



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HCCF issues grants for murals

The Hancock County Community Foundation (HCCF) recently made grants to New Palestine Main Street and Shirley Community Visionaries to create new murals in their towns.

New Palestine Main Street is planning a new mural on the Elite Beverages building that will be visible coming into town from the west on U.S. 52. The funds will help commission artist Nick Smith, a graduate of New Palestine High School and current resident of Irvington, to complete the nearly 100' mural.

“By painting this mural, we have the opportunity to pay homage to the generations of farming families who have paved the way for New Palestine to exist as a community,” said Julie Lucas, board president. “This mural will encourage the public to ponder our agricultural pioneers and understand the power of our current era in our town's legacy.”

The Shirley Community Visionaries will create a new mural on the fire station's south wall, as well as install benches for residents to sit and visit with neighbors. The goal is to make the downtown more vibrant, especially as the town awaits construction of a new, one-mile trail later this year.

“The mural will be designed by local citizens to showcase the volunteer fire department's contribution to the community both in the past and as they adjust to meet the needs of our future,” said Andy Ebbert, board chair. “We also believe this will be a great boost to the area for those walking, running, or cycling the trail and downtown area.”

These grants will be made through the Hancock County Public Art Fund. The Hancock County Public Art Fund provides support for the creation of public art throughout Hancock County.

HCCF provides philanthropic leadership by encouraging giving, learning, community pride and civic engagement. Working with caring individuals, families, and organizations to create or grow existing permanent endowment funds is critical to the organization's mission. These funds generate income that is distributed in the form of grants and scholarships to enrich and enhance life in Hancock County, as well as support the donor's favorite charitable causes, both at home and afar forever. HCCF has granted millions of dollars since their inception in 1992.

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