

K-State Extension

NEWSLETTER

Doniphan County

November/
December 2026

4-H NEWS

www.doniphan.k-state.edu

Doniphan County Extension Services

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Doniphan County K-
State Extension

Welcome Back to 4-H Online! Kansas
4-H welcomes you to another year of
convenient online enrollment!

Visit: <https://v2.4honline.com/>

Please enroll by November 30, 2026

****Enrollment will stay open throughout
the winter but after November 30th points
will no longer be earned for your clubs
Standard of Excellence.**

***Be sure to use the enrollment code to
get your FREE enrollment fee that can be
used till November 30th 2026**

4-H ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT

will be Sunday, November 15th at 6:00
p.m. We will have a catered supper, lead-
ers please bring desserts.

Achievement Night Club Duties:

*Set Up & Table Decorations—Midway
Meadowlarks and Troy Triangle*

*Drinks –Wathena Sunflower and High-
land Cloverpatch*

*Clean Up – Doniphan Star, Circle B and
Bendena*

21st ANNUAL

ICE SKATING PARTY

4-H County-wide Ice Skating Party will
be on **SUNDAY, December 27th**
at Bode Ice Arena in St. Joseph, MO.

We have the skating rink from 6:00-8:00
p.m. The 4-H Council will pay for the
rink and the \$2 skate rental for those
skating.

A refreshment table will be set up.

SNACKS: Circle B, Troy Triangle and
Midway Meadowlarks

DRINKGS: Wathena Sunflower, Bende-
na, Doniphan Star and Highland C.

All 4-H families are welcome at this
event.

**Please Remember - all 4-H children
skating must have completed the on-
line enrollment, that includes partici-
pation forms.**

***If they bring a guest, the parent must be
in attendance or a participation form
filled out and signed by the guests parent.**

2027 4-H COUNCIL OFFICERS

President - AnnaMaria Root

Vice-President - Gracie Juhl

Secretary - Hayleigh Cluck

Treasurer - Lillian Kuhnert

Parliamentarian - Emma Cluck

Reporter - Ally Ellsworth

Historian—Harper Heinrich

K-STATE
Research and Extension



Doniphan
County

K-State Research and Extension is committed to making its services, activities and programs
accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to physical vision, or
learning disability, or dietary restrictions please call the county Extension Director.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027 4-H:

- *4-H Day
- *Council fund-raisers
- *CIA
- *Regional 4-H Day
- *County Camps
- *State Discovery Days

There are many fun and exciting 4-H Events to take part in. I hope each of you reaches out with both hands to be a part of these events. These are the opportunities that make 4-H a unique and special youth organization. Personal growth within each child comes with; **FIRST** - active participation (*not* sitting in the corner and watching); **SECOND** - develop/using new skills to grow the mind and spirit; and **THIRD** - sharing your new skills with other people.

To sum up - Take time to Participate and be a part of 4-H events and special days. You're worth it!



HOLIDAY OFFICE SCHEDULE:

The Extension office will be closed:
November 11th, 26th-27th
December 24th - January 1st.

4-H COUNCIL 2027

The next meeting of our 4-H Council will be Monday, January 10th, 2027 at 7:00 at the 4-H Building.



Plan Your 4-H Year

Organize your Clubs Monthly Meetings

***Choose a set date and time to have your 4-H Club Monthly Meetings:**

example - Every 2nd Sunday of the month, 2:00 p.m.

***Provide a 4-H Club Book** to each 4-H family - dates, rolls calls, assign project talks/demonstrations, refreshment responsibilities, etc...

