

# This Week in History

Compiled by the Coffey County Museum, 1101 Neosho Street, Burlington. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. See their YouTube channel, Coffey Museum, for videos about the history of Coffey County.

## July 6—12

### 25 years ago (2000)

► The 104th Waverly Ohio Days celebration was as big and enjoyable as ever. Forty babies were entered in the famous Ohio Days Baby Show. The winners were 0–6-month girl - Ruth Pucket, daughter of Marcia and Randy Pucket, Emporia; 0–6-month boy - Jordan Black, son of Pam and Marty Black, Burlington; 7–12-month girl - Ryley Maycock, daughter of Brent and Susan Maycock, Emporia; and 7–12-month boy - Hunter Smith, son of Shannon and Michelle Smith, Burlington.

► Burlington City Council members were given some preliminary numbers used in computing the 2001 budget. Tax valuation of property and personal property in Burlington has increased \$774,032 to \$10,710,959. Part of that increase is attributable to new housing.

► Douglas R. Williams, son of Cindy and Bill Williams, Waverly, attended Level 1 of the Future As-

tronaut Training Program at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson.

### 50 years ago (1975)

► The first draft on an environmental statement released this week concerning the proposed Wolf Creek nuclear power plant predicts that radioactive materials to be released from the facility during normal operating conditions should have no significant effect on surrounding land or wildlife.

► The Little George Oil Company has acquired an oil and gas lease from Burlington Unified School District 244 on the proposed site of the new high school at the northwest edge of the city. This recent acquisition completes a block of leases for a proposed test well in the area.

► The County Clerk has completed a tentative assessed valuation report for Coffey County and announced there is an increase of more than \$5.3 million on the books. Due mainly to a revised manual for assessing the oil industry in eastern Kansas and the investment that has gone into the proposed site of the Wolf Creek Generating Station. The county's tentative assessed valuation for 1975 is

\$32,687,598. (\$5 million in 1975 is equivalent to about \$29,875,929 today and \$32,687,598 in 1975 is equivalent to about \$195,314,474 today.)

### 75 years ago (1950)

► Wednesday night the neon sign on the Rondon Theatre in Waverly caught fire caused by a short circuit and burned a hole through the canopy in front. Quick work kept the fire from doing any serious damage.

► Hail the Burlington Cardinals, district semi-pro champions! Burlington's fighting Cardinals waded thru the district semi-pro tournament at Bronson by winning the final game Thursday night, their fifteenth straight win, defeating a game Pittsburg team 7 to 5. This puts the Cardinals in the state semi-pro tournament at Wichita.

► The total rainfall in July up to yesterday was 8.30 inches and the total for the year to Monday was 20.76.

► Ray S. Pierson and Ray S. Pierson Jr. entertained the K.U. basketball coaching staff, the K.U. varsity basketball players and a few outstanding high school basketball players at the Pierson cabin beginning with a fish fry Friday afternoon.

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## MENUS

### Coffey County

East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging program congregare meals are available Monday through Friday at the Burlington Senior Center (620) 591-9834; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Lebo Senior Center (620) 256-6166; and Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Waverly Senior Center (785) 733-2603. Reservation or cancellation for a meal must be made with your site by 11 a.m. the day before. If you have any questions, please call your local site for more information.

**Monday:** Hamburger with cheese, potato wedges, green beans with peppers, rosy applesauce, bun and milk.

**Tuesday:** BBQ riblet, au gratin potatoes, peas and onions, pudding, wheat bun and milk.

**Wednesday:** Chicken fried chicken, whipped potatoes with gravy, corn, cake, ice cream, wheat roll and milk.

**Thursday:** Hamburger beef stroganoff, scalloped tomatoes, tropical fruit, whole wheat bread and milk.

**Friday:** Chicken salad,

pasta salad, cottage cheese with fruit, cookie, hoagie bun and milk.

### Lyon County

Lyon County Friendship congregare meals can be picked up Monday through Friday at Olpe; and Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at Neosho Rapids. Call one day in advance to reserve or cancel Olpe meals (620) 475-3384; and Neosho Rapids meals (620) 342-8232.

**Monday:** Tuna salad, sliced tomatoes, pea salad, mandarin oranges with jello, whole wheat bread and milk.

**Tuesday:** Chuckwagon steak, cheesy hashbrown casserole, cauliflower, pears, roll and milk.

**Wednesday:** Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans with onion, strawberry shortcake, roll and milk.

**Thursday:** Hawaiian meatballs, rice, glazed carrots, pineapple, bread and milk.

**Friday:** Meatloaf, baked potato, broccoli, mixed fruit, roll and milk.

Weekly Devotional

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## Living in true freedom Finding a deeper liberty after the fireworks

Pastor Brandon Winters  
Christian Church of Burlington

“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.” – Galatians 5:1 (NIV)

As the fireworks fade and the flags are folded away, the celebrations of the 4th of July may be over, but the idea of freedom still echoes in our hearts. We are thankful for the liberties we enjoy as citizens of this country, but there is a greater freedom worth celebrating every day: the freedom we have in Christ.

The apostle Paul reminded the Galatians that Christ did not just free us from sin to leave us where we were. He freed us for something better, for a life of purpose, hope, and obedience. This freedom is not a license to do whatever we want; it is an invitation to live the life God created us for.

Several years ago, a man named Jabar Walker, was wrongfully convicted of a double homicide. He spent the next two decades, over



Brandon Winters

25 years, in prison. On Nov. 27, 2023, in New York City, he was finally exonerated and released. News cameras captured the emotional moment as he walked out of the prison gates, a free man at last.

In an interview, Jabar did not talk about revenge or wasted time. He simply said, “I’m going to live the life I missed. I want to help others and make the most of every day I’ve been given.”

That moment captures the heart of true freedom, not just release from captivity, but

a new opportunity to live differently. Christ has done that for each of us. We were imprisoned by sin, but He broke the chains. Now, every day is a chance to live in the joy and responsibility of that freedom.

As we enter the week after Independence Day, let us ask ourselves:

1. Am I using my spiritual freedom to serve God and others, or just myself?
2. What habits or mindsets may be holding me back from fully embracing the freedom Christ gives?
3. How can I reflect the joy of my freedom in Christ to others?

This July, let us not only be grateful for our national freedom, but also rejoice in the eternal freedom Jesus secured through the cross and the empty tomb. That is true freedom.

“The greatest freedom is freedom from sin, and the greatest bondage is slavery to self.” — A.W. Tozer

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV)

## God as our protector

Our minds want to wander. What they settle on in their journey from one destination to another is intriguing and telling. The Bible says, “Old men dream dreams and young men see visions.” But it does not tell what the dreams or visions are. It depends on the individual.

One day a psalmist unveiled both his dream and his vision: “Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.”

We often hear phrases about “spending

quality time with loved ones” or “living a quality life.” But unless we define quality in scriptural terms, “quality” may not be what “quality” is.

Our psalmist wants us to know that even standing at the edge of the temple is better than being inside the tent of a wicked person. Why is this so? It is because of God himself! Simply being in his presence is a reward.

For the psalmist, it is not the beauty of the place but the beauty of a person. “God is a sun and a shield,” he declares, referring to the absolute glory of God as a person and

protector of those who serve him. With his love upon us and his glory around us, we can be assured that he will not withhold any good things from us if we walk with him and live lives that are blameless or lives of integrity.

But along our way in this walk with him, he will give us “grace and glory.” Glory refers to his “grace” that he gives to those who are his own. It is his grace that saves us with the faith he gives us because of his love for us.

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