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THE REPUBLICAN
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ONLINE EDITION:
www.coffeycountyonline.com

Death Notices
Page 3

- ☐ Karen Kaufman, 84
- ☐ LaRita Peterson, 83
- ☐ Betty Schofield, 94



A special Independence Day section features advertisements from local businesses, stories and schedules highlighting area celebrations and events.
News Supplement

Lake Levels

John Redmond

1p.m. Tuesday, June 24

Lake Elevation: 1,061.95
Normal: 1,041
Inflow (cfs): 1,947
Release (cfs): 11,763
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: 11,763 cfs.

Public Notices
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- ☐ Estate of Donald E. Wilcox - Notice of Hearing.
- ☐ Lila O'Bannion Van Horn vs. Martin J. Mader, et. al - Notice of Suit to Quiet Title.
- ☐ Central National Bank vs. Edward Williams, et. al - Notice of Suit.
- ☐ 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.

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



Coffey County's
oldest consecutively
published newspaper

COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

Board discusses court renovation costs

BURLINGTON — The Coffey County Commission heard updates on the Coffey County Law Enforcement Center and discussed cost management for the Phase 2 courthouse renovation project during its June 16 meeting. Chairman Wayde Thomsen presided at the meeting with commissioners Michael Abendroth, Mark Petterson, Steve McCurry and Todd Barker present.

LEC Progress

Cole Stockman and Joe Seymour of River City Construction reported that the administrative areas and kitchen in the new Law Enforcement Center are substantially complete, and staff have largely moved in. Minor issues identified during the fire marshal's inspection, such as outlet covers and a door closer adjustment, were addressed. The remaining ar-

reas — including the jail pods and booking area — are pending final occupancy approval as contractors troubleshoot a smoke control panel issue. Both facility elevators are now operational after recent repairs.

The public open house dates for the law enforcement center have been changed. The new dates are 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, July 11, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 12.

Phase 2 Court Renovation

Seymour presented a breakdown of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for Phase 2, which covers district court renovations. The initial construction budget stands at approximately \$2.3 million, but total project costs — including architect fees, furnishings, and equipment — have

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BURLINGTON
CITY COUNCIL

Utility
request,
department
updates
heard

Mark Petterson
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — The Burlington City Council covered a range of topics at its regular meeting Wednesday, including a resident's request to move a water meter, department updates, upcoming projects, and preparations for the 2025 budget.

Resident Linda Crawford addressed the council regarding the location of the water meter at her property at 1501 St. Lawrence Street. Crawford explained that the water meter's current location interferes with plans to install a new culvert and potentially add a garage. She requested that the meter be relocated approximately five feet, noting that other homes in the area have meters located in their yards. Crawford expressed concerns about the cost of relocation, estimated at \$500. The council agreed to review the matter but made no immediate decisions.

During public comments, Jay Hale informed the council about plans of Coffey County Ministerial Alliance to hold a church service at Kelley Park on the morning of July 4, preceding scheduled Independence Day events.

Department heads delivered routine reports. Electric Department Superintendent Alan Schneider reported regular maintenance activities, including the replacement of a damaged switch at the elementary school. A generator at the power plant has a gouge in the cylinder liner; however, Schneider said the plant still has sufficient generation capacity to meet city needs. The damaged generator, originally installed in 1980, is not covered under warranty or insurance due to its age and the nature of the failure.

Water and Wastewater Superintendent Danny Hawkins reported four employees recently passed certification exams. Recent rainfall had raised river levels, but the water plant is managing water quality well. Hawkins said the new Tonka panel installation at the water plant is scheduled for early July and is expected to take three to five days to complete.

Council member Curtiss reported a retirement party had been held for Street Superintendent Mark Davidson. Crews are preparing streets for upcoming chip sealing. The council approved a cost-share sidewalk replacement application for William Chhang at

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FACELIFT



Mark Petterson/The Republican

American Legion Congdon-Kepler Post 38, located at 113 N. Third Street in Burlington, received a facelift earlier this month with a new coat of paint and the addition of service emblems on the top part of the façade.