***Welcome new families:** keep them informed, answer questions, lead by example!

***Make 4-H Club Meetings Fun!!**

4-H Club Meeting Agenda Example:

Date of Meeting
Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance (led by)
4-H Pledge (led by)
Roll Call (list roll call question) Roll Call
Ideas
Song Leader (led by)
Welcome and Introduction of Guests
Ideas for Welcoming New Members and 4-H
Greet Sheet Reading
Approval of Minutes
Treasurer's Report
Reading of Communications
Committee Reports
Leader Report (optional)
Project Leader Report (optional)
Unfinished/Old Business (list items)
New Business (list items)
Program, Activity, Demonstrations (list program member or 4-H members to give talks)
Recreation (led by)
Adjournment
Refreshments (list families responsible)



Creative Roll Call Ideas

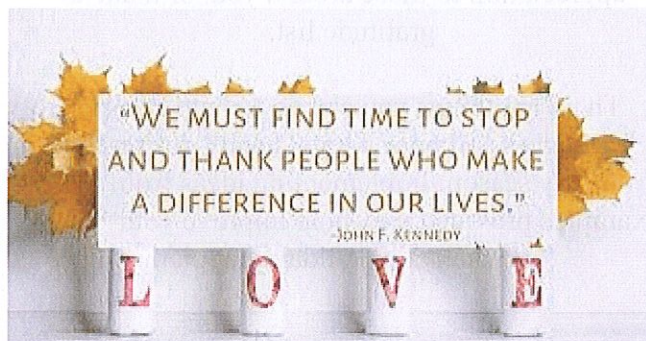


Energize the club meeting from the start by asking a creative roll call question. This will set the mood for a fun, engaging meeting where all members have an opportunity to speak and share.

There are many benefits to being creative with roll call. This allows everyone to have a part in the program. Roll call allows members to learn to speak in front of the group, which builds their confidence.

Club officers and leaders can select from the roll call ideas below or use the list to help spark new ideas.

- My favorite streaming service program
- My favorite way to relax
- Favorite winter pastime
- A word of advice
- A pet peeve I have
- My favorite month and why
- Name a superstition
- Ideal age and why
- My favorite sport to play and watch
- Something I look for in a friend
- An unusual gift I've received
- Favorite 4-H event and why (or looking forward to)
- Name a county in Kansas
- A fact about a tree or shrub
- Name a product produced in Kansas
- A food I dislike
- Why I joined 4-H
- My favorite movie
- A 4-H achievement I am proud of
- Name of a flower
- A new scientific idea
- Health habit I practice
- Favorite snack
- A style of clothes you like
- A place of interest I've seen
- Nickname you would like to have
- A favorite expression of mine
- Inventor and his/her invention
- Kansas landmark
- My favorite fictional character
- Summer plans
- My favorite April Fools joke
- The best pet I've ever had
- What I cook best
- A hobby I have
- Top music choice
- Time I get up on Saturdays
- Time it takes to get to school
- A career I'd like to have when I grow up
- Famous quote and who said it
- Nursery rhyme
- A household item that can be poisonous
- My middle name
- A native Kansas tree
- My favorite hero
- Someone I look up to
- My favorite carnival ride
- Share a suggestion to prepare for county fair
- Name of a pet you have
- What I like best about State Fair (or am looking forward to)
- A suggestion for keeping 4-H records
- My favorite food and why
- A good roll call question



**Thank You for all the kindnesses you give.
Your thoughtful words, kind acts and
generous gifts of time, make a difference. I
wish all of you a Happy Holiday Season!**
Kathy ♡

BASIS FOOD SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

Storing

- Always refrigerate perishable food within 2 hours (1 hour if the temperature is over 90 degrees).
- The refrigerator temperature should be 40° F to slow the growth of bacteria.
 - Freezer temperature should be at 0° F or below to stop the growth of bacteria.
 - Cook or freeze fresh poultry, fish, ground meats, and variety meats within 2 days; other beef, veal, lamb, or pork within 3 to 5 days.
 - Perishable food such as meat and poultry should be wrapped securely to maintain quality and to prevent meat juices from getting onto other food.

Cleaning

- Wash your hands before and after handling food.
 - Use warm water and soap for 20 seconds and a single use towel to dry.
 - Don't cross-contaminate. Keep raw meat, poultry, fish, and their juices away from other food.
- After cutting raw meats, wash cutting board, utensils, and countertops with hot, soapy water.

