

# FAIR APPRECIATION

# ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 2025

## WALNUT CREEK EXTENSION

### LANE COUNTY

144 S Lane, Courthouse  
P.O.Box 487  
Dighton, KS 67839  
620-397-2806

### NESS COUNTY

503 S Pennsylvania Ave.  
Ness City, KS 67560  
785-798-3921

### RUSH COUNTY

702 Main Street  
P.O. Box 70  
LaCrosse, KS 67548  
785-222-2710



*Thank  
you*



## Upcoming Events

### September

- 1: Office Closed for Labor Day
- 2-3: Kansas State Fair Entries Due
- 3: Good Gut Health, Joy Center
- 5-14: Kansas State Fair
- 8: Rush Co. 4-H Community Leaders Meeting
- 17: Good Gut Health, Ransom Senior Center
- 18: Good Gut Health, Leisure Years and Wheatview Apts.
- 22: Walnut Creek Extension District Board Meeting
- 24: 4-H Record Books Due by Noon

### October

- 1: The New 4-H Year Begins. Join 4-H!
- 28 - FCW Mystery Tour - Join the group!
- 28-30: WCED Ag Tour to Springfield, Missouri - Join Us!

### 4-H Achievement Banquets

- Rush - Saturday, November 1, LaCrosse City Auditorium
- Lane - Sunday, November 2, Lane Fairgrounds
- Ness - Sunday, October 19 (Tentative)

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# FAIR APPRECIATION

# 4-H



## WE APPRECIATE OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORT

**Alone, we can do  
so little; together,  
we can do so much."**

**– Helen Keller**

**"Volunteers are not  
paid—not because  
they are worthless,  
but because they are  
priceless." – Sherry**

**Anderson**

**"Volunteers are  
the roots of strong  
communities." –**

**Unknown**

On behalf of our 4-H program, we want to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to our communities for the incredible support shown during our County Fair. From volunteers who shared their time and leadership, to the generous individuals and businesses who provided financial support and sponsored awards, your contributions made all the difference.

Because of your dedication, our 4-H youth have the opportunity to learn, grow, and discover their sparks. These experiences not only build skills but also help shape caring, responsible citizens who will continue to strengthen our communities for years to come.

We truly could not do this without you. Thank you for believing in our 4-H members and for walking beside them on their journey.



A huge shout-out to the Walnut Creek Extension Staff and each of the County Fair Boards. The tireless hours you all provided and the events that you helped organize helped to make the 2025 Fair Season a **HUGE SUCCESS!**

**2026 County Fair Dates**

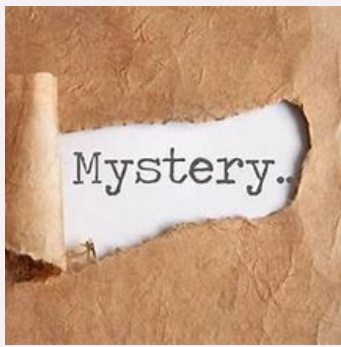
**Lane County - July 15- 18**

**Ness County - July 21-25**

**Rush County - July 29-Aug. 1**

K-State Research and Extension is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting the event contact, Walnut Creek Extension District, four weeks prior to the start of the event at 620.397.2806 or email [lnote@ksu.edu](mailto:lnote@ksu.edu). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so.

Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.



# SAVE THE DATE!

## MYSTERY TOUR 2025

### OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup>



Kristen Schmidt  
Family and Community  
Wellness Agent  
kbschmidt@ksu.edu

Ready for a little mystery in your life? Feeling the fall winds of adventure sweeping over you? Come join us for the Walnut Creek Extension District Family and Community Wellness Mystery Tour!

This will be a fun day of multiple stops with time to visit and explore a few places our great State has to offer.

More details to come!

**Preserve It Fresh,  
Preserve It Safe**

*Canning  
Tomatoes  
Safely*

Juice Crushed Whole/Halved

**Prevent botulism! Add one of these!**

- Bottled Lemon Juice** 1 Tbsp per pint  
2 Tbsp per quart
- Citric Acid** 1/4 tsp per pint  
1/2 tsp per quart
- 5% Vinegar** 2 Tbsp per pint  
4 Tbsp per quart

Required for pressure canning AND boiling water bath canning tomatoes!

Learn more at:  
<http://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF1185.PDF>

## Tomatoes!

Many gardens are starting to produce homegrown tomatoes.

Tomatoes have a pH value around 4.6 which makes them unsafe to can by themselves. All tomatoes must be acidified with either citric acid, bottled lemon juice, or vinegar with 5% acidity in both water bath and pressure canning processing.

Without this added acid, tomatoes will likely ferment and spoil. Learn more :

[Preserve it Fresh, Preserve it Safe: Tomatoes](https://www.rrc.k-state.edu/preservation/index.html)

## Learn More!

Additional Food Preservation Resources are available at Kansas State University Rapid Response Center Website:

<https://www.rrc.k-state.edu/preservation/index.html>



## Planting Trees in the Fall

Fall can be an excellent time to plant trees. The warm and moist soils normally associated with fall encourage root growth. Fall root growth means the tree becomes established months before a spring-planted tree and is able to withstand the summer stresses. The best time to plant trees in the fall is early September to late October. This gives the tree plenty of time to get the roots established before the ground freezes.

