

Post Rock Extension District

Cassie Thiessen

Horticulture Extension Agent



**APRIL GARDENING CAL-NDAR**

Spring is finally here, and it's time to take care of our blooming landscapes. This is a busy season for most of us, but getting outside can be relaxing and rewarding. Use this helpful checklist to have a colorful landscape this year.

*Vegetables and Fruits*  
Start fruit tree spray schedule when growth begins  
Plant carrots, onions, beets, and other salad crops in early April; Thin radishes, beets, and carrots as needed; Harvest asparagus until spear size decreases.; Prune fruit trees if not already done; Plant new fruit trees; Plant asparagus and rhubarb; Remove mulch from strawberry bed; Prune raspberry and blackberry plantings; Plant beans, corn, and vine crops in late April; Cultivate to control seedling weed growth; Turn the compost pile after a long winter rest; Transplant broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage in the garden; Fertilize the vegetable garden before planting

*Flowers*  
Cut back last year's growth from perennials; Remove seed heads from spring bulbs; Do not remove foliage from spring flowering bulbs, as growth is needed for next year's flowers; Fertilize spring flowering bulbs; Add organic matter such as compost before planting new flowers; Divide perennials; Plant new roses; Prune rose bushes; Fertilize rose bushes for spring growth; Plant annuals from seed and transplants

*Lawns*  
Apply crabgrass control by mid-month; Mow lawn as needed, bluegrass 2", tall fescue 3"; Fertilize cool season lawns with slow release nitrogen fertilizer; Do not fertilize zoysia this early in spring, nutrients go to weeds, not dormant grass; Spot treat broadleaf weeds such as dandelions, henbit, and chickweed; Check mower and make needed repairs before season begins; Sharpen mower blade; No need to catch grass clippings if mowing frequently; Do not water unless extremely dry, early irrigation sets turf up as high water user in summer

*Trees and Shrubs*  
Prune spring flowering shrubs such as forsythia and lilac after flowering; Prune trees as needed, and repair winter storm damage; Topping is not pruning, never top a tree; Plant new trees and shrubs; Remove grass from the base of young trees and shrubs to prevent lawn mower and line trimmer damage; Apply mulch layer around plants; Keep new trees and shrubs watered; Fertilize young trees to promote growth

*Houseplants*  
Remove winter dust from leaves by gently rinsing with room temperature water; Repot as needed, increase pot size by 1"; Leach excess fertilizers from soil with water; Begin summer fertilization of plants; Do not move plants outside until night temperatures remain over 60 degrees; Propagate house plants by cuttings or divisions; Fertilize amaryllis and keep in bright light to encourage new leaves

K-State Research and Extension has a variety of resources for all your gardening and landscaping needs this summer. Stop by or give us a call with your questions.

Osborne track

begins season

Here are Osborne's results from the track and field meet at LaCrosse High School April 2:

**GIRLS**  
**100**-7. Gentrie Riner 13.77; 8. Klaire Eilert 13.81  
**200**-5. Klaire Eilert 29.68; 10. Annie Kendig 31.42  
**400**-7. Ashlyn Schultze 1:10.75; 8. Peyton Clark 1:10.86  
**800**-1. Addison Poore 2:30.75; 4. Kate Kendig 2:43.35; 9. Georgia Lix 3:02.03  
**1,600**-2. Kate Kendig 6:17.00; 3. Camrun Taylor 6:19.70; 6. Mary Carlin 6:45.02  
**3,200**-3. Georgia Lix 14:38.43  
**100 hurdles**-3. Gentrie Riner 17.78; 6. Klaire Eilert 18.52; 7. Claire Mick 18.72  
**300 hurdles**-2. Gentrie Riner 49.86; 3. Claire Mick 52.90; 4. Annie Kendig 1:00.94  
**4x400**-2nd, 4:29.95  
**4x800**-1st, 10:23.57  
**High jump**-1. Ashlyn Schultze 5-1  
**Long jump**-5. Klaire Eilert 15-2; 7. Payton Clark 14-9  
**Triple jump**-4. Camrun Taylor 32-4; 7. Lexi Goheen 30-2.5  
**Discus**-1. Leavie Riner 110-10; 4. Grace William 87-4; 12. Lexi Goheen 67-10; 13. Chloe Hougaard 66-7  
**Shot put**-1. Grace William 37-3; 4. Leavie Riner 33-5; 13. Lexi Goheen 27-5.75; 19. Kenley Thornton 21-2.75  
**Team points**-124, 1st of 9  
**BOYS**  
**100**-16. Hunter Seifried 13.20; 19. Dawson Clark 14.40  
**200**-14. Hunter Seifried 27.45  
**400**-6. Chance Roenne 1:03.28  
**High jump**-9. Chance Roenne 5-4  
**Discus**-13. Hunter Seifried 84-0; 17. Dawson Clark 73-7  
**Shot put**-22. Dawson Clark 28-10  
**Team points**-1, 10th of 10  
**EARLIER THIS WEEK**  
**Tuesday, April 8**-St. John's (Beloit High)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

OF

SPILLMAN CREEK WATERSHED JOINT DISTRICT NO. 43, REVISED

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

Notice is hereby given to all qualified voters of Spillman Creek Watershed Joint District No. 43, Lincoln, Mitchell, Russell and Osborne Counties, Kansas, that the Annual Meeting of said Watershed District will be held at Sylvan Grove City Hall, Sylvan Grove, Kansas on April 23, 2025, at 8:00 P.M.

