



Diamond Clover Final Report

Name Weston B. Williams

4-H Club Harrington Sunshine 4-H County Kent

Name of service project Harrington Senior Center Improvements

This report is accurate, complete and an honest representation of my work.

4-Her Signature Weston B. Williams Date 6/21/21

I have reviewed this report and find it to be accurate, complete and an honest representation.

Parent Signature Karen D. Williams Date 6/21/21

Club/Group Leader Approval

Signature Heath Horn Date 6/21/21

County 4-H Educator Approval

Signature Kristin Cook Date 8/1/2021

State 4-H Leader Approval

I have reviewed this report and find it to meet the Diamond Clover Award requirements.

Signature _____ Date _____



Delaware 4-H Diamond Clover Award Program

Level Six (Diamond) - Plan & Report – Part One

Name Weston B. Williams Date _____
Project Title Harrington Senior Center Improvements
Address 398 Charlies Ct.
Town/State/Zip Felton, DE 19943
4-H County or Military 4-H Program Kent
Club(s) Harrington Sunshine
Age 16 Birth Date 2/25/2004 Years in 4-H 12 (including this year)

Level Six Diamond Clover Plan (complete at the beginning of the 4-H year)

Check at least **eight** tasks/skills you plan to accomplish/learn this 4-H year:

- ☒ Attend at least 60% of club meetings
- ☒ Serve as a club/group officers, committee chair or teen leader
- ☐ Provide leadership for a club or community service-learning project
- ☐ Provide leadership for a club or community fundraiser
- ☐ Provide leadership for a local 4-H county or military 4-H program activity or event
- ☒ Compete in a communications event
- ☒ Attend at least one state 4-H event
- ☒ Participate in a national or international event
- ☒ Help a younger member with a project exhibit or demonstration
- ☐ Attend a resident county, regional or state 4-H camp representing 4-H
- ☒ Participate in an Interstate Exchange
- ☒ Complete at least one 4-H project from a project area not previously worked in

I have reviewed Part 1 of this plan and find it complete, accurate and adequate to meet the first portion of the requirements of Level Six (Diamond) of the Delaware 4-H Diamond Clover Award Program. (Note: the detailed proposal and final report of the major service- learning project will be reported on a separate form).

4-H Member Signature Weston B. Williams Date 6/21/21

Parent/Guardian Signature Karen D. Williams Date 6/21/21

Club Leader Signature Heath Brown Date 6/21/21

4-H Educator Signature _____ Date _____

Fifth Task/Skill See attached **Date** _____

Explain what you did/learned: _____

Sixth Task/Skill _____ **Date** _____

Explain what you did/learned: _____

Seventh Task/Skill _____ **Date** _____

Explain what you did/learned: _____

Eighth Task/Skill _____ **Date** _____

Explain what you did/learned: _____

Additional Task/Skill See attached Date _____

Explain what you did/learned: _____

I have reviewed Part 1 of this report and find it complete, accurate and meeting the first portion of the requirements of Level Six (Diamond) of the Delaware 4-H Diamond Clover Award Program. (Note: the detailed plan and report for the major service-learning project will be reported on a separate form).

4-H Member Signature Walter B Williams Date 6/21/21

4-H Parent/Guardian Signature Karen D. Williams Date 6/21/21

4-H Club Leader Signature _____ Date _____

4-H Educator Signature _____ Date _____

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Level Six Diamond Clover Report

First Task/Skill: Attend at least 60% of club meetings. Date: 2019-20, 2020-21
I attended 8 or 9 meetings in 2019-20 and 9 of 9 meetings in 2020-21.

Second Task/Skill: Serve as a club/group officers, committee chair or teen leader. Date: 2020-21
I served as my club's Secretary this year and will serve in the same position next year.

Third Task/Skill: Compete in a communication event Date: Jan. 2020, Jan. 2021
I compete each year in the County Public Speaking Contest. This year my theme was How a Bicycle is Like Leadership.

Fourth Task/Skill: Attend at least one state 4-H event Date: July 2020
I competed in the State Demonstration Contest at the Delaware State Fair. This year is was virtual and my topic was How to Make Bath Bombs. I won a blue ribbon and my Category.

Fifth Task/Skill: Participate in a national or international event Date: Feb. 2020
I was fortunate enough to represent Delaware and participate in the 4-H National Youth Photography Forum in Washington, D. C. This was the last program I was able to participate in (in person) before the pandemic started.

Sixth Task/Skill: Help a Younger Member with a project exhibit or demonstration. Date: Sept. 2019
I worked with a younger member, from another club, to complete a Fifer's Front Porch Demonstration. We made items with apples in the recipe. I made Apple Bread and Maggie Wieber made apple cupcakes. We were scheduled to make recipes with Strawberries for a Front Porch Demonstration in May 2020 but that got cancelled.

Seventh Task/Skill: Participate in an Interstate Exchange Date: 2019-2021
I participate in the Kent County Exchange with Kansas. We hosted students from Kansas in June/July 2019 and were scheduled to go to Kansas in June 2020. That was cancelled because of the pandemic. We were able to raise money to go Kansas and hoped to have that on the schedule for 2021 but that was cancelled as well.

