

2006-2007

Felber Park Enhancement Project. This \$60,000 4-Phase project includes a new flag pole, new “Welcome Sign,” new water fountain with an engraved brick courtyard, and 2 “archways” to both entrances of the park. Families and businesses donated through the \$100.00 Donor Engraved Brick Campaign (approximately \$30,000+ was raised). This project recently received a \$9,650.00 grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation and \$17,000 in materials and services from local businesses.

2006 Hartington Volunteer Fire Department Safety Equipment Project. Twelve new air packs with integrated pass and heat alarms. Grants were received for \$57,000 from FEMA and \$3,000 from local funds.

2007

City Sales Tax. Hartington passed a 1% City Sales Tax in 2007 to help fund future city infrastructure works and economic development opportunities. The sales tax is expected to generate over \$175,000 annually.

New Fire Truck. Hartington City and Rural fire department purchased a new fire truck/pumper at a cost of \$240,000.

Economic Development Activities. In 1999 a economic development coordinator was hired to promote and assist the community and businesses. The Hartington Community Development Corporation has sponsored the Northeast NebraskaEDGE program to assist 14 businesses with their business plans! In 2001 Economic Development partnered with the City and received a \$92,240 grant to construct a 10,000 sq ft speculative building that also enabled a revolving loan fund to be created to assist local businesses! The community has participated in a Legislative Day visit to Lincoln each of the last 3 years. Over \$32,000 has been received through the City and Economic Development for landscaping, trees and shrubs for beautification at the community complex. Hartington was selected as one of four regional host communities to be working the Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development with a grant that was received (from USDA-RCDI) to implement programs and trainings designed to increase the self-sufficiency and sustainability of rural communities! Also in 2007 the communities of Hartington and Fordyce partnered and received a \$19,948 BECA grant (Building Entrepreneurial Communities Act) to promote our area, business opportunities, and assist existing businesses! Hartington is a member community of a Rural Community Development Grant (RCDI) initiative working with the Center for Rural Affairs. The initiative will help build capacity in the community through business, leadership, youth, and economic development. The RCDI grant is a program sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). This initiative is one of only two grants in the state of Nebraska for 2007.

Many other community projects (over the last 5-10 years) that are not listed due to the amount of limited space include: A new building at the Cedar County museum was funded by community donations, Health Care Expansions (2 Assisted Living facilities, Rehabilitation Center, and doctor recruitment), Fairground improvements (Open Class building, Lutheran lunch stand building, reconstruction of office building, and added small animal building), Hartington Community Theatre was organized and a renovation project was completed at the city auditorium, 2 new Chamber sponsored events – the “Candle Light Christmas” and the Hartington Show-N-Shine Car Show, and Hartington’s involvement in the Pvt. Shannon Project with 12 other communities to promote tourism in Northeast Nebraska (Lewis & Clark Trail). “The Junction” is a youth center that is organized with adult involvement.

Please consider giving back to your community! We have 4 foundations in Hartington:

Hartington Community Foundation:

Contact: Scott Schrempf (402) 254-3994

Hartington Library Foundation:

Contact: Laura Lou Marsh (402) 254-6428

Cedar Catholic Endowment Fund:

Contact: Cedar Catholic Development Office (402) 254-3976

Hartington Public School Education Foundation:

Contact: Lisa Korth at POB 618, Hartington, NE 68739

We are very proud of our community and the progress we have made over the last many years and we are excited about what the future holds for Hartington and surrounding area! Our community is composed of people who care about our community and who want to make a difference.

Hartington a community of Pride and Purpose Dedicated to a high quality of life, prosperity, and growth!

“This project is funded in part by a grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development administered by the Nebraska Rural Development Commission.”



**Hartington...a great place to call home
and continuing to get better & better!**

Here are just a few things we've been up to the last 15 years . . .

Hartington has been fortunate in the past many years to have progressive, hard-working leaders and volunteers who continually band together to help our community grow and prosper! The community itself demonstrates great pride by displaying itself as a show-case community. Over the past many years, Hartington has been receiving statewide recognition for its many accomplishments. We would like to share this with you so that you can be proud of the community that has nurtured your growth. We would like to encourage you to come back to Hartington to visit our great community and see for yourself how we have prospered and are continually growing!

**Here are some of the state-wide recognitions
for our current and past successes of the past 7 years!**

Nebraska Community Improvement Award (NCIP) Recipient: *for communities of population range (approx.) 1,200-4,000 throughout the State of Nebraska!*



**2002 Received 3rd Place in Community Development
2003 Received 2nd Place in Community Development
2004 Received 1st Place in Community Development
2005 Received 1st Place in Community Development
2006 Received 3rd Place in Community Development**

Governor's Honorary Showcase Award in 2003 AND 2007!

Along with these statewide awards we have many projects that have received individual recognition and awards!

1993-1995

Transfer Station (Recycling Center) The project cost was \$716,126 and the community received a \$258,000 grant from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality-Waste Reduction and Recycling grant. The remainder was paid with city funds. The transfer station is located 2 miles east of Hartington on Hwy 84.

