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# Smith County Pioneer

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## Smith Co. Community Foundation gives back

SMITH CENTER, Kan.— During its Spring Grant Cycle, the Smith County Community Foundation awarded over \$49,000 to eleven projects throughout the Smith County area. The following organizations received funding:

Smith County, \$2,446.03 to purchase an AED for the Smith County Sheriff's Department.

USD 110, \$3,500 for the repair of the irrigation system and to purchase and apply field chemicals, seed, and fertilizer for West Smith County Recreation Commission.

Smith County Memorial

Hospital, \$6,578 to purchase a wireless Medfusion 4000 Syringe Infusion Pump.

Sunporch of Smith County, \$2,500 to help purchase and pay for the installation of two new doors and two automatic openers.

U.S. Center Foundation, Inc., \$2,146.40 to hire the Pony Rides company to bring ponies for children's rides at the Lebanon Bash.

City of Lebanon, \$10,000 toward the labor and materials required to remove and replace asphalt with concrete at the west end of Kansas Avenue.

City of Smith Center, \$10,000 towards the pur-

chase of a pre-owned Multi Pro 1750 Turf Sprayer.

Oak Creek Christian Church Community Association, \$1,205 to purchase a pressure tank, tankless water heater, and venting for water heater.

Smith Center Housing Authority, \$3,000 to purchase a new washer and dryer.

USD 237, \$2,875.60 to purchase various instruments as part of the Band/Music Restoration Project.

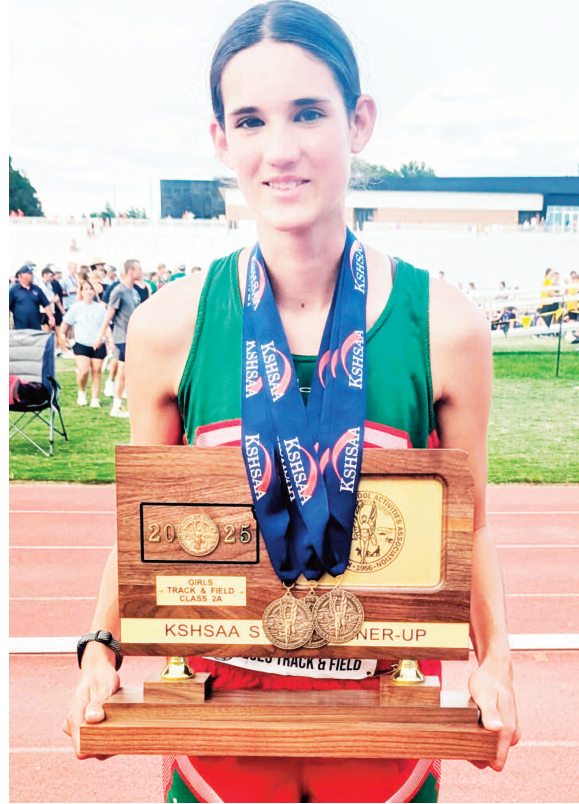
USD 237, \$5,000 to go towards the purchase of a new video display board for the gymnasium.

This round of grants was

made possible by three funds at the community foundation: the Smith County Action Fund, which supports community grant-making, the Dane G. Hansen Community Grant Fund, which focuses on improving quality of life throughout the county, and the Kansas Health Foundation Fund for Smith County.

The foundation's next grant cycle opens September 15, 2025, and will close November 15, 2025. For more information, visit <https://smithcountycommunityfoundation.org/grants/>.

Submitted by:  
Aurielle Hughes  
Director



### Champ

Madison Howland brought home several medals from the State Track and Field held at Wichita over the weekend. Madison placed first for the third year in a row in the 800 M.

Amber McKelvey

## Smith County Drug and Alcohol continues campaign

The Smith County Drug and Alcohol Council will be implementing its updated grant beginning 1July25. The purpose of the grant is to combat underage drinking. The past two years the state of Kansas has awarded a grant to the SCDAC to work on this problem. The council has implemented numerous programs and campaigns to raise awareness of this issue.