Preparation and Cooking

- Thaw meats in the refrigerator, in cold water, or in the microwave for immediate use. Do not thaw at room temperature.
 - Bacteria grow at room temperature.
- The only way to know food is fully cooked is by taking its temperature with a thermometer, not merely by color change.
 - Cook meat to a safe internal temperature.
- Beef, veal, and lamb steaks, roasts, and chops may be cooked to 145° F.
 - All pork cuts, 160° F.
- Ground beef, veal, and lamb to 160° F.
- All poultry should reach a safe minimum internal temperature of 165° F. Serving
 - Temperature danger zone: 40° to 140° F
 - Bacteria grow fast in the temperature danger zone.
- Avoid keeping food within the danger zone.
- Hot food should be held at 140° F or warmer.
- Cold food should be held at 40° F or colder.
- Perishable food should not be left out more than 2 hours at room temperature (1 hour when the temperature is above 90° F).

Leftovers

- Discard any food left out at room temperature for more than 2 hours (1 hour if the temperature was above 90° F).
 - Place food into shallow containers and immediately place in the refrigerator or freezer for rapid cooling.
 - Use cooked leftovers within 4 days.



LONELINESS AT THE HOLIDAYS

***Reprint requested**

The holidays bring mistletoe, caroling, eggnog, gift-giving, family, and friends. However, for some, the holidays can also bring loneliness. A recent survey from the American Association of Retired Persons found that 31% of respondents said they had felt lonely during the holiday season sometime in the past five years, and 41 percent worried about a family member or friend feeling alone. Though loneliness is common, there are things you can do to enjoy the season, no matter what your situation. Consider these tips.

Service: Think of someone in need or a good cause to support when you are feeling down. Service can help improve your mood and sense of self-worth.

Service has been shown to improve conflict resolution skills and vocational capacity among adolescents. An act of kindness can be as easy as helping a family member, friend, or neighbor in need. If you are looking for a service opportunity, an internet search can help you find people and organizations with needs in your area.

Social relationships: We all need friends, family, and loved ones. However, even those with loved ones around them can feel lonely or have mental health challenges. If you start feeling lonely this year, reach out to friends or family members. Something as simple as sending a text or engaging in a conversation can lift your spirits.

Self-love: Some psychologists believe that our level of self-love is connected to our ability to love others and that to love yourself, you need to know and take care of yourself. Doing something nice for yourself can help increase your happiness. For example, give yourself a gift, write in your journal, watch a movie, or enjoy nature. Whatever it is, do something meaningful to you that makes you happy.

Gratitude: Even when circumstances seem bleak, practicing gratitude can help you remember the good things you have in life. Studies show that

gratitude is associated with well-being and can be used to help face difficult times. To increase your gratitude, write a note, verbally express appreciation to those around you, or make a gratitude list.

There are things you can do to help combat loneliness and poor mental health during the holiday season. Implementing ideas from the examples provided may help improve your mood and make the holidays happier.

If you are Feeling Lonely
know that you will always
have:

Books to nurture your mind

Hands to create and explore

Wind to calm your soul

Breathes to soothe your nerves

Nature to soak your worries away

Stars to decorate your dreams

Emma XU

OurMindFullLife.com





Doniphan County

Agriculture & Natural Resources News

Katharine Sharp
Doniphan County Agriculture Agent



K-State Garden Calendar

- Pick pumpkins and winter squash. Keep in a warm area for a couple of weeks, and then store in a cool, dry location.
- Plant garlic cloves for next summer's harvest. Fall planting gets a jump on spring growth.
- Make notes of successes and failures in the garden for next year.
- Pick up and discard fallen fruit to reduce disease pressure next year.
- Take advantage of the cooler weather to plant trees, shrubs, spring-flowering bulbs, and mums.
- Pot up bulbs for indoor forcing over the winter months.
- All Tall Fescue grass seed should have been planted by October 15th, in order to allow for seedling establishment before winter.
- Continue to mow the lawn, if necessary, bluegrass 2 inches, tall fescue 2½ inches.
- Check oil level in your lawn mower.
- Prepare the compost pile for winter. Add new materials and turn.

