

Spot scams before they cost you

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Scams are more common than ever. Scammers use emails, text messages, social media, phone calls, and fake websites to trick people into giving away money or personal information. Many pretend to be someone you trust, such as a bank, business, government agency, or even a family member.

There are several warning signs that a message may be a scam. Be cautious if you receive an unexpected email, text, or phone call asking for personal information or money. Scammers often create a sense of urgency, claiming you must act immediately to avoid a problem. Requests for payment through gift cards, wire transfers,

cryptocurrency, or payment apps are also major red flags.

One of the most common scams is phishing. In a phishing scam, criminals send emails or text messages that appear to be from a trusted company. The message may ask you to click a link, update account information, or verify a password. These links often lead to fake websites designed to steal personal information. Misspelled words, generic greetings, outdated logos, and unexpected requests for sensitive information can all be signs of phishing.

To protect yourself, never click on links or download attachments from unexpected emails or text messages. Instead, visit the company's official website or call the organization directly using a verified phone number. Use strong passwords that are different for each account, and turn on two-

factor authentication whenever possible. Regularly checking bank statements, credit reports, and online accounts can also help you spot problems early.

If you think you have been targeted by a scam, contact your bank or financial institution right away. You should also report the scam to the Federal Trade Commission at ReportFraud.ftc.gov and the FBI's internet Crime Complaint Center at IC3.gov. Acting quickly may help reduce financial losses and prevent others from becoming victims.

Editor's note: Information for this article came from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (occ.gov). For more information, contact Tara Solomon-Smith, Family & Community Wellness Agent, at 620-244-3826 or tsolomon@ksu.edu.

From the County Fair to the Classroom:

Wrapping Up Summer and Looking Ahead

As the last ribbons are handed out, the livestock trailers head home, and the fairgrounds grow quiet once again, another memorable county fair season has come to an end. Across the Southwind Extension District, our county fairs brought together youth, families, volunteers, sponsors, and community members to celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of our 4-H members. While the excitement of fair week may only last a few days, the skills and experiences gained throughout the year leave a lasting impact.

Profile

“Research shows that the benefits of intergenerational care are clear,” Aberle said. “There are benefits for both the youth and elderly, and that’s a direction we intend to go.”

The availability of child care as well as a place for aging parents and grandparents are certainly important in a town with a large manufacturing base such as Sabetha. “This can help our workforce,” Aberle said.

“I see us as a key cog in the makeup of our town. Apostolic Christian Home is critical to the community.”

“Ultimately, our mission is to offer care to those in need,” Aberle said. “It goes back to my roots in ag and FFA, with a desire to serve. Serving others is a way that enriches their lives and our own. We’re directed by our Christian faith to serve others.”

For more information about Apostolic Christian Retirement Village, see www.apostolicsabetha.com.

“Living to serve.” That phrase from the FFA motto provides a value which this rural Kansan is applying in his everyday life.

We commend Rick Aberle and all those involved with the Apostolic Christian Retirement Village for making a difference by providing quality care for our elderly. That’s an important service.

County fair is often viewed as the highlight of the 4-H year, but it represents much more than a week of exhibits and competitions. Behind every project displayed in the exhibit hall and every animal shown in the ring are months of planning, learning, practicing, and dedication. Members spend countless hours caring for livestock, perfecting recipes, creating woodworking projects, taking photographs, sewing garments, growing gardens, and exploring STEM, arts, and countless other project areas. Along the way, they develop responsibility, confidence, problem-solving skills, time management, and perseverance.

The fair also provides opportunities that extend beyond project work. Members practice public speaking while visiting with judges, learn how to accept

constructive feedback, and experience both the excitement of success and the lessons that come with disappointment. Whether a project earns a purple ribbon or simply represents a personal accomplishment, every participant has something to be proud of. Success isn't measured only by awards—it's measured by the knowledge gained, friendships formed, and personal growth achieved throughout the journey.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our communities. We extend our sincere appreciation to the volunteers who dedicate countless hours, the judges who provide thoughtful evaluations, the superintendents who organize exhibits, the parents and families who encourage their youth every step of the way, and the local businesses and sponsors

whose generosity helps make our fairs possible. County fairs truly are community events, and they continue to thrive because so many people are willing to invest their time and talents in the next generation.

As summer draws to a close, another season begins. Soon school hallways will once again be filled with students carrying backpacks instead of fair supplies, and calendars will quickly fill with classes, sports, music programs, and other activities. While summer may be ending, the opportunities to learn certainly are not.

One of the greatest strengths of 4-H is that it encourages youth to learn by doing. Members are challenged to set goals, try new things, work through setbacks, and celebrate accomplishments.

