



*Photo Credit: Jesse Streinz, 3rd Place, Iowa Cities*

*14th Annual Keep Iowa Beautiful Annual Photography Contest Submission*

**July 2024 Newsletter**



## **Third Annual Golf Tournament was a Success!**

### **Thanks to Participants, Donors, and Volunteers**

Keep Iowa Beautiful extends its deepest gratitude to all the amazing individuals who volunteered their time, donated, or participated in this year's golf tournament. Your unwavering support and dedication have been instrumental in making this event an overwhelming success.



Thanks to your collective efforts, we were able to raise approximately \$50,000 to support Keep Iowa Beautiful's programming. These funds will have a lasting impact on initiatives like the Hometown Pride program, Paint Iowa Beautiful, and Pick-Up Iowa, enabling us to continue our mission for years to come.

The success of this golf tournament far exceeded our expectations, and we are immensely grateful for your

involvement!

## **Communities Give Back Through**

### **Pick-Up Iowa Program**

Each year from April through July, volunteers across the state participate in Pick-Up Iowa in support of the national Great American Cleanup. Keep Iowa Beautiful has been proud to support communities in this effort, and the results speak for themselves. Thank you to everyone who's done their part in keeping Iowa beautiful!



Volunteers of Cumming Hometown Pride dedicated their hard work to cleaning up litter in the city park neighborhood and along the bike trail in **Cumming, Iowa**, collecting eight bags of litter. Additionally, a Norwalk student and his mother planted flowers in the city park!



United Way of Central Iowa volunteers spent the Memorial holiday cleaning up litter at Woodland Cemetery in **Des Moines, Iowa**. The cemetery had sustained storm damage, so the crew concentrated on the veterans' area and removing debris, filling two truck beds with storm debris.



Eleven volunteers dedicated 15 hours to cleaning up litter along the River's Edge Trail in **Eldora, Iowa**!





## Hometown Pride Communities Celebrate Successful Summer Projects

### Clinton's Public Art Sculptures

Clinton Hometown Pride partnered with the City of Clinton and the Quad Cities Art Council to place seven public art sculptures in Clinton, Iowa! Clinton Hometown Pride will fund the annual rental of these works of art going forward, after the city committed to start the project this year. These art sculptures will be on display for one year with the option to purchase at the end of the year. Check out some of the amazing sculptures below!



### Rolfe's New Kaleidoscope Installed

The City of Rolfe unveiled a new kaleidoscope which was recently installed in Streit Park! Funds to fabricate and install the new kaleidoscope were received from the County Visioning Committee and an Iowa Rural Enrichment Grant. Future plans include installing similar kaleidoscopes in each of the other eight communities in Pocahontas County. The 2023 Inspire Poco Leadership Class participants identified this project as their Legacy Project for Pocahontas County

and provided the leadership to implement the project county-wide. Thank you to Rolfe Hometown Pride for their efforts in making this possible!

### Maquoketa's Summer Concert Series

Last month, Maquoketa's downtown greenspace was filled with music, food, and summer fun as local favorites and regional performers took to the outdoor stage, drawing in record crowds! Special thanks to Maquoketa Hometown Pride for contributing to its great success.



### Shellsburg's Historic Gold Medal Flour Mural Restored

Shellsburg Hometown Pride recently finished painting and restoring the Historic Gold Medal Flour mural in the Shellsburg business district. This mural holds significant value in preserving the community's history and culture.

### Volunteer Spotlight - Sarah Jones

Each month, Keep Iowa Beautiful highlights one of our incredible volunteers who help us achieve our mission and strengthen our community. This month, we are shining a spotlight on Sarah Jones, a valued member of the Maquoketa Hometown Pride Committee, who is committed to supporting the growth of her community.



"Sarah is dedicated to helping her community grow in terms of the physical beauty of the city and projects to that end, as well as in the cultural aspect; organizing and raising funds for Summer Concert Series and Maqtoberfest. She leads many meetings, takes minutes, types up agendas, organizes meeting times, writes grants, administers and reports on grants, and even stores large community event equipment in her home! She has a 4x4 foot space in her living room dedicated to this as well as larger 6x4 foot space in her garage. Now that's what I call commitment to the betterment of ones' community!" – *Tricia Wagner, Maquoketa Hometown Pride Coach*

## Paint Iowa Beautiful Program Completes Summer Improvement Projects

Our Paint Iowa Beautiful program grants provide paint to volunteers and organizations for community improvement projects. Keep Iowa Beautiful believes well-maintained and painted buildings reflect pride in our communities. These wonderful community projects are just a few examples:



### Melrose's Irish Green Caboose

Shamrock Street in **Melrose, Iowa**, features an Irish green caboose, a prominent attraction drawing visitors to explore, capture photos, and delve into railroad history. Earlier this month, volunteers power washed and repainted the caboose with a fresh coat of green paint. Keep an eye out for the upcoming addition of new lettering and decals to the caboose!

### Plover's Merry-Go-Round

Last month, Plover Hometown Pride scraped and painted the merry-go-round in four colors in City Park located on the corner of Main Street and Henderson Street in **Plover, Iowa**.



### Social Media Submissions

**Keep Iowa Beautiful wants to share your community's good news!**

Are you proud of a completed project in your town? Do you want to show off a new mural in your downtown? Did you host a fun, exciting event for your community? We want to know about it!

Tag us on social media or click on the button below to share short descriptions of events, projects, or news from your town! You can include pictures and captions as well. Keep Iowa Beautiful will share your post on our social media!

[Submit Your Stories](#)

Your Support Matters!

Consider supporting Keep Iowa Beautiful to help us continue our work improving Iowa communities! Remember: donations to Keep Iowa Beautiful are tax deductible!

Donations can be made online or checks can be mailed to our office:

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