

# Community Grants Report

December 2020

## **City of Burr Oak, Stage One of Street name signs for Burr Oak intersections**

**Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$13,500, Awarded 5/27/2020**

**Project Summary:** The city of Burr Oak has NEVER had street name signs for ALL of the town's intersections. We need street name signs for accuracy and convenience of emergency workers. This is necessary for the safety of all our residents.

**Use of Funds:** Grant money was used to pay for 28 poles, signs and hardware to attach signs to poles. These supplies were purchased through TAPCO. All other monies and work came through private donations.

**Impact & Results:** This project never would have happened without the funding we received. There was a need but not much motivation to do the same old cheap street name signs. The grant we received motivated us as a community plus gave us enough leverage to receive the other half of the money for the signs from the USDA. People of all ages even with the craziness of the year were able to work together. I loved seeing families work together and individuals take part in the project. We came across some issues while working on this project, but as a town we came together to find other ways to solve the problem than we had first planned. I am in awe of how even with the extra stress of 2020, Burr Oak worked hard to get this project completed. My favorite story is a couple of elderly ladies in town were so excited to have a sign telling them what street they lived on. They never knew for sure the street names on their corner. This has made them more secure to live in Burr Oak. I had hoped to get their pictures for the power point but they have gotten too sick to leave their homes. But they say they enjoy looking out their window and seeing the sign stand so tall. Everyone is better off in Burr Oak knowing 911 will have no trouble finding us. The motivation of the signs has led to a new energy in town. We plan on making other town improvements. All thanks to the jump start provided for us by the Jewell County Community Foundation



## **VFW Post 7830, Scouts Recycle - VFW is fiscal agent for Troop 46**

**Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$5,300.00, Awarded 11/28/2018**

**Project Summary:** Equipment will be purchased to manage aluminum can recycling in Jewell County. Scouts will purchase and modify 5' x 8' trailers to make large dumpster style collection containers.

**Use of Funds:** We purchased two trailers from Orchlin's and one from Bohnert Welding. We finished the trailers using expanded metal, angle iron and chain link fence. We purchased recycling trash cans from Home Depot. Expense report attached to expenditure file.

**Impact & Results:** We purchased trash can type recycling containers with special lids for cans. We placed these in the Mankato City Park during the Mammoth Festival 2019, the Threshing Bee in 2019, a music in the park event and at the Fair Grounds for the Jewell County Fair in 2019. Due to COVID-19 most park events were cancelled in 2020 and we did not place them at the Jewell County Fair in 2020. At the present time, the recycling cans have been placed at the Golf Course in Mankato. This part of our project hasn't been as successful as we had hoped. The city employees were unable to help us with the collection and therefore we have not been able to leave the containers out full time and we collected very few cans during the fair. The new trailers have been placed in Burr Oak and Mankato. They seem to get a lot of use. One trailer will be placed at Lovewell Lake. One of our old/original trailers will be placed in Esbon. Our survey of Jewell County residents indicates people are aware of our project and are using the trailers. The Recycling Center Director believes our trailers have made an improvement on the number of cans being recycled and not dumped in the land fill. Without funding we would not have been able to place trailers in multiple locations. Previously we had one trailer and moved it back and forth between Mankato and Burr Oak. We are able to collect more cans with more trailers in multiple locations.

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## **City of Jewell, Community Tornado Shelter**

**Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$7,677, Awarded 11/26/2019**

**Project Summary:** The City of Jewell is seeking support to provide the community with an accessible storm shelter to utilize in times of threatening weather.

**Use of Funds:** Grant funds were used to purchase and deliver the tornado shelter. Funds were also used to make the shelter ADA accessible, provide signage, and complete minor landscaping around the shelter that was damaged during the installation process.