Doniphan County 4-H Facebook Group

In case you have missed it, we do have an informative Facebook group called: "Doniphan County 4-H". If you want to keep up with all things Doniphan County 4-H, please join! Parents and Club Leaders are encouraged to use this group to post memories!

Upcoming Extension Events in Northeast Kansas

At the timing of this newsletter, news releases will not be released until November:

KSU Beef Extension Program - December

This will be in Hiawatha, and will cover topics such as pasture/forage insurance, beef cow nutrition, virtual fences, invasive species management, and improving pasture production. Time and date details have yet to be released as of October 20th.

Kansas Land Lease Workshops - January

This K-State Department of Agricultural Economics Extension program will address key areas of agricultural land leasing including the fundamentals of leasing, various lease agreement types, legal considerations, written agreements, and landowner- tenant communication. This workshop will be a 3-night, evening program event, with each program lasting 1-1.5 hours:

*-Land Lease Fundamentals and Types of Lease Agreements: **January 20, 2027***

*-Legal Considerations in Ag Land Leasing, Key Components of a Written Lease Agreement: **January 27, 2027***

*-Best Practices for Lease Negotiations and Maintaining Strong Landlord- Tenant Relationships: **February 3, 2027***

Be on the look-out for registration details, location and evening start time coming out soon! Please contact Brown County Extension Office for more information.



Doniphan County

Agriculture & Natural Resources News

Katharine Sharp
Doniphan County Agriculture Agent



Farewell, Doniphan County 4-H and Extension!

Dear Doniphan County Extension/ 4-H Newsletter Readers:

I have very much enjoyed my almost 3 years at the Doniphan County Extension office. This is very hard to write, but I am thankful for getting to work with all of you. I am happy to announce I will be starting in December as the Leavenworth County Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent. I am happy to continue working for K-State Extension. I have the opportunity to work on more agriculture and natural resources Extension programming in Leavenworth, and in which the location also works with my future plans in life.

My reasons for leaving are ALL positive, though I will miss the Doniphan County 4-H community! I am grateful to say you all have been so kind and wonderful to me. I can't say I have had any negative reasons for leaving. I want to share a few moments of thank you's:

Working with the Doniphan County Fair Association! Thank you to all members: Norman Meng, Gregg Thomas, Shari Bauman, Nathan Geiger, Thomas Albers, Jessica Juhl, Tim Grable, Dean Smith, and Lindsay Whitten. We have a wonderful Fair Association who really cares, and works hard for our Doniphan County 4-H members. Thank you to the **Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Development Committee**, and Kyle Jeschke!

Thank you to all members of the **4-H Council and Community Club Leaders**. I am glad to have served as a resource all while learning how Kansas and Doniphan County 4-H operates. Now I wish I did it before I discovered FFA in middle school, especially now knowing I could've learned more in the fiber arts project!! Working with you has given me a great appreciation for Kansas 4-H and I will still work with 4-H in Leavenworth, just in a different capacity. I won't be too far away, so don't be afraid to reach out! 😊

Katharine Sharp





Extension
Doniphan County

DONIPHAN COUNTY CORN VARIETY PLOT RESULTS 2026

COOPERATOR: KYLE JESCHKE

PLOT LOCATION: NEAR 1713 FRENCH ROAD SPARKS, KANSAS 66035

PLANTED: 04/22/2026

HARVESTED: 09/23/2026

ROW WIDTH: 30.0 inches

POPULATION: 34,000

SOIL TEXTURE: SILTY LOAM

TILLAGE: NO-TILL

HERBICIDE: UNKNOWN

PREVIOUS CROP: CORN

RAINFALL: ABOVE AVERAGE

FUNGICIDE: VELTYMA

DISEASE PRESSURE: LOW

APPLICATION METHOD: DRONE

FUNGICIDE TREATMENTS:

