

Event Center receives new gardens

Written by Holyoke Enterprise



Many people were involved with the newest part of Phillips County Event Center. Some of those involved are pictured from left, front row, José Muñoz, Linda Langelo and Chuck Stroh; and back row, Dave Hensley, Jim Fricke, Rodolfo Muñoz and Antonio Tapia. Not pictured are Master Gardeners Laura Bittner, Betsy Marquardt and Lisa Brewer. —Enterprise photo

Along with the addition of new sidewalks, parking areas and pavement, new gardens were recently added at the entrance of the Colorado State University Extension office at Phillips County Event Center.

Chuck Stroh and Jim Fricke of Colorado Garden Show Inc. visited the Event Center Thursday, Aug. 19 to see the finished project.

Colorado Garden Show, Inc. funded an \$8,852 grant to help make the garden possible. It was installed in July a couple weeks before the Phillips County Fair.

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Four new benches (four feet in length), plant signs, gravel, stone and plants were purchased with money from the grant.

The plants include edible, native and plant select. Large stones placed throughout the garden provide walking paths to benches located throughout the gardens.

The main idea of the project was to enhance the event center through education of extension, according to Linda Langelo of the Extension office. So the idea of the Educational Demonstration Garden was born.

Many hands played a part in the gardens. Master Gardeners in the Golden Plains Area, Dave Hensley, Laura Bittner, Betsy Marquardt and Lisa Brewer had a hand in the project along with Langelo. Three members of the grounds crew from Ballyneal helped plant some of the plants as well. They were José Muñoz, Rodolfo Muñoz and Antonio Tapia. And of course the project wouldn't have happened without the grant from Colorado Garden Show Inc.

With appreciated help from Phillips County Commissioners, Road and Bridge Department and Garold Roberts, CSU Extension's dream became a reality. Langelo said road and bridge employees helped with the prep work and irrigation.