Certain trees, unfortunately, do not produce significant root growth during the fall and are better planted in the spring. These include beech, birch, redbud, magnolia, tulip poplar, willow oak, scarlet oak, black oak, willows, and dogwood.

Fall-planted trees require some special care. Remember, the roots are actively growing even though the top is dormant. Be sure to keep the soil moist but not soggy. This will require watering not only in the fall but also during the winter. Mulching is helpful because it minimizes moisture loss and slows the cooling of the soil, so root growth continues as long as possible.



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## Plant your Cool Season Lawns NOW



During the fall, be sure to plant or overseed your cool-season lawns. With soil still warm in September, and the days are getting mild, this part of the growing season boasts the perfect growing conditions for cool-season grasses like bluegrass, fescue, and ryegrass to get established.

Be sure to keep adequate soil moisture on the grass as it starts to grow. Watering a newly planted lawn frequently and lightly will be the most beneficial for the grass during its early growing stages.

On hot days, a new lawn may need to be watered as many as three times a day, keeping the soil consistently moist but not waterlogged. Cooler time spans will then require less watering, sometimes spaced out between a matter of every couple of days.

## FALL SCOUTING HELPS PLAN FOR WEED CONTROL

Weeds escape at harvest may not hurt yields today, but they can create major problems in future seasons—especially if they produce thousands of seeds or are herbicide resistant. Just one Palmer amaranth plant can add millions of seeds per acre to the soil, many of which stay viable for years.

Scouting fields this fall, even by making notes from the combine, helps plan next year's management. Key things to track include:

- Weed species present
- Locations of escapes
- Expanding patches that may indicate herbicide resistance

Weed seeds also spread easily on equipment. To limit movement between fields, harvest clean fields first and problem fields last, slow the combine to “self-clean,” and use air compressors to blow out residue. A deeper clean between fields can further reduce seed spread.

Taking time now to scout and clean equipment can save time, money, and yield losses in future seasons.

It rained! While that might not be a huge statement for western Ness Co. or Lane Co., it's a big relief for Rush Co. As we progress into fall...there are combines running on milo in S.C. Kansas and corn is getting chopped and picked in many locations here are some things to ponder if the need arises.

### **Kansas Agricultural Mediation Services (KAMS)**

KAMS provides agriculturists the resources they need to solve legal and financial issues. If you have any questions about how we can provide assistance, please give us a call. Calls are free and confidential.

KAMS works with financial analysts from the K-State Research and Extension Farm Analyst Program, Kansas Legal Services attorneys and certified mediators to better aid the agricultural community of Kansas. KAMS helps anyone from an individual dealing with stress, a farmer looking for job placement to a family needing dispute and conflict resolution.

To find out how KAMS can serve you in your current situation or help resolve issues you are facing please call the KAMS hotline, 800-321-3276. They also have resources for Succession planning. Mediation is an informal and confidential way for people to resolve disputes with the help of a neutral mediator who is trained to help people discuss their differences. This is a cheaper and less aggressive approach to conflict resolution than hiring an attorney. [\*\*kams@ksu.edu\*\*](mailto:kams@ksu.edu)



Jared Petersilie  
Agriculture  
Extension Agent  
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### **Kansas Farm Management**

Another Farm Management option is the Kansas Farm Management association. With more than 80 years of experience serving producers, the Kansas Farm Management Association (KFMA) maintains a long-term commitment to Kansas agriculture. Twenty-four KFMA economists, who are part of the Department of Agricultural Economics, comprise the professional staff of the KFMA program. The economists work cooperatively with farm families to provide members with production and financial management information for use in decision making.

The primary goal of the KFMA program is to provide each member with information that can be used to help make farm and family decisions. KFMA Economists assist producers by providing the following information and services:

- Sound farm accounting systems
- On-farm visits
- Accrual basis whole-farm and enterprise analysis
- Financial benchmarks for comparing performance with similar farms
- Year-end tax planning and management
- Integrated tax planning, marketing and asset investment strategies
- Assistance with estate planning and farm succession planning
- Guidance for business entity and structure planning
- Improved decision making

The Kansas Farm Management Association Program is organized into six regional associations. The K-MAR -105 Association serves as the central information processing unit for the six Associations. K-MAR-105 maintains data banks that are used extensively for Agricultural Economics Research and Extension activities.



# **65th Annual Agriculture Tour to Springfield, Missouri October 28-30, 2025**



Springfield is the “Queen of the Ozarks, the beginning of Route 66, and the original site of Bass Pro Shops. With just over 170,000 people, it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city in Missouri. Drury University and Missouri State are located in Springfield. Many people have traveled thru Springfield on their way to Branson, but we want to stop and stay to see the sights. Springfield plays a key part in being a business hub for SW Missouri as well as eastern Oklahoma and northern Arkansas. Agriculture is also a key part with shipping and distribution of milk, eggs, and aquatics - all having large facilities that reside in Springfield.

A chartered bus is hired from Village Tours, rooms are blocked, and restaurants are planned in advance. Tour participants pay a one time fee to cover most of the known expenses (bus, lodging, meals, and admission fees to sites). Breakfast will be included at the hotel. Incidentals, souvenirs, and occasional meals in route to our destination are paid individually. We look to find stops and restaurants that are unique to the area . By lumping the expenses together and each paying an equal amount, we have continued to make the trip fun, educational, and affordable.

A more complete trip itinerary and cost of the trip will be available soon.



# 4-Her's Working Hard To Make the Best Better







# County Fair Candids