Maureen Burson Retires
Public Invitation to Reception Sept. 29

Extension Educator Maureen Burson is retiring after 40 years in Extension. Her last day will be Oct. 1. She has worked at Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County since 1985, after 10 years with Kansas State Extension.

The public is invited to Maureen’s retirement celebration on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 3–5 p.m. with a formal presentation at 4 p.m. at the Lancaster Extension Education Center, 1700 Cherry Creek Road, Lincoln.

If you would like to submit a letter or card to be included in a book of letters for Maureen, please send by Sept. 22 to: Attn: Maureen Burson Retirement, P.O. Box 990190, Lancaster, NE 68599.

Originally from Salina, Kan., Maureen earned her B.S. from Kansas State University in Home Economics and M.S. in Adult Education. Maureen served Nebraskans and Kansans by teaching, developing curriculum and writing grants in a variety of positions throughout her Extension career:

• Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent in Graham County, Kansas (1975–1978)
• 4-H Agent in Riley County, Kansas (1978–1984)
• Lancaster County 4-H Extension Educator (1985–2006)
• Nutrition Education Program (NEP) Lancaster County Coordinator (1994–2006)
• Family Living Educator (2006–2015)

Maureen says, “Some of the most gratifying experiences during my Extension career were watching youth develop life skills over a period of years and the lifetime friendships developed as a 4-H professional. I’ve also been inspired by the heart-felt appreciation expressed by participants of ‘Co-Parenting for Successful Kids’ and ‘Guardianship Training’ classes.”

She also enjoyed the professional meetings with various community partners to improve the quality of life for families. Examples of partnerships include: “Guardianship Training” (attorneys from the Nebraska State Bar Association, Nebraska Supreme Court and others); “Co-Parenting for Successful Kids” online and on-site classes (Nebraska Supreme Court and others); Nutrition Education Program School Enrichment nutrition kits (LPS) and Garbology (LPS, City of Lincoln Recycling office and others).

Maureen was a member of Nebraska Cooperative Extension Association (NCEA) (31 years), National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Science (NEAFCS) (14 years, including serving as state affiliate president), and National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA) (17 years, including serving as state affiliate president).

Throughout her career, Maureen has earned many awards, including:
• 2014 Creative Programming by a Team award presented by NCEA to the Co-Parenting for Successful Kids adapting on-site to online team
• 2010 2nd place national Community Partnership Award presented by NEAFCS for Guardianship training team
• 2009 National Distinguished Service Award presented by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)

Maureen and Dennis, husband of 31 years and Nebraska Extension’s Meat Specialist, have three children. As young adults, Kristen, Andrew and Breck continue to benefit from the life skills they learned as Lancaster County 4-H members.

On behalf of Extension staff, we will miss Maureen’s dedication and passion for serving the community. Best wishes and happy retirement, Maureen!

From May 1993 (at right) From Sept. 2015 (at left)