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Death Notices
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- ❑ Maggie Knight, 80
- ❑ Bill Lockhart, 85
- ❑ Helen Wallace, 96

Filing deadline
is June 2

The deadline to file for city and school board positions with expiring terms is less than one week away. Candidates must file by noon Monday, June 2.

In Coffey County, candidates must file at the Coffey County Clerk's Office at the courthouse. For more information, call 620-364-2191.

A list of all positions up for election was published in the May 22 issue of The Republican.

The general election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 4.

Public Notices
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❑ Burlington USD 244 - Request for Food Services Proposal.

❑ Shawn Harrison - Notice of Suit, 2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser.

❑ Coffey County - Advertisement for Bids, Overlay on Courthouse Drive and Parking Areas.

❑ LeRoy-Gridley USD 245 - Notice of Invitation for Bids for 2025 Ford Transit T-350 Van.

❑ Lebo-Waverly USD 243 - Notice of Hearing on Amending the 2024-25 Budget.

❑ City of Lebo - Ordinance 624, Concerning Payment of Insurance Proceeds.

❑ City of Lebo - Ordinance 625, Compensation Rates of Officers and Employees.

❑ Coffey County Tourism and Visitor's Board - Notice of Meeting.

❑ Coffey County Treasurer - Quarterly Report.

Access public notices throughout Kansas at
www.kansaspublicnotices.com

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The official newspaper
of Coffey County

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

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



County launches comprehensive plan

BURLINGTON — The Coffey County Commission convened for a kickoff meeting with Planning and Zoning Administrator Heidi Harris and representatives from Marvin Planning Consultants, including Keith Marvin, John Shepard, Mason Herman, and Jesse Poore. This marked the start of developing the county's comprehensive plan, which is expected to take 12 to 18 months.

The comprehensive plan aims to guide land use and community

development, protect natural and cultural resources, and provide a framework for future decision-making. It involves public engagement, data gathering, and extensive analysis of population, housing, economy, transportation, and public facilities.

Public town hall meetings are scheduled for July 14-17 in Lebo, Gridley, LeRoy, and New Strawn, with two additional sessions planned in Burlington and Waverly at the end of July. Residents will

be invited to participate through online and paper surveys, focus groups, and a dedicated project website.

The plan will cover demographics, housing trends, economic strategies, natural resources, public health, safety, utilities, and infrastructure. Preliminary data show stable household numbers despite population decline, highlighting housing needs and economic development opportunities. A comprehensive survey will

be available both online and in print, with careful monitoring to prevent duplicate responses. Public input is critical to shaping the plan.

The team will finalize surveys, develop base maps, and gather background data. Draft chapters will be uploaded to the project website for public review.

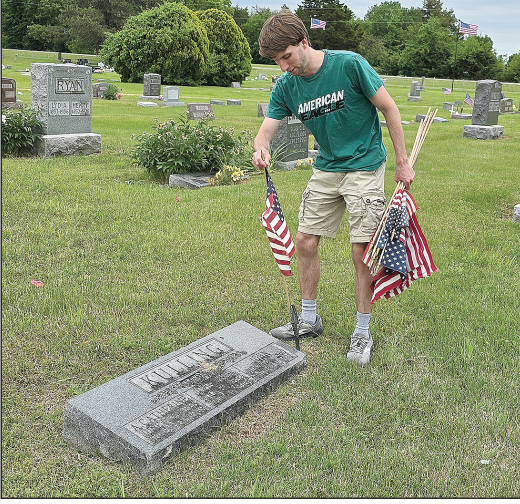
The meeting concluded with a discussion of future meetings, public outreach strategies, and potential project timelines.

SALUTING SERVICE



Volunteers, members of American Legion Post 38 and the local Boy Scouts place flags on graves Friday afternoon for Memorial Day. Above left, Beverly Hale places a flag at Mount Hope Cemetery. Above right, Seth Jarvis and Doug Feldhausen, right, place flags at Graceland Cemetery.

Photos by
Mark Petterson



COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

New hires, dump truck adjustments OK'd

BURLINGTON — The Coffey County Commission approved several payroll notices and addressed a variety of infrastructure, staffing, and legal matters during its regular meeting May 19.

A full board was present: Chairman Wayde Thomsen, Steve McCurry, Michael Abendroth, Mark Petterson, and Todd Barker. Others present included County Clerk Angie Kirchner and Tax/Levy Clerk Kacy Peres.

