



Contact Us

CALL (620) 364-5325
FAX (620) 364-2607
EMAIL
ccrepub@gmail.com

or MAIL
THE REPUBLICAN
324 HUDSON ST.
BURLINGTON, KS 66839

ONLINE EDITION:
www.coffeycountyonline.com

Death Notices
Page 3

☐ Doug Jones, 46

☐ Karen Kaufman, 84

☐ Louis Madden, 27

☐ Mary Alice Smith, 82

Sweet 6/16

Candidates in the Burlington Jaynes' annual Sweet 6 and Sweet 16 contest are inside. Winners will be announced July 25 following the Coffey County Fair parade.

Page 7

Lake Levels	
John Redmond	
4p.m. Tuesday, July 1	
Lake Elevation:	1,055.57
Normal:	1,041
Inflow (cfs):	577
Release (cfs):	10,426
LAST GATE CHANGE: 12:10 p.m. Monday, June 23 — 9 tainter gates open 1.0 feet; 5 tainter gates open 0.5 feet; 2 low flow gates open 100%. Total release: 10,426 cfs. Flood pool 39.42% full.	
Melvern	
5p.m. Tuesday, July 1	
Lake Elevation:	1,037.16
Normal:	1,036
Inflow (cfs):	60
Release (cfs):	250
Pomona	
Lake Elevation: 976.17	
Normal:	974
Inflow (cfs):	45
Release (cfs):	33

Public Notices
Page 10

☐ Lila O'Bannion Van Horn vs. Martin J. Mader, et. al - Notice of Suit to Quiet Title.

☐ Christopher D. Walford, et. al vs. Carrie Finnerty, et. al - Notice of Suit.

☐ Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. vs. The Steven W. Barnes Living Trust - Notice of Suit.

☐ Rocket Mortgage LLC vs. Jeff Chandler, et. al - Notice of Sale.

☐ Estate of Stephen R. Allen - Notice of Hearing of Petition for Determination of Descent.

☐ Logan Cemetery - Notice of Budget Hearing.

Access public notices
throughout Kansas at
www.kansaspublicnotices.com

Index	
Classifieds	9
Community	2,5,7
Courthouse	9,10
Deaths	3
Devotional	5
Opinion	4
Public Notices	10
Record	3
School	2,8
Sports	11
Weather	3

The official newspaper
of Coffey County

Burlington, New Strawn, Lebo,
Gridley, LeRoy, Waverly,
and Harford

Lebo-Waverly USD 243
Burlington USD 244
LeRoy-Gridley USD 245



Mark Petterson/The Republican

Tuesday afternoon Killough Construction workers prepare the street west of the new Coffey County Law Enforcement Center for asphalt. They also worked on the street just south of the new building as well as a parking area east of Sixth Street at Neosho Street. The street work is one of the last outdoor tasks to finish at the new building. The sheriff's office and county attorney's office is operating in the new building. The new jail will not be utilized until after two public open houses set for 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, July 11, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 12.

Gridley gears up for two-day Independence Day celebration

GRIDLEY — The City of Gridley is promising a fun-filled weekend during its 2025 Independence Day Celebration, themed “Worth the Drive, Gridley 2025.” The two-day celebration kicks off Friday, July 4, and continues through Saturday, July 5, with events for all ages.

Friday highlights include an early morning Sunrise Social Sips event and the Gridley Gravel Ride at Jones Park. The Gridley Cruise In rolls into Main Street from 4 to 7 p.m., alongside a Firework Dinner. A hamburger and hot dog dinner will be served at the community building from 5 to 7 p.m.

Jones Park will be bustling Friday evening with a community farmers market, drinks by Gridley Christian Church, face

painting and tattoos, and a 5K/10K Friday Night Fun Bike Ride. Live music by Lora McDonald begins at 7 p.m., followed by a family bingo night at 8 p.m. and the Firecracker

5K Glow Run for Honor Flight at 9 p.m.

Saturday, July 5, begins early with a biscuits and gravy breakfast at the

See **Gridley**, Page 6

Freedom Festival set for July 4 in Burlington

BURLINGTON — Kelley Park will be the site of Burlington's annual Freedom Festival celebration on Friday, July 4, featuring an evening filled with food, music, and fireworks.

Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m., with food available from Hogmans BBQ and live music from Linda Traw, who was recently crowned Mrs. Senior Oklahoma 2024. Her per-

formance, sponsored by The Council of the Arts, is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

The night will conclude with a fireworks display at dusk, presented by Strawder's Fireworks. The event is free and open to the public. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy a festive evening under the stars.

See **Westphalia**, Page 4

Westphalia Days set for July 5 with full day of family fun

WESTPHALIA — The community of Westphalia is gearing up for a full day of family-friendly fun during the return of Westphalia Days on Saturday, July 5. Events will begin bright and early and continue into the evening, with activities centered at the city park unless otherwise noted.

The day kicks off at 6:45 a.m. with registration for the Fun Run and Walk, followed by the Fun Run at 7 a.m. and the Fun Walk at 7:15 a.m. From 8 to 10 a.m., attendees can enjoy a hearty breakfast hosted by the Westphalia Knights of Columbus.

Car show registration

opens at 8 a.m., and parade registration begins at 9:30 a.m. at Westphalia Elementary School. The parade will begin at 10 a.m.

A luncheon hosted by the St. Teresa Altar Society will be served in the basement of St. Teresa Catholic

Coffey County Commission reviews budget requests, other business

BURLINGTON — The Coffey County Commission handled a range of business matters during its regular meeting Monday, June 23, addressing housing mortgage releases, economic development opportunities, budget requests, and lease agreement.

Chairman Wayde Thomsen called the meeting to order with commissioners Michael Abendroth, Mark Petterson, Steve McCurry and Todd Barker present. Also attending were County Clerk Angie Kirchner, County Counselor Wade Bowie II, and several department heads and guests.

The commission approved two real estate mortgage releases upon recommendation from the Coffey County Housing Authority Board. The first release satisfied a mortgage for Doris F. Terrell on lots 6 and 7 in Block 157 in Burlington. The second release cleared a mortgage for Nancy Loney on lots 14, 16, and 18 in Block 22 of the

Maxson and Beadles addition in Lebo.

Economic Development Director Jenny Tatman, along with Kansas Department of Commerce Senior Regional Director Craig VanWey, joined the meeting virtually to discuss

potential funding and partnership opportunities aimed at attracting new businesses to Coffey County (See separate story).

The board heard from County Appraiser Connie Lawrence, who requested approval of a consulting

agreement with McCully & Associates to perform appraisal analysis, for \$20,500 annually. Earlier this year, Lawrence combined two positions and does not plan to replace a now vacant position. The commission took no action on the re-

quest during the meeting.

Recycling Coordinator Todd Bemis met with the board during two executive sessions, totaling 25 minutes, to discuss personnel matters related to job performance. No decisions were announced following the closed sessions.

Road and Bridge Supervisor Adam Hoch updated the commission on the county's dump truck purchases. Hoch reported that manufacturer Henderson is offering a \$2,000 discount on each truck currently being built, as well as a 4 percent discount on any future orders.

Commissioners held a brief 5-minute executive session with County Counselor Wade Bowie II to discuss legal matters related to a payroll notice.

Following the executive sessions, the commission conducted a brief walk-through of a basement storage area and reviewed 2026

Commerce official outlines business incentives for commissioners

BURLINGTON — Craig VanWey, Southeast Kansas Regional Director for Business Development with the Kansas Department of Commerce, met with the Coffey County Commission on June 23 to highlight a range of economic development programs aimed at supporting local business growth and recruitment.

VanWey, who is based in Pittsburg and has more than 21 years of experience with the de-

partment, works with businesses across 16 Southeast Kansas counties, including Coffey County. His presentation focused on state-level incentives available to manufacturers, warehouse operators, and distribution centers.

Among the resources available through the Department of Commerce are:

- State income tax credits
- Sales and personal property tax exemptions

- Workforce training grants
- Performance-based cash reimbursements tied to job creation

VanWey emphasized that most of the department's programs are performance-based, requiring companies to meet job creation and investment targets before receiving benefits.

A key program is the High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP),

See **Official**, Page 4

See **County**, Page 12