Eighth Task/Skill: Complete at least one 4-H project from a project area not previously worked in Date: 2019-20
I completed a project in Automotive last year. I worked on getting my license, bought a car and learned how to complete various tasks on the car (change the oil, change the tires, check pressures, etc.)

Project Summary

For several years I have been visiting the Harrington Senior Center for various projects. My 4-H leader is the executive director and our club has been putting up of Christmas Tree there for a couple of years now. We also have made favors for the members and I have been there for Senior Center events as well. While I was there, I noticed that the outside of the main entrance was in bad shape. The flag pole was in need of repair and the landscaping was bland. I decided to make this my project. As it turned out, it was a perfect project to undertake during a pandemic. There was minimal contact with the members and I could do most of the work myself.

I started the project by speaking with the Executive Director and finding out what needed to be done and getting permission to do my part. I would be planting annuals in front of the main entrance, around the gazebo and along the fence. In addition, I would plant flowers in the pots in front of the porch and provide hanging baskets for the porch. These plantings would provide color during the summer months. I planted zinnias, celosia, begonias, and the hanging baskets were filled with geraniums. There were a few annuals planted by the fence and I left those daylilies to bloom as well. After meeting with the review committee, via zoom, they recommended that I plant perennials. For the fall and the spring, I did plant perennials so that they would return each year.

The flag pole was my biggest undertaking. One big problem was that the flag pole was installed before the gazebo was constructed. Taking the flag pole down was difficult because it had been placed at an angle such that taking it down without specialized tools would cause the flag pole to either hit electrical lines or the gazebo. I called on my uncle to help. He has tools to work with situations such as this and was willing to help me. My mother, uncle and grandfather

helped me take the flag pole down without hitting either the gazebo or electrical lines. My grandfather helped me transport the flag pole from the Senior Center to his barn where I was able to continue to clean up the flag pole. Years of rust and wear were evident and I needed to make the flag pole look as new as possible. I used several tools but the one that was most useful was the orbital sander. I had never used this tool before so my grandfather showed me how. I was able to take all of the paint off of the flag pole and the metal beneath looked new. After I stripped all of the old paint and rust off the flag pole, I moved it to my grandfather's greenhouse. Having in the greenhouse allowed me to lay the pole flat and give it a coat of paint without having to worry about the painting getting everywhere else. Once the first coat was dry, I gave it a second coat. I also painted the top ball on the flag pole a shiny gold. After the paint was dry, it was time for new hardware and rope. I measured the old rope and took the old clips to Felton Hardware. They were able to sell me new rope and clips that would properly fit the flag pole

While the flag pole was down and being worked on, I tackled plating fall flowers. Wanting to plant perennials, at the recommendation of the committee, I chose chrysanthemums. I bought them from two local growers. Because I was buying them for the Senior Center, they sold them to me at a reduced cost. I planted the chrysanthemums along the fence line, in the pots in front of the porch and around the gazebo. I also purchased corn stalks to place on the posts at the back entrance and around the support beams of the gazebo. This gave the Senior Center a festive fall look. The chrysanthemums will grow each year and produce vibrant colors each fall.

I wanted to make sure there was color in the spring, so in the late fall, I planted tulips and daffodils. These are planted in the fall and bloom in the spring. I planted red tulips around the flag pole and gazebo and planted the daffodils along the fence. These bulbs will multiply and bloom each spring so that colorful flowers will welcome members for a long time to come.

Finally, it was time to reinstall the flag pole. Once again, I asked for help from my grandfather and my uncle. Using ropes, we raised the flag pole back to its original position and put the new bolts into the base to secure it. Once we had everything in place, we ready to raise the flags. I had won a US Flag that had been flown over the Capitol in Washington, D. C. at a 4-H basket auction and decided I would donate it to the Senior Center. Now I just needed a new Delaware Flag. I contacted State Senator Ernesto Lopez for help. He had a Delaware Flag flown over Legislative Hall in Dover for my project. I met him in Milton to pick it up. Everything was ready to present to the Senior Center.

I was hoping to do a presentation at the Senior Center about my project and the flag, but the pandemic impacted my ability to do so. On January 20, with the sun shining and the wind whipping, I gave a speech to a small crowd gathered around the gazebo. The speech could also be seen on Facebook Live. I did this to allow others, who could not be there in person, to see the new flag pole and hear about my project. I talked about what I had done and then it was time to raise the new flags. My grandfather helped me get the flags on the clips and we raised them for the first time. They looked great against the clear blue sky. I also presented the Harrington Police Department with a new Delaware Flag. Their flag was ripped and I found a new Delaware Flag at my house, so I was able help them by donating that flag to them. I offered a handout about flag etiquette to anyone who was interested.

Now as I ride by the Senior Center, see the flags flying and the flowers blooming, I know that I have made a difference.

Challenges

My first challenge was getting the right plants for the project. I selected some annuals and after meeting with the committee, decided to plant some perennials so my project could continue past my involvement this year. Perennials allow the Harrington Senior Center to enjoy the beautiful plants in three seasons. The main challenge to this is that the Senior Center hires a landscaping company and some of the plants get removed or cut off (with a trimmer). There was also a Tree of Heaven in one of the flower beds. This is a weed that is invasive and threatens to overwhelm the area. I was able to get the weed removed by having it dug out of the bed and filling in the hole with dirt.