Photo submitted

Waverly Council OKs equipment purchase

Ida Wilson
Reporter

WAVERLY — The Waverly City Council met in regular session Wednesday, June 11, and handled a full agenda that included department reports, equipment purchases, zoning inquiries, an update on the CHIPS project at BETO, and board appointments. Council also reviewed the final plat for the Heck Addition and approved payroll and bills.

Mayor Jake Marsh presided over the full council, which included Council President Tammy White and members Kevin McMillen, Nathan Steward, Nicole Rasmussen, and Tanner Sipe. City staff present included Clerk Pattie Pfeiffauf, Treasurer Mary Collins, Maintenance I Travis Vogts, Maintenance II Mike Moloney, and Police Officer Camren Honn.

Coffey County Commissioner Steve McCurry provided an update on the CHIPS (Creating Helpful In-

centives to Produce Semiconductors) project at BETO. He reported that the project's grant funding had been denied, but noted that Dr. Karl Wyatt, who has long been involved in the initiative, continues to pursue options from his office in Washington, D.C.

Maintenance I Travis Vogts presented a bid of \$7,970 from Genco Manufacturing, Inc. of Garnett for a tool box with slide-out drawers

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Lebo-Waverly USD 243 BOE discusses
cell phone policy, personnel changes

Ida Wilson
Reporter

WAVERLY — The Lebo-Waverly USD 243 Board of Education met in regular session June 9, addressing administrative reports, approving bills and payroll, handling personnel matters, and discussing preparations for the up-

coming school year.

Board President Todd Wallace presided, with Vice President Denise McNabb and members Jim Davies, Ashley Edwards, Katelyn Haddock, Matt Hopkins, and Caroline McWilliams in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Duane Ford, incoming Superintendent Dustin Wilson, Deputy

Board Clerk Kathy Holmes, Principal Bob Risch, Jessica Winsky, owner of Waverly Bus Service, LLC, her husband Jessie Winsky, and educator Jessica Gaddis.

The board reviewed the status of a small parcel of land under part of the Lebo tennis court that has

See **USD 243**, Page 6

Wheat harvest underway; yields encouraging despite delays

COFFEY COUNTY — After a slow start due to rain showers, wheat harvest is now in full swing across Coffey County, with local elevator operators reporting solid yields and quality so far.

Harvest activity began in the southern part of the county, with LeRoy Cooperative in LeRoy receiving its first load on Sunday, June 15. The following day, LeRoy Cooperative in Gridley took in its first truckload. Intermittent rains delayed widespread harvesting until Friday, but operations quickly picked up across the county. Ottawa Cooperative reported that harvest began in the

Waverly area Friday and started in the Burlington area by Sunday, following an isolated shower on June 18. Murphy Agri, LLC also reported harvest getting underway late last week near Lebo.

Local elevator managers expressed optimism about this year's crop. Yields in the LeRoy area have ranged widely from 50 to over 100 bushels per acre, while Waverly area producers are reporting yields around 70 bushels per acre. Test weights and moisture levels have been favorable overall, and no significant quality concerns have been reported.

At the beginning of the week,

local wheat prices were holding near \$5 per bushel.

Statewide, Kansas wheat harvest remains behind average pace, according to the Kansas Wheat Commission's June 23 harvest report. Only 20 percent of the Kansas wheat crop had been harvested as of June 22, well behind the 49 percent completed by this time last year and the 31 percent five-year average. Persistent rains and muddy fields have slowed progress across much of southern and central Kansas.

In Ford County, Blake Connelly with Alliance Ag & Grain reported harvest began June 12 and is

now about 40 percent complete. Yields in that area are up compared to last year, though protein levels are mostly in the low to mid 11 percent range. Wheat streak mosaic virus (WSMV) has been a challenge in some fields, affecting both yields and test weights.

Barber County's Farmers Cooperative Equity Co. took in its first load on June 10 at Medicine Lodge. Company-wide, they have received about 1.1 million bushels so far, with yields ranging from 45 to 60 bushels per acre. Protein levels there are also averaging in the

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