1992

Library Addition. A plan was submitted to the City Council to construct a new 3700 square foot addition to the 1915 Carnegie Library. In five years, \$330,000 was raised to construct the building: \$73,000 was a Peter Kiewit grant, \$20,000 from the Nebraska State Library Commission, \$25,000 donated by the City of Hartington, and \$19,000 in tax credits was given by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development which encouraged businesses to donate. The remainder of the funds that were received ranged from childrens' nickels and dimes to purchase nails and bricks, to larger donations from local residents. After years of planning and fundraising, the ground-breaking ceremony was held on April 2, 1997.

1994

Swimming Pool Renovation. A General Obligation Bond was passed in the amount of \$695,000 to improve, renovate, and update the swimming pool, wading pool and bathhouse.

1995

Hartington Airport Authority was granted \$745,763 from the federal government to extend, widen, and light the airport runway. Since then, the airport has a new administration building and a new shop hanger was completed in 1999.

New Hartington Soccer Program. Over 200 kids signed up from K- 6th grade.

1999

Historical Society (Cedar County Museum) A new building funded by community donations was added to accommodate larger exhibits.

Urbanization of Highway 57 (formerly Hwy 15). This project took 12 years of planning prior to construction, and was completed in 2001. The Nebraska Department of Roads funded the sidewalk, curve, and paving portion of the project and the City council approved a Various Purpose Bond in the amount of \$100,000 to relocate all water and sewer systems along the corridor. The project included widening of Highway 57 with a middle turning lane. Hartington was awarded a \$9,000 Green Space tree grant where 40 sites along Highway 57, and 29 sites along Highway 84 participated in the tree grant.

1999-2002

Hartington Sidewalk Improvement Project. A priority project the citizens voiced was to have sidewalks improved throughout the community and made handicapped accessible. Homeowners were responsible for the sidewalk improvements on their properties and the city funded the handicapped accessible portion.

2001-2003

HOPE Project. A city/county project with the initial impetus in Hartington.

- A county-wide survey from 30% of the county's residents, including nearly all 7th-12th grade students.
- 25 volunteers compiled and published a county-wide directory with over 700 businesses and organizations.
- St. James Marketplace - market for a dozen farm families to sell their produce, woodworking, crafts, art etc..
- Main Bow Farms cooperative gained legal status
- Leadership workshops attended by over 125 people from 8 communities.
- An Intergenerational Dialogue session was completed in February 2003.
- The first of 6 annual Leadership Retreats in Hartington began in 2002 to discuss issues, priorities, vision, and progress.

2001

The Hartington Public Library was awarded a Library Services and Technology Act grant for \$12,261. This project enabled the library to add automated card catalog workstations, additional software (including high-speed Internet), new patron computers, and a computer for children's educational software.

2001

Hartington Felber Park Modular Playground Equipment. Project involved over 107 volunteers. Total project was \$32,000 including a \$10,000 grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation, a city donation, and private donations.

2001/2002 Speculative Building: A 10,000 square foot speculative building was constructed in Hartington's 72-acre industrial park. Hartington received \$92,240 of Community Development Block Grant dollars to assist in the construction of the \$179,480 project.

2002

Recreational Complex. Two years of organizational monthly meetings resulted in a \$1.6 million dollar bond issue being passed in November 2002 to support an outdoor sports complex which includes a new football stadium, all-weather track, new soccer fields, and youth ball fields. To-date over \$32,000 in grant funds have been received and over 350 trees, shrubs and beautification have been implemented!

Housing Rehabilitation. Hartington was awarded a Housing Rehabilitation Community Development Block Grant for \$180,000 to assist at least 11 homeowners who will have the opportunity to repair and update their homes. This program supports local contractors and community retail stores.

New Arlo and Anne Wirth Art Gallery. Located in the upper level of the Hartington Public Library in the old Carnegie Library, the gallery was funded by a gift from the Arlo and Anne Wirth estate. Another donation of approximately \$21,000 aided the construction of the gallery.

2004

Hartington LEAP (Leaders Energizing Activities in Partnership): Goals include: youth involvement in civic governance and youth involvement in community projects. These young leaders serve as representatives on the City Council, Hartington Chamber of Commerce, Hartington Econ. Dev. Board, etc.

Hartington Beautification Grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation. Hartington received over \$9,200 for community improvements (street banners, 2 highway signs, landscaping, 9 benches for downtown, and flagpole).

Community Information Technology Committee was formed. A \$2,500 mini-grant was received from the Nebraska Information Technology Commission for technology planning purposes. A laptop, camera, and LCD projector were purchased for public use.

2001-2005

Hartington Public School was the recipient of a five-year federal Character Education grant. HPS was one of four school districts in the State of Nebraska to receive this grant. 25% of all grant funds (over \$17,000) were spent on the community or on community-related activities.

2005

Airport improvements. The Hartington Municipal Airport Authority is completing a new taxi-way. They received a \$450,000 federal grant!

2006

2006 Cedar Catholic Jr.-Sr. High School completed the Msgr. Cyril J. Werner Activity Center. The construction of a 29,500 square foot addition and actual fundraising for the \$2.5 million building and a \$500,000 endowment fund was completed in five years by August 2006 for the 1500 seat gym, lockers, weight training room, classroom and meeting room, and development office.. A 100-car, concrete, lighted parking lot that cost \$125,000 was also completed.

Senior Citizen Center Renovation. A total of \$14,500 in donations was raised by selling stock certificates at \$100.00 per share to finance all the improvements that were made to the facility.