, will be the property of CherryRoad Media. No such advertisement or any part thereof may be reproduced without prior consent of CherryRoad Media.

Community CALENDAR

Second Monday: Hamburg City Council meeting, 1201 Main St., 6 p.m. 712-382-1313.

Second Monday: Sidney Community Schools board of directors meeting, 2754 Knox Rd., 6 p.m. 712-374-2141.

Third Monday: Hamburg Community School District board meeting, Marnie Simons Elementary, 309 S St., 5 p.m. 712-382-2017.

Third Tuesday: Sidney Library Book Club, 10 a.m., Sidney Public Library, 1002 Illinois St., Sidney. 712-374-6203.

Last Tuesday: American Legion Post 156 meeting, 1200 Park St. (Methodist Church), Hamburg, 7 p.m. 617-785-0573.

Wednesdays: Giving Wednesday,

United Methodist Church, 1200 Park St., donations accepted from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. 712-382-1468.

Wednesdays: Fremont County Board of Supervisors meeting, Fremont County Courthouse boardroom, 506 Fillmore St., Sidney. 9 a.m. 712-374-2031.

Wednesdays: Kids Club, Victory Life Christian Center, 1000 Illinois St., Sidney, 3:40 p.m. 712-314-0155.

First Friday: Cards and Coffee, 10 a.m., Sidney Public Library, 1002 Illinois St., Sidney. 712-374-6203.

Second Friday: Art Connection, 10 a.m., Sidney Public Library, 1002 Illinois St., Sidney. 712-374-6203.

Monday, June 15: George C. Grape Community Hospital Community Blood Draw, Sidney Fire Station, 6 to 8 a.m. Results available at Grape Hospital Community Hospital Health Fair June 18. Cost

\$15 hemoglobin A1C (diabetic), \$20 prostate screen, or \$35 wellness screen including 22 blood tests.

Tuesday, June 16: George C. Grape Community Hospital Community Blood Draw, Riverton Community Room, 6 to 8 a.m. Results available at Grape Hospital Community Hospital Health Fair June 18. Cost \$15 hemoglobin A1C (diabetic), \$20 prostate screen, or \$35 wellness screen including 22 blood tests.

Thursday, June 18: Second Annual Grape Community Hospital Health Fair, Hamburg Fire Station, 711 Main St., 3 to 6 p.m. Call 712-382-1515 with questions.

We need to hear from you! Send community calendar submissions to the Nebraska City News-Press, 109 S. 9th St., Nebraska City, NE 68410 or email them to kmanion@cherryroad.com or jdavis@cherryroad.com.