Legal Notices

Published in The Erie Record July 31, 2026							
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING							
The governing body of Swede Cemetery #14 Neosho County							
will meet on August 10th, 2026 at 5:00 PM at 508 S Lincoln Ave for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to levied. Detailed budget information is available at County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.							
BUDGET SUMMARY							
Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.							
FUND	Prior Year Actual 2025		Current Year Estimate for 2026		Proposed Budget Year for 2027		
	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Expenditures	Actual Tax Rate*	Budget Authority for Expenditures	Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax	Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*
General	3,740	0.868	4,860	0.797	30,930	4,265	0.770
Debt Service							
Totals	3,740	0.868	4,860	0.797	30,930	4,265	0.770
Revenue Neutral Rate**							0.770
Less: Transfers	0		0		0		
Net Expenditures	3,740		4,860		30,930		
Total Tax Levied	4,267		4,267		xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx		
Assessed Valuation	4,912,976		5,347,501		5,536,342		
Outstanding Indebtedness,							
Jan 1,	2024		2025		2026		
G.O. Bonds	0		0		0		
Revenue Bonds	0		0		0		
Other	0		0		0		
Lease Pur. Princ.	0		0		0		
Total	0		0		0		
*Tax rates are expressed in mills.							
**Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-2988							
Chasity Foreaker							

Primary Election, Tuesday, August 4, 2026

CHOOSE WHO GETS YOUR VOTE

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The local paper is also one of the only places you can find timely news on what's happening right where you live. That's why 152 million Americans read local newspapers each week.

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Legal Notices

Published in The Erie Record on July 31, 2026
NEOSHO COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. R-26-J
A RESOLUTION TO REVISE AND UPDATE THE NEOSHO COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ZONING REGULATIONS BY REPLACING RESOLUTION NUMBER R-09-JJ OF THE NEOSHO COUNTY FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE AND INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE NEW FLOODPLAIN ZONING REGULATIONS BASED ON THE MODEL RECOMMENDED BY FEMA AND THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
WHEREAS, in accordance with Kansas Statute, Neosho County currently regulates and manages floodplain zoning development through its floodplain zoning regulations found in Resolution Number R-09-JJ of the Neosho County Floodplain Ordinance; and
WHEREAS, in accordance with state and federal law, all such floodplain zoning regulations must be approved by the Chief Engineer of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources and must coordinate with the requirements and regulations of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 as amended; and
WHEREAS, the Chief Engineer of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources and the officials of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VII have recommended that Neosho County revise its floodplain management zoning regulations and adopt new regulations based upon the recommended model floodplain management zoning regulations;
THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NEOSHO COUNTY, KANSAS:
SECTION 1.
That Resolution R-09-JJ is hereby repealed.
SECTION 2.
That the Neosho County Floodplain Management Resolution is hereby amended by adding a new Resolution Number R-26-J of the Neosho County Zoning Resolution, which reads as follows:
INCORPORATION OF FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ZONING REGULATION.
Pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 12-3009, 12-3010 and 12-3301, there is hereby incorporated by reference for the purposes of providing floodplain zoning regulations within Neosho County, Kansas, all of the zoning regulations contained in the document thereafter known and referred to as the “Floodplain Management Resolution for Neosho County, Kansas,” which is based upon and modeled after the Model Floodplain Resolution for Neosho County, Kansas,” which is based upon and modeled after the Model Floodplain as approved and recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII and the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources.
No fewer than three copies of the Floodplain Management Resolution for Neosho County, Kansas, shall be marked or stamped “Official Copy as incorporated by Resolution No. R-26-J of Neosho County, Kansas,” and such copies shall be filed with the county clerk to be open to inspection and available to the public, at all reasonable business hours, provided that such official copies may not be removed from the county courthouse. All county officials requiring the use of the Floodplain Management Resolution for Neosho County, Kansas, shall be supplied, at the expense of the county in such number of official copies of such resolution as may be deemed necessary by the Governing Body.
• The Neosho County Floodplain Manager may make reasonable entry upon any lands and waters in Neosho County, Kansas for the purpose of making an investigation, inspection or survey to verify compliance with these regulations. The floodplain administrator shall provide notice of entry by mail, electronic mail, phone call, or personal delivery to the owner, owner's agent, lessee, or lessee's agent whose lands will be entered. If none of these persons can be found, the floodplain administrator shall affix a copy of the notice to one of more conspicuous places on the property a minimum of five (5) days prior to entry.
• A structure or other development without a floodplain development permit or other evidence of compliance is presumed to be in violation until such documentation is provided.
• The floodplain administrator shall provide written notice of a violation of this Resolution to the owner, the owner's agent, lessee, or lessee's agent by personal service or by certified mail, return receipt requested. The written notice shall include instructions and a deadline to request a hearing before the appeals boards, and if no hearing is requested, a deadline by which the violation must be corrected.
• Violation of the provisions of this Resolution or failure to comply with any of its requirements (including violations of conditions and safeguards established in connection with granting of variances) shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person who violates this Resolution or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$200, and in addition, shall pay all costs and expenses involved in the case. Each day such violations continues, shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Neosho County, Kansas or other appropriate authority from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.
• Notwithstanding any criminal prosecutions or in lieu of any criminal prosecutions, the written notice of violation shall state that the county may seek a mandatory civil injunctive order under K.S.A. 60-901 to require the owner, occupant or agent to remove the structure. If the owner, occupant or agent fails to remove the structure, the county may remove the structure and seek civil judgment against the owner, occupant of agent for the costs of said abatement.
SECTION 3.
This resolution shall take effect and be in force as of the date of its passage, approval publication as provided by law.
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Body, this 28th day of July, 2026.
/s/ Gail Klaassen, Chairman, Neosho County Commission.