**Impact & Results:** With the help of the Jewell County Community Foundation, the City of Jewell was able to install a community storm shelter to be used in times of threatening weather. The storm shelter is constructed of steel rebar reinforced concrete weighing over 12 tons and can comfortably fit up to 14 people. The shelter is located downtown and was selected because of the proximity to the Jewell Apartments to allow tenants a safe handicap accessible option close to their residence. Kansas weather can change quickly and we are fortunate to now have a shelter for those in need during storm season. This project would not have been possible without the support of the Jewell City Council, Jewell County Community Foundation and the numerous volunteers that dedicated their time and energy.

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## **Jewell County Wellness, Can I Stay in Jewell County?- Jewell County Intern Housing**

**Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$3,600 Awarded 5/27/2020**



**Project Summary:** We've been awarded a FREE intern again this year! Each County is responsible to pay housing costs, even if we don't pay their salary. This is outside of our regular budget, so we are asking for assistance in this for our intern this year.

**Use of Funds:** The funds were used to pay for the apartment, utilities, and internet for our Dane G. Hansen intern for the summer of 2020.

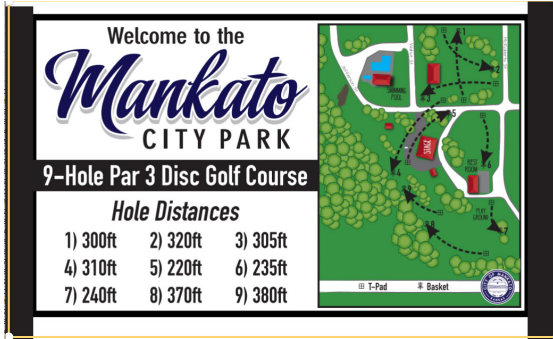
**Impact & Results:** People are more aware of both the rural and remote program opportunities and the smaller towns are more aware of land banks. Jewell County is more poised to be a leader in the statewide plan to develop drones and our mammoth history is a step closer to bringing tourists into Jewell County. This is not only due to the

gift of the intern from Dane G. Hansen to Jewell County, but because of our Jewell County Community Foundation choosing to sponsor Katie as an intern and allowing her to live in the County this summer. Thank you!

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## City of Mankato, Frisbee or Disc Golf at City Park

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$5000, Awarded 5/27/2020



**Project Summary:** Install 9 each frisbee disc baskets throughout the park. These baskets will be removable for mowing and landscaping.

**Use of Funds:** All funds were spent on 9 complete Frisbee Baskets, rubber pads, sign map of the course, and labor to install.

**Impact & Results:** Once the frisbee golf course was installed citizens and visitors were excited and ready to play. We have had calls already from tournament golfers from out of state. Word of mouth and the newspaper has helped immensely. It is a very big hit in the park. I have received calls from Oklahoma and Bellville Kansas regarding potential tournaments circuits for Mankato. Some diehard players have said this was a well laid out course. Kudo's to our volunteers and a big thanks to the Greater Community Foundation for taking the city forward with recreational opportunities for the citizens of Mankato. Total cost for the project was \$4998.86 and very well worth it! All are very high quality.

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## Jewell County council on Aging, Kitchen Cabinets & Countertops

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$7,746, Awarded 5/27/2020



**Project Summary:** We are requesting to have new cabinetry and counter tops installed in the Community Center/Senior Center kitchen and dining area. These cabinets and counter tops would be utilized daily by the Senior Center and regularly for Community events.

**Use of Funds:** The funds were spent to replace kitchen cabinetry and countertops at the Community Center/Senior Center. The old cabinets were removed and new cabinets and countertops were installed.

**Impact & Results:** The kitchen is much improved since the completion of this project. It is more updated and has improved the look and function of the kitchen. The cabinetry and countertops are utilized daily by the Senior Center and serves as a community kitchen for anyone in the county upon rental of the building for community events. We were able to complete a portion of our project with grant funds received and we plan to re-apply with hopes to finish the remainder of the kitchen. We are grateful for the assistance we received and appreciative of the overall outcome of the project. Seniors and community members have been so impressed with the updated space and the fresh look it gives our community center! Thank you!

## Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center, Mobile Services for Children and Families of Jewell County

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$500, Awarded 11/26/2019



**Project Summary:** To provide fuel, maintenance and supplies for the Mobile Child Advocacy Center that travels to Jewell County on a regular basis, providing direct healing services to children and families that may have experi-

**Use of Funds:** The funds were spent on supplies for the children that come to the Mobile Unit & included coloring books, pencils, crayons, craft supplies, ink, toiletry items, games, & school supplies.

**Impact & Results:** This funding allowed for the first step of healing to begin for abused children and their families. It takes so much courage for a child to tell their story, we give them the child friendly space, the support they need and a compassionate ear to hear them. WKCAC did not shut down during COVID, just as child abuse did not stop because of COVID, in fact it probably increased. WKCAC responded to every report of child abuse in person giving what we could to start the healing process, these bags help children to smile again.

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## City of Formoso, Historic Limestone Water Building from old Omio

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$6,650, Awarded 5/29/2019



**Project Summary:** The historic limestone building that now houses the waterworks controls for the city of Formoso needs repaired. Our first objective is to replace the mortar that has fallen out from in-between the limestone blocks before we work on the roof.

**Use of Funds:** Grant Funds were used to tuck point the limestone wall on the north side and replace the rotting east wall and garage door of the historic water building.

**Impact & Results:** Continue to have a safe place to house our city's wonderful water system controls and keep something from the city's history to be proud of.

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## VFW Post 7830, VFW Hall Roof Refurbishment

Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$4,399, Awarded 11/26/2019

**Project Summary:** Requested grant is for the majority of materials required to repair then apply two coats of roof re-coating to the flat asphalt bitumen roof of the Jewell County Memorial VFW Post #7830 Hall located at 202 N Commercial St, Mankato, KS.

**Use of Funds:** All funds were used to purchase the bulk of building materials to repair/recoat the roof through BestMaterials LLC. Receipt Section uploads are 1-2)BestMaterials LLC Estimate & Paid Invoice, 3-4)Bank statements w/grant deposited & bill paid.

**Impact & Results:** COVID did not stop us! Though a community project was no longer possible, the VFW pushed ahead obtaining required materials and conducting the work in pairs (one on the ground, one off the ground).

The vast majority of materials were purchased using grant fund, and this project would not have been possible without the generous grand funds.

In addition to repairing two failures of the existing roof, multiple tears, holes, and seams were also fixed. The north wall was also uncovered above the roof line where it was discovered that water was being trapped in the wall which was the root cause for paint peeling off the interior wall. Impact of the project was greater than expected as the repairs not only stopped the deterioration of the east wall (one of the roof failures was known to leak into the east wall) but also solved an unknown moisture problem in the north wall. The north wall is a shared wall and this grant might have saved two buildings!

Working slowly in pairs, we completed repairs and then coated the roof with two layers of roof coating (three layers around verticle parameter walls). It took almost two months working about 4 days a week, but COVID required an isolated approach. When current events allow, the building is ready and will support the entire community. COVID will not stop us!



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## City of Jewell, Jewell's Sesquicentennial Fourth of July Celebrations

**Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, \$3,350, Awarded 5/27/2020**

**Project Summary:** The Jewell Chamber of Commerce is seeking funds to celebrate Jewell's sesquicentennial anniversary in coordination with the community's annual Lake Emerson fireworks display event.

**Use of Funds:** The grant fund were specifically used to pay the Firework show, advertising and announcing that evening. \$3350.00 for the Firework show and the total cost for everything was \$4701.00

**Impact & Results:** This year Jewell celebrated Fourth of July welcoming visitors to enjoy the Sesquicentennial 4th of July show. This year we had 700 visitors come through the gate to watch the show and many more watching from afar! The number of quest this year was down 200 from last year. The Jewell Chamber of Commerce provided a meal and was selling T-shirts, car tags, coffee mugs for the Sesquicentennial 4th of July Celebration. The City of Jewell started 13 years ago where it only cost about \$2000.00 for the show and now that has doubled since then. The Jewell firework show would have not been possible without the help of Jewell County Community Foundation with the cost raising each year.