One of the evidence-based strategies is "Not In My House campaign". This spring both Smith Center and Thunder Ridge high

schools selected students to participate in this campaign where the students posed for a picture that was put on a poster. The posters were distributed to various classrooms in the elementary, middle and Jr/Sr high schools. The purpose is to encourage younger students to avoid using alcohol and drugs.

Another evidence-based strategy that the SCDAC implemented along with both Smith Center Elementary and Thunder Ridge Middle schools was "Keep A Clear Mind". The cur-

riculum consisted of four take home pamphlets which encouraged the students to talk with parents or caregivers about drugs and alcohol. The purpose was to get the conversation started between student and parent or caregiver that will continue in the future.

A final campaign that the SCDAC used to educate the parents about the need to have conversations about the drugs and alcohol is entitled "Talk, They Hear You". The basic premise of this program is to instruct parents to have the conver-

sation with their children. It's important that they know where the parent or caregiver stands on these subjects.

This coming year, the SCDAC will continue to work with these strategies. Our purpose is still the same. Educate the public and especially the students about prevention. We have partnered with several other communities to accomplish our goals.

Submitted by:  
Mike Isom

## Kensington's Park gets new play equipment

Check out this brand new swing set at the road-side park in Kensington! These cute kids from Grand Island, NE were on their way to visit grandparents in Hays, KS and stopped at the park to stretch their legs and play on our new playground and swings.

These generous donors provided swings and two

new Smith County Community Foundation - Kansason - Kansas

Booz Charitable Trust  
Thomas Charitable Trust

The following donors provided the new playground and rubber mulKensington HOME Charitable Foundation  
Dane G. Hansen Foun-

dation

Smith County Community Foundation

Kensington Lions Club  
Booz Charitable Trust  
Kensington area MOPS group

Thomas Charitable Trust  
The following donors provided the city with grant monies to pay for tree trimming and many old tree

stump removals: Srader Foundation

SOON we will be refurbishing the merry-go-rounds, adding two additional benches, and installing NEW trash cans to further improve the city park!

Submitted by:  
Erica Barnes

## Smith Center Fire Department receives grant

The Smith Center Volunteer Fire Department received a grant for \$7,500 from the Smith County Community Foundation to help purchase dual band pagers and radios. This grant helped the department purchase 11 Unication G5 dual band pagers and 2 Motorola XL-200P dual band handheld radios. These pagers and radios allow our volunteers to be able to hear the pages and the radio traffic on two different frequencies.

The only way to be paged for an emergency is on a VHF channel and we now communicate with each other, dispatch and other local agencies on an 800 frequency channel. These pagers and radios are able to receive traffic from both frequencies where our old radios were unable to.

This allows our volunteers to be able to hear the page, respond if need and hear radio traffic that is going on during the call. It also allows our guys to be able to hear if another agency is in need of assistance when they radio on their 800 frequency radios. The Motorola XL-200P handheld radios allow the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief to carry just one radio and be able to talk to agencies where it be on the VHF channel or the 800 frequency channel by switching channels on the radio.

The cost of the Unication G5 pagers are \$688.50 a piece and the Motorola XL-200P mobile radios cost \$5,292 per radio. We were able to purchase these pagers and radios using addition funds from our pan

•Continued on page 5

### Javelin Champ



Alexis Koelsch is the 2A Javelin State Champion.

Amber McKelvey

### Community Guide

Non-Profit & Community

Notices , Events, Reminders,

Cancellations, Schedule Changes, ect.

Submit to The Smith County Pioneer,

201 S. Main /POBox 266;

785\*282\*3371 fax 785\*282\*6883

pioneer@ruraltel.net

\*First come, first serve;

\* 25 words maximum

\*Due each Monday by 4p.m.

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\* June 5th

The next Bloodmobile is at  
the VFW in Smith Center 12-6

\*June 14th

Smith Center & Kensington City Wide  
Garage Sales

\*June 14th

Flag Day

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