Environmental Health

Environmental Health Director Carl Lee gave a brief report on activities from January to April. He issued 16 wastewater permits, completed 10 site appraisals, and conducted inspections and technical assistance related to rural water, wastewater, and land application compliance.

Lee collaborated with state agencies and local officials on environmental planning, participated in

public information meetings and emergency exercises, and updated public resources. Key focus areas included the BU-LA program, CAFO compliance, and public education on mold, radon, and carbon monoxide.

Highway Department

Road and Bridge Superintendent Ryan Durst briefly discussed

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Council hears updates, approves pay raise

Mark Petterson
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — The Burlington City Council met Wednesday, May 21, with Mayor Stan Luke presiding. Council members Jerilyn Curtiss, Maxi Berryman, Lila Van Horn, Cara Mays, and Martin Ernst were present; Nathan Strawder was absent. Highlights included departmental updates, a pay raise for an employee, and approval of financial ordinances.

City Clerk Anne Brown introduced Clarissa Foster as the city's

new administrative assistant.

Chari Bauman, director of the Coffey County Chamber of Commerce, introduced herself, highlighting services offered by the Chamber. Bauman expressed appreciation that the city offers the Chamber office space rent-free.

Departmental Reports

Electric (Supt. Alan Schneider): Maintenance included line and equipment upkeep, tree trimming, and generator testing. Monthly DC power supply maintenance was completed in substations.

Water and Wastewater (Supt. Danny Hawkins): A water meter was installed at Fourth and Kennebec. Despite a county drought watch, the city's emergency water plan has not been triggered. The plant produces 550,000 to 575,000 gallons per day. The 1986 dump truck required work.

Streets (Supt. Mark Davidson): Equipment maintenance was performed, including a minor engine repair. A culvert installation request at Kennebec and Jarboe

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GOP picnic showcases conservative vision for Kansas

Mark Petterson
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — The Coffey County GOP Picnic, held Saturday, May 24, at Riverside West campground at John Redmond Reservoir, drew a number of attendees for an afternoon of political fellowship. Hosted by the Coffey County Republican Central Committee and led by Chairman Bob Strawder, the public event featured prominent conservative voices, including Dr. Jeff Colyer, U.S. Senator Dr. Roger Marshall, and State Representative Brad Barrett.

Two weeks ago, Dr. Colyer, a former Kansas governor and a

fifth-generation Kansan, officially launched his campaign for a return to the governor's office. On Saturday, he emphasized Kansas' need for bold reforms to reverse high taxes, population decline, and lost opportunities for young people. "We need to make Kansas a place where our children and grandchildren want to stay," Colyer said.

Colyer highlighted accomplishments from his previous term, including the elimination of three cabinet agencies, reduction of government jobs, and privatization of Medicaid, which he said saved Kansas over \$1 billion annually.



Mark Petterson/The Republican

Dr. Jeff Colyer, left, speaks to Coffey County Republican Central Committee Chairman Bob Strawder, prior to addressing those attending a picnic Saturday.

Wisconsin
man dies
in U.S. 75
crash near
Burlington

BURLINGTON — A 20-year-old Wisconsin man was killed Saturday morning in a two-vehicle collision on U.S. 75 south of Burlington. A LeRoy man and child were also injured.

The Kansas Highway Patrol reported that Dallas R. Reeves, Janesville, Wisconsin, was driving a 2009 Toyota Camry southbound near mile marker 93.1, just north of Eighth Road, when the crash occurred around 10 a.m. Reeves was attempting to pass another vehicle and entered the northbound lane.

A 2021 Chevrolet Silverado,

See **Crash**, Page A8

Public meeting
set to discuss
Wolf Creek
exercise

BURLINGTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will host a public meeting on Thursday, June 5, to review the results of a nuclear emergency preparedness exercise conducted at Wolf Creek Generating Station.

The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. at the Burlington Branch of the Coffey County Library, 410 Juniatta Street. Members of the public and media are invited to attend.

The exercise, scheduled for

See **Meeting**, Page A8

Westphalia Days
celebration
returns July 5

WESTPHALIA — After a decade-long hiatus, the beloved Westphalia Days festival is making its return, bringing together community members and visitors for a day of celebration and camaraderie.

This year's theme, "Grown in Small Town America," honors the heart of American agriculture and community pride, celebrating the spirit that makes small towns like Westphalia special. The event will be held on Saturday, July 5, and promises fun for all ages.

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