Another challenge was removing the flag pole and reinstalling it. The flag pole was installed several years ago and later, a gazebo was placed on the property. The flag pole needed to come down at a very specific angle and could only go one way due to the placement of the gazebo. The way the flag pole needed to be taken down, had the possibility of interfering with power lines. With the help of my Uncle, Grandfather and Mother, we were able to carefully take the pole down and reinstall it.

There were some challenges in stripping the paint off of the flag pole but those challenges were because I had not used some of the tools necessary for the project before. The pole was very long and it was tough to find a place to work with the pole, while it was out of the elements. My Grandfather let me use his greenhouse to lay the pole down and paint it.

Probably the biggest challenge, and no surprise, was the ongoing pandemic. My project was an outside project so I could buy the plants, plant them, work outside and get the flagpole taken down, repaired and put back in place. The challenges arose when I tried to explain my project to the seniors at the Center. There were restrictions in place so no members could use the building

and then only a few could enter. I was hoping to show a power point to the members to demonstrate the steps I had taken to beautify the Senior Center and repair the flag pole. We had to reschedule my talk when my school schedule was too much as well. Finally, I was able to give my speech and present the new flags I had gotten for the Senior Center. I even had an extra Delaware Flag so I presented it to the Police Department because their flag needed replacing. The challenge was that I had to give my presentation outside. It was a cold; blustery day and my presentation was difficult to hear because of the wind. I persevered though and had an audience of roughly 20-25 hear about the project.

Impact

This project impacted the members of the Harrington Senior Center and me. The members of the Senior Center had noticed that the flag pole was in disrepair and there was little to no landscaping around the gazebo. The Center's Executive Director had reached out to several different groups to help repair the flag pole. No one was willing to take the challenge on. I decided that it would be a great project for me to take on during the pandemic. I was able to make the flag pole look new with paint, new hardware and new flags. The flag, and what it stands for, is very important to the senior population and by restoring the flag pole and replacing the flags, the members now have a flag and flag pole to symbolize their pride. The flowers around the gazebo, along the front porch and along the fence brightened up the area as members arrived for various occasions. While the pandemic effected members coming into the center for events, flowers could be seen by those members picking up meals, or food, throughout the year.

This project impacted the town of Harrington by making the Senior Center a place that stands out while people are traveling through town, or in town on business. In addition, the new flag at the Harrington Police Department shows off their pride.

Finally, I was impacted by this project. The project took about nine months from start to finish. I encountered some challenges along the way. My original plan for planting was not possible due to the way the building had been constructed. There was mulch on top of concrete so planting was not possible. I worked around this by putting plants in pots. I was able to work with my grandfather and my uncle on this project when I needed help. My project was impacted by the pandemic as well. I was not able to make some presentations but made the best of it by doing those presentations outside. This Diamond Clover Project allowed me to help others and learn new things along the way.

DOCUMENTING YOUR PROJECT

Use this page to record more detail about your project. To upload a picture, click in a box and "select/insert image" from your computer. You cannot copy/paste into a box. **Mac users: Open the document in Adobe Reader and then follow the instruction above.** You may substitute blank pages to allow you to attach your personal photos and samples. Do not shingle or overlap items. All pictures should contain a brief caption to explain photo.

NOTE: Photography Project Members ONLY--Extra pages have been added for documenting your project.

		
Front entry of the Senior Center	Gazebo at the start	Fence line when I started
		
Zinnia planted by fence	Zinnias planated by fence	Summer flowers around Gazebo
		
Summer flowers planted by Gazebo	Figuring out which wrench to use	Loosening the bolts

DOCUMENTING YOUR PROJECT...continued



Easing the flag pole down



Removing the bolts



Loaded on the trailer to take home



Stripping the old paint off the pole



Stripping the paint from the pole



Painting a first coat



Painting the flag pole



Painting the top of the flag pole



The mums before planting

DOCUMENTING YOUR PROJECT...continued



Planting mums along the fence



Planting mums in front of HSC



Front of HSC in fall



Putting up Corn by back entrance



Fall decorations



Colorful mums in front of HSC



Planting tulips for Spring Blooms

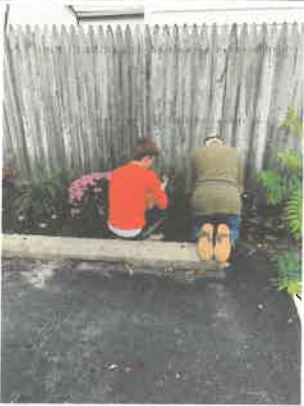


Planting Daffodils for Spring Blooms



Planting bulbs around gazebo

DOCUMENTING YOUR PROJECT...continued



Planting bulbs along the fenceline



Reinstalling the flag pole



Tightening down the bolts



Talking about my project



Crowd listening about my project



Raising the new flags



Flying the two new flags.



Presenting a DE flag to the HPD



New Daffodils blooming this spring