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BIDS

ACCEPTING BIDS - Russell County Commissioners will be accepting sealed bids for the sale and removal of the white goods/metal stockpile located at the Russell County Landfill until 9:00 a.m., Mon., May 4, 2026. For specifications contact Russell County Highway Dept., 4288 U.S. Hwy 40, Russell, KS 67665 or call (785) 483-4032.

39,40,41,42n

ACCEPTING BIDS - The City of Lucas is accepting bids for the purchase of lots in the Harvest Addition (formerly railroad property). Available is Lots 5, 6, and 8. Contact the city for more information at 201 S Main St. or call (785) 525-6425.

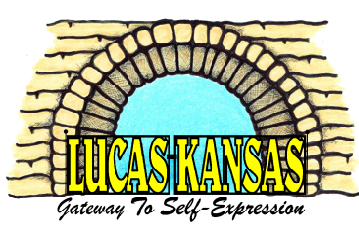
42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52n

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HELP WANTED



The City of Lucas is seeking seasonal summer help with a valid Kansas DL. An application can be picked up at the City Office, 201 S Main St, Lucas, KS. Deadline is May 12th, 2026. Questions call (785) 525-6425. EOE

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department is accepting applications for

Deputy Sheriff - Full-Time

This employee provides citizen assistance, enforces all federal, state and local laws, and performs patrol duties in all areas in Lincoln County. One to three years of similar experience is preferred. A high school diploma or GED is required. This position requires graduation from Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, 40 hours of continuing education annually, and possession of a valid Kansas Driver's License.

For more information or to apply, please contact
 Human Resource Officer
 For Lincoln County
 216 E Lincoln Ave
 Lincoln, KS 67455
 785-524-5232

EOE/Drug-Free Workplace
 lincolncoks.com

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department is accepting applications for

Jailer- Full-Time

Applicant must be 18 or older with a valid Driver's License. Certification in first aid and CPR is preferred. Employee must possess knowledge of crisis intervention, have good interpersonal skills, and be able to follow directions accurately. Employee must treat all information seen and heard in their position as confidential information.

For more information or to apply, please contact
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Kansas Farm Bureau....Insight
 Greg Doering, Kansas Farm Bureau

Opening gates

Like many people who grew up in rural Kansas, opening gates was the first job I had on my grandparents' ranch. I obtained my title of "gate getter" early, but it took some time before I was able to open all the gates on the ranch and even longer to recognize I was part of an informal apprenticeship.

The more substantial gates around the corral made out of scrap iron and hung on actual hinges were the easiest to unlatch and swing open. At some of the far-flung pastures, however, entrances were guarded by flimsy wire gates, which are really just a removable section of barbed wire pulled taut with a cheater bar and secured with a loop of wire.

Strength certainly helped in opening and closing wire gates, but there also was a skill to getting your grip on the lever and flipping the loop to release or close the gate. Eventually I grew enough to have the strength and skill to open all the gates.

New challenges replaced the gates once they became easy to open. There were instructions on how to operate a wire stretcher, weld a uniform bead and operate all manner of machinery.

The only connection between all these jobs is that I started with no experience, but I was lucky enough to have grandparents who were willing to teach me and patient enough to allow me to make mistakes along the way and learn there were no shortcuts for doing any of the jobs the right way.

We never would have described the progression from gate opener to running the hay baler as an apprenticeship, but all it lacked was classroom instruction. And maybe some structure at times.

Those small issues aside, my time as a ranch hand was very similar to an apprenticeship where I assumed more responsibility and increased wages through hands-on training provided by my grandparents.

While they may not have always been labeled as such, apprenticeships are merely a formal way to do what agriculture and small businesses have always done well — pass knowledge from one generation to the next.

Kansas Farm Bureau's Rural Kansas Apprenticeship Program (RKAP) was created to provide a structured path for the long-standing practice of pairing those just starting out with experienced professionals.

Apprentices gain skills, but they also gain other strengths along the way like judgment and confidence while employers can offer more than just a job — they have a chance to help someone craft a career in rural Kansas.

With this being National Apprenticeship Week, it's a good time to recognize the success of RKAP since it was founded in late 2022 with a goal of building a skilled and loyal workforce in rural Kansas. As the first apprenticeship focused on rural communities and businesses, RKAP has gained traction with employers and apprentices.

But it's still opening gates. The program is learning on the job alongside the apprentices and employers. In the past year, RKAP has received a nearly \$400,000 grant from the Patterson Family Foundation to help spread the word about apprenticeships and has strengthened Kansas Farm Bureau's collaboration with Farm Bureau Financial Services agents through a sales associate apprenticeship.

This appreciation is a reminder that we all learn by doing, whether it's opening gates to pastures or opening gates to improve the rural workforce in Kansas. Learn more at www.kfb.org/RKAP.

"Insight" is a weekly column published by Kansas Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm organization whose mission is to strengthen agriculture and the lives of Kansans through advocacy, education and service.

Answers from Post Rock Extension
 Sandra L. Wick, Post Rock Extension Agriculture Agent, Agronomy, K-State Research and Extension

Recognition of Post Rock Extension District wheat demonstration plot cooperators during National Volunteer Month!

Volunteers are an essential part to the everyday success of rural communities and the agriculture industry. These supporters devote their time, skills and energy to provide services and programs in our communities.

The Post Rock Extension District's Wheat Demonstration Plot program would not be possible without our continued and generous producers and their dedicated time for the program. The program provides producers information about specific wheat varieties as well as the growing conditions during the growing season along with disease and insect concerns and issues as well as fertilizer management. The variety plots provide a visual demonstration of how crop varieties perform in a particular area of the state along with yield potential of that variety. This is known as "seeing is believing!" Producers who observe the demonstrations and the latest methods or practices, then may apply them to their own situations. Producers can then compare the yield data from the many

K-State Research and Extension experiment fields across the state of Kansas, to this local yield data, in selecting the most adaptive and productive wheat varieties.

On May 21, 2026, we will holding a tour of each of the three wheat plot locations in Jewell, Mitchell, and Smith counties with 21 different wheat varieties in each of the demonstration plots. Our 2026 Post Rock Extension District wheat cooperators include Justin Angleton and Jason Ryan, Jewell County; Mike and Gregg Jordan, Mitchell County; along with Art and Linda Befort for Smith County. We certainly would like to thank these cooperators and recognize them for their continued commitment to our Post Rock Extension District wheat demonstration plot program!

If you have more questions or would like to volunteer for a wheat demonstration plot, stop by or give me a call at any of our Post Rock Extension District Offices in Beloit, Lincoln, Mankato, Osborne, or Smith Center. This is Sandra Wick, K-State Research and Extension, Post Rock District Crop Production Agent, have a great day!

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