The business to come before the meeting will be the election of two directors to fill the vacancy of the director whose term expires, report of the financial condition and activities in the district, and such other matters of general business that may be properly brought before the directors.

Jared Sulsar, President of the Board

Osborne Chamber of Commerce

JOIN US FOR THE

Osborne Chamber

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY APRIL 12TH

OSBORNE COURTHOUSE @ NOON

RAIN DATE: APRIL 19TH

THREE CATEGORIES

TODDLER TO AGE 3 | NW CORNER OF COURTHOUSE

AGE 4 TO KINDERGARTEN | NE CORNER OF COURTHOUSE

1ST GRADE TO 4TH GRADE | NW CORNER OF CITY PARK

THERE WILL BE ONE GOLDEN EGG PER CATEGORY

Insight

**SIMPLE QUESTIONS**  
*Jackie Mundt, Pratt County farmer and rancher*

Recently, I visited a culinary school as part of a stakeholder advocacy training through American Farm Bureau's Partners in Advocacy Leadership (PAL) program.

My PAL classmates and I gave a presentation about our farms and involvement in agriculture to first-year culinary students. Each of us was asked to bring some unique goodies from our home states. We had a pretty impressive spread from sweet potatoes and rice to pistachios and jalapenos jam.

Kansas is known for our grain and beef, which are common ingredients many foods. It is overwhelming to decide what single item best represents those ingredients and is fun to share like my classmates' chocolate milk straws and hazelnuts. Luckily a group of culinary students is the perfect group to showcase some of Kansas' finest ingredients. I took both Hudson Cream wheat flour from Hudson and Nu Life Market sorghum flour from Scott City.

Flour was a great idea until I had to figure out the logistics of getting 24 pounds of it to Chicago. Luckily, I was able to have my Nu Life Market order shipped, but the only way to get the Hudson flour was to take it with me on the plane. I made a strategic choice to take the three 5-pound bags of flour in my carry-on so I wouldn't go over the weight allowance for my checked bag.

Unsurprisingly, my carry-on was selected for additional screening while going through security. Bags of flour probably don't rank near the craziest thing that TSA agents have seen, but I like to think that the mystery powder in my bag made their morning a little bit more exciting.

My favorite part of visiting with the culinary students was taking questions. We had expected questions about food production practices like what is the difference between grass-fed and grain-fed beef. We discussed the misconception about the differences and frequency of corporate verses family farms. A great conversation thread about rising food prices led our group to share about farm economics and that farmers don't necessarily make more money when retail food prices go up.

One of the most unexpected questions was about fuel. I mentioned in my introduction that our cooperative has a fuel division, which led to a question about why a co-operative sells fuel. It seems simple to us to know farms have tractors, combines, trucks and all kinds of other equipment. But a 20-something student from Chicago has probably never thought about needing fuel to run equipment. In their mental picture of Old McDonald's farm, he is not in a semi-truck, combine or utility vehicle. His little old tractor is way off in the background and when he rides it he smiles and waves like in a parade.

The students at the culinary school weren't ignorant or incompetent, they genuinely didn't know and were curious about what happens on our farms. We take for granted people in a city know anything about rural life at all. We brace ourselves for the tough questions about GMOs, organic labels and animal welfare. People do care about those topics but they probably have a ton of simple questions to ask before going that deep.

It was great that the aspiring chefs felt comfortable asking us questions about our lives. We need more of these interactions in our society — seemingly different worlds connecting through conversation, asking simple questions, getting to know each other and finding connections.

"*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.

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR SUPPORT DURING OCCF MATCH MONTH

OC CF

OSBORNE COUNTY Community Foundation

An Affiliate of Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation

Match Month was a huge success for Osborne County! Thanks to the generosity of donors and the power of the match, we continue to build resources that will benefit Osborne County for years to come. Thank you to everyone who contributed and participated in making this campaign a success!

\$113,220

IN COMMUNITY DONATIONS

♥ \$100,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE DANE G. HANSEN FOUNDATION

♥ \$100,000 IN MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE PATTERSON FAMILY FOUNDATION

2025 MATCH MONTH DONORS

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Geraldine Yost  
Zion Lutheran Church

leave a legacy

● Stewardship Counseling Program

● \$2000 grants for new endowed funds

● Planned giving opportunities

OCCF's Leave a Legacy program encourages individuals to plan for the future and make a lasting impact in Osborne County. Through Stewardship Counseling, free estate planning services are available thanks to the Dane G. Hansen Foundation. Additionally, OCCF offers \$2,000 grants to help establish new endowed funds, providing a strong foundation for future giving. There are also opportunities to designate planned gifts to OCCF, ensuring your generosity benefits the community for generations to come. Reach out today to learn how you can leave a legacy!