# The Coffey County

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Coffey County's oldest consecutively published newspaper

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**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

<u>LakeLevels</u> 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 taintei 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: Inflow (cfs): ..... Release (cfs): ..... .....60 .250 Pomona Lake Elevation: .... 976.17 Normal: ......974 Inflow (cfs): .....45

Public Notices Page 10



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 performance, 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

## **Lebo Stars and Stripes July 3-6**

#### Ida Wilson Reporter

LEBO — Lebo's 36th Annual Stars and Stripes Celebration, themed "ART-RAGEOUS," will take place July 3-6, with a full lineup of familyfriendly events and patriotic activities. Highlights include fireworks Thursday evening and the parade 11 a.m. Friday, July 4, with longtime residents Ted and Mary Vannocker serving as parade marshals.

The concession stands sponsored by the Lebo Junior Class and Freshman Class ice cream fundraising will be available near the event locations throughout the four-day event.

The festivities kick off at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 3, at West Park with turtle races, a foam machine, cornhole, wifflemunity building. The baby contest will have two divisions: age newborn to 6 months and 7 to 12 months. Babies are to wear diapers or white onesies. The toddler costume will range from age 13 months to 5 years. A cornhole tourna-

ment at Heidi Inn starts at 10 a.m.

The parade begins at 11 a.m., forming at North Jones Park, where en-tries will be judged. Those walking in the pa-rade and the grand marshals will gather in the Vo-Ag parking lot. The parade will travel south on Ogden Street and turn west on Broadway Street.

A senior class BBQ lunch will follow at the school commons from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Coffey County Council for the Arts will sponsor acrylic painting classes

🗋 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

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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



## 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.

BURLINGTON

sion handled a range of

business matters during its

regular meeting Monday,

June 23, addressing hous-

ing mortgage releases, eco-

nomic development oppor-

tunities, budget requests,

Chairman Wayde Thom-

sen called the meeting to

order with commissioners

Michael Abendroth, Mark

Petterson, Steve McCurry

and Todd Barker present.

Also attending were Coun-

ty Clerk Angie Kirchner,

County Counselor Wade

Bowie II, and several de-

partment heads and guests.

proved two real estate

mortgage releases upon

recommendation from the

Coffey County Housing

Authority Board. The first

release satisfied a mort-

gage for Doris F. Terrell on

lots 6 and 7 in Block 157 in

Burlington. The second re-

lease cleared a mortgage

for Nancy Loney on lots 14,

16. and 18 in Block 22 of the

The commission ap-

and lease agreement.

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

See Westphalia, Page 4

ball, sand volleyball, and concessions. Fireworks, presented by Courtney Bartley and Rainbow Fireworks, will light up the sky at dusk.

On Friday, July 4, the Lebo Sophomore Class will serve a biscuit and gravy breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m. at the school commons.

At 9 a.m., the baby and toddler costume contests will be held at the comat the community building Friday afternoon, led by Celina Soukup. A children's session will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and an adult class from 3:30 to 6 p.m. The class has a limit of 25 kids with a fee of \$5. The Coffey County Art Council is picking up the rest of the fee. Younger kids will need an adult to

See Lebo, Page 4

# **Coffey County Commission reviews** budget requests, other business

The Maxson and Beadles addi-Coffey County Commistion 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 walkthrough of a basement storage area and reviewed 2026

See County, Page 12

## Commerce official outlines business incentives for commissioners

BURLINGTON Craig VanWey, South-east 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

 $\blacktriangleright$  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 In-centive Program (HPIP),

See Official, Page 4