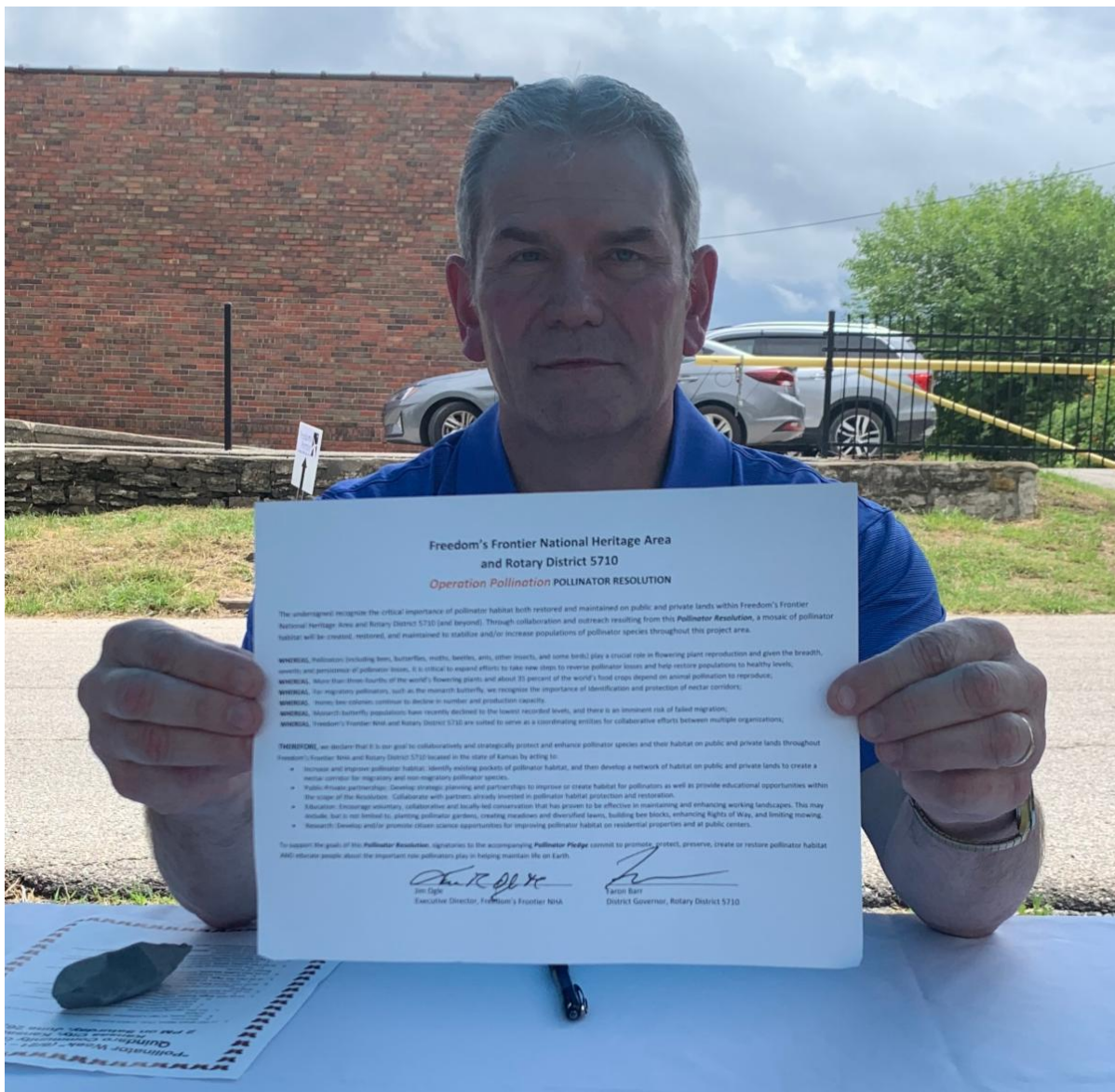




Monday Minute

July 5, 2021

**Historic Partnership
Between Rotary District and NHA**



On Saturday, June 26, **Faron Barr**, outgoing Governor of Rotary District 5710 and **Jim Ogle**, Executive Director of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area announced they had entered into an Operation Pollination Pollinator Resolution, in which they jointly agreed to collaboratively and strategically protect and enhance pollinator species and their habitat on public and private lands throughout Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area and Rotary District 5710, located in NE Kansas, by acting to increase and improve:

- Pollinator habitat
- Public-Private partnerships
- Education
- Research



The historic joint resolution is the first Operation Pollination Pollinator Resolution signed by a Rotary District and a National Heritage Area.

Rotary District 5710 and Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area are partnering to call attention to local programs by the 44 Rotary Clubs in northeast Kansas and the 150 historic sites and museums that are part of Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area in Kansas.

The announcement of the joint resolution occurred during International **Pollinator Week, June 21 – 27**, at the Quindaro Community Garden in Kansas City, which is:

- Located on the site of Douglas Hospital, the only hospital, prior to the civil right act, for black citizens of Wyandotte County. Douglas Hospital closed in 1978.
- Located on the campus of Western University, the only historically black college West of the Mississippi River, Western University closed in 1943.
- Located adjacent to the Quindaro Townsite, the largest underground railroad site before and during the US civil war.

Those who **spoke at the event** include **Grant Glenn**, Chair of the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area Board of Trustees (as emcee), **Faron Barr**, outgoing District Governor for 5710, **Jim Ogle**, Executive Director of Freedom's Frontier, **Luther Smith**, Executive Director of the Quindaro Underground Railroad Museum and a Trustee on the Freedom's Frontier Board (who was appropriately wearing a Negro Baseball League "KC Monarchs" cap), **Angie Babbitt**, Communications Coordinator for Monarch Watch, **Rick Randolph**, Chair of the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG), **Judith Manthe**, Principal Chief, and **Louisa Libby**, Second Chief, of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, and **American Patton**, Educator and architect of the program that led to the creation of the Quindaro Community Garden.

Also present at the event were members of the Quindaro Community, including **Vern Henricks**, incoming Governor of Rotary District 5710, **Anthony Hope**, Director of the Old Quindaro Museum, Rev. Stacy Evans with the Western University Association, and **Senator David Haley**, Kansas State Legislature, and Gracie Patton, members of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, including **Anna Brown**, Secretary of the Tribe, and her son, **Ryland Brown**, FFNHA Trustees, including **Martin Owens** and **Kristen Zane** (Wyandot, Bear Clan), and many Rotarians, including **Diane Waddell**, President Elect of the South Side St. Joseph

(Missouri) Rotary Club, and **Chris Culbertson**, member of the Rotary Club of Manhattan, Kansas, and its ESRAG, as well as Professor and Associate Dean for Research at Kansas State University.

After the signing ceremony, children and adults planted pollinator seedlings donated by Monarch Watch via a grant through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. In addition, member of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas planted other pollinator-friendly plants provided from Principal Wyandot Chief Manthe's garden that are sacred to their tribe, including "Sweet Grass." The Wyandot Nation is traditionally from the area known as Ontario, Canada, and are known as the "Farmers of the North" for their successful "Three Sisters" (beans, squash and corn) farming practices that produced great quantities and quality of food on mounds (versus the current practice of row farming) without the need to rotate crops.