- 1st Application: July 9, 2026 (3 gal)
- 2nd Application: August 13, 2026 (6 gal)
- 3rd Application: August 30, 2026 (9 gal)

DONIPHAN COUNTY CORN VARIETY PLOT RESULTS - 2026 (HYBRID SUMMARY)

Rows										
BRAND	VARIETY	ENTRY ORDER	MATURITY AGE	NO.	LENGTH	HARVEST WT.	% MOIST.	TEST WT.	ACTUAL YIELD ¹	RANK
Taylor	TSF6040	12	114	4	585	2104	16.8	60.5	278.12	1
Renk	RK8585TRE	10	114	4	585	2054	16.8	60.5	272.15	2
Channel	215-25TRERIB	5	115	4	585	2042	17.1	59.4	266.41	3
Hoegemeyer	8593PCUE	6	115	4	585	2042	17.0	56.0	265.13	4
Brevant	B15Z65PCE	4	115	4	585	2048	17.5	58.7	264.31	5
Check	DKC68-35RIB	Check - West	118	4	585	1956	16.6	60.5	254.58	-
Agrigold	A645-01	7	115	4	585	1924	17.0	59.6	251.31	6
Check	DKC68-35RIB	Check - East	118	4	585	1918	16.5	60.8	251.13	-
Agrigold	A645-30VT2RIB	3	115	4	585	1896	15.6	60.0	246.17	7
NC+	16-72SSRIB	2	116	4	585	1878	15.9	57.7	243.54	8
Croplan	CP5682TRE	1	116	4	585	1860	15.3	58.2	242.08	9
Dekalb	DKC114-99RIB	9	114	4	585	1824	15.2	59.1	239.96	10
Becks	6473TCV2P	8	114	4	585	1770	15.5	59.6	233.69	11
Rob-See-Co	RC6411-VT2P	11	114	4	585	1652	16.3	59.7	219.14	12
PLOT AVERAGES (Final Values Averaged Across 3 Replications):						1926	16.4	59.3	251.98	

¹Yield = BUSHELs per acre corrected to 15% moisture.

Weighed by: AG PARTNERS

Calculated by: AG PARTNERS and EXTENSION OFFICE

2027 YEAST BREAD BAKING CLASSES

3 Lessons:

- *Bread Loaf
- *Bread Rolls
- *Sweet Breads



COST: \$5/CLASS - LIMIT 5 PER CLASS

PLACE: KATHY THARMAN'S HOME, 1358 100TH RD., ATCHISON, KS

*YOU PROVIDE BAKING PAN, LARGE BOWL, WOODEN SPOON

Call the Extension office to register - 785-985-3623

ADULT CLASSES

BREAD LOAF-

Wednesday, January 13th

6-9 pm

BREAD ROLLS-

Wednesday, February 10th

6-9 pm

SWEET BREADS

Wednesday, March 10th

6-9 pm

YOUTH CLASSES

AGES 9-13 - 8:30 am - noon

AGES 14-18 - 1 - 4 PM

BREAD LOAF-

Saturday, January 9

BREAD ROLLS

Saturday, February 13

SWEET BREADS

Saturday, March 13

K-State Extension is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to physical, vision, or learning disability or dietary restrictions, please call the County Extension Director, Kathy Tharman, at 785-985-3623



K-State

Research and Extension

Doniphan County Office

P.O. Box 487

105 S. Liberty

Troy, KS 66087-0487

November/December 2026

Dear Friends,

Cold & windy, turkey & dressing, friends & family; the holidays are fast approaching! We wish all of you a Joyful and Wonderful Holiday Season!

Sincerely,

Kathy Tharman

County Extension Director

