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ONLINE EDITION:  
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## Death Notices

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- ☐ Chris McGee, 75
- ☐ Mary Lou Schif, 89

## Lake Levels

### John Redmond

8 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24  
Lake Elevation: 1,048.06  
Normal: 1,041  
Inflow (cfs): 2,413  
Release (cfs): 4,456  
LAST GATE CHANGE: 1:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Feb. 17 — 11 tainter gate  
open 0.5 feet; 2 low flow gates  
open 100%. Flood pool 22.01% full.

### Melvorn

8 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24  
Lake Elevation: 1,036.49  
Normal: 1,036  
Inflow (cfs): 30  
Release (cfs): 1,500

## Public Notices

Pages 6, 8 and 9

- ☐ 1998 TrailMobile VIN \*3717 vs. State of Kansas, et al. - Notice of Suit.
- ☐ 1998 TrailMobile VIN \*3720 vs. State of Kansas, et al. - Notice of Suit.
- ☐ Marriage of Breight and Sain - Notice of Hearing.
- ☐ Estate of Judith L. Thornbrugh - Notice of Hearing.
- ☐ Coffey County - Invitation to Bid Asphalt Cold Mix Patching Material - 2026 Program.
- ☐ Coffey County - Invitation to Bid Liquid Asphalt 2026 Chip Seal Program.
- ☐ Coffey County Museum - Invitation to Bid Mowing.
- ☐ City of Hartford - Ordinance No. 173, Establishing Water Rates.
- ☐ Estate of James Dwely Brink - Notice of Hearing of Petition to Admit Foreign Will to Probate and Record.
- ☐ Coffey County Planning Board - Official Zoning Notice of Public Hearing.
- ☐ Coffey County - Resolution No. 2026-970, Reinvestment Housing Incentive District.
- ☐ Coffey County - Invitation to Bid Mowing Four Parcels.
- ☐ Coffey County - Request For Proposals, Engineering Services for Bridge 165.

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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 COMMISSION

# RHID approved; BG selected for trails engineering

BURLINGTON — The Coffey County Commission approved a resolution Monday, Feb. 17, establishing a Reinvestment Housing Incentive District (RHID) and moved forward with key steps tied to housing development and countywide trails planning.

Chairman Mark Petterson presided over the meeting with commissioners Michael Abendroth, Todd Barker, Steve McCurry and Wayde Thomsen present. Also

attending were County Clerk Angie Kirchner, County Counselor/County Attorney Wade Bowie II, Economic Development Director Jenny Tatman, Payroll/Benefits Coordinator Kacy Peres, Road and Bridge Superintendent Ryan Durst and citizen Daniel Myers.

After approving minutes from the Feb. 9 meeting, commissioners heard from Tatman on the request for proposals (RFP) process related to the county's federal RAISE

grant, which is intended to fund engineering work for a countywide trails planning and design effort. Four firms submitted RFPs. Based on the RFP review and recommendations, the commission voted to accept a proposal from BG Consultants for engineering services for the cities/countywide trails planning and design project, contingent on funding from the RAISE grant.

The commission later approved

Resolution No. 2026-970, finding a need for housing in Coffey County and setting out the legal description of property to be designated as a reinvestment housing incentive district. The property, located south of BETO Junction, is being developed by 70Five Development. Commissioners also authorized Petterson to sign a letter to the Kansas Department of Commerce

See **County**, Page 2



Photo submitted

Bob Saueressig, left, receives a trophy and framed cross country jersey as he is inducted into the Allen Community College Red Devil Athletics Hall of Fame.

# Saueressig inducted into ACC Athletics Hall of Fame

IOLA — Allen Community College inducted one team and five individuals into the ACC Red Devil Athletics Hall of Fame during a two-day induction event Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13 and 14. Among the inductees was Bob Saueressig, Burlington.

Saueressig, a standout distance runner for Allen County Community Junior College during the 1967 and 1968 seasons under Coach Hugh Haire, joins the Hall of Fame following a remarkable career.

A native of Burlington, Saueressig rose to national prominence as a freshman by winning the NJCAA National Championship in the two-mile run with a time of nine minutes 37.9 seconds, an effort that shattered his personal best and established him among the nation's top junior college



Photo submitted

Bob Saueressig back in the day.

distance runners.

After suffering a fractured hip during the off-season, he returned as a sophomore to place third at the NJCAA Cross Country Championships, earning All-American honors. During the 1968 track season, Saueressig dominated the state's junior college ranks, setting multiple

See **HOF**, Page 3

# Council discusses peafowl waiver; OKs skid steer purchase

Mark Petterson  
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — A request for a temporary waiver to keep juvenile peafowl within city limits sparked discussion at the Feb. 18 meeting of the Burlington City Council.

Present were Mayor Stan Luke and council members Jerilyn Curtiss, Maxi Berryman, Cara Mays, Nathan Strawder and George Shove. Council member Lila VanHorn was absent. The meeting marked Shove's first since being appointed to fill the unexpired term of Martin Ernst, who moved to Arizona.

Lisa Waterstreet addressed the council regarding city code that prohibits peafowl within city limits. Lisa and her husband, Mark, who live at 207 Jason Street, requested a temporary waiver to keep juve-

nile birds — approximately 8 months old — until they reach one year of age, at which time they would be relocated to a farm outside the city.

Waterstreet told the council the birds are contained in a 30-by-10-foot pen on their approximately 1.25-acre property and are not creating a nuisance. She said the closest neighbor is about 150 feet away and that she would move the birds immediately if they began making excessive noise.

The Waterstreets currently have eight birds, though those born in May have already been relocated. They requested the waiver through 2028 to allow time to establish their farm operation.

Council members asked about long-term plans and

See **Birds**, Page 2

# Three incumbents file for re-election to county commission

BURLINGTON — The filing deadline is just over three months away for candidates seeking a place on the 2026 primary election ballot.

Locally, all three incumbent Coffey County commissioners have filed for re-election. In addition, several township clerk candidates and Republican precinct committee members have filed at the Coffey County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Wayde F. Thomsen filed by petition Feb. 17 for re-election as Coffey County commissioner for District 5. His petition contained 42 valid signatures; 30 were required.

Commissioner Michael P. Abendroth also filed by petition Feb. 17 for re-election as commissioner for District 1. His petition included 34 valid signatures; 23 were required.

Earlier, Commissioner Steve McCurry of Waverly filed Jan. 21 by petition for the Republican Party nomination for re-election as commissioner for District 4.

Three Republican candidates have filed for township clerk positions: Sandra Meats, LeRoy Township; Mary Kropf, Pottawatomie Township; and Roger Cook, LeRoy, for Neosho Township.

Several candidates have filed for Republican precinct committee positions. Recent filings for re-election as precinct committeeman include Greg Kropf, Pottawatomie Township; Roger Cook, Neosho Township; and Robert L. Saueressig, Ottumwa Township. Others filing for committeeman positions are Robert E. Fitz Jr., Burlington Ward 1; Bob Strawder, Key West

Township; Bill Otto, LeRoy Township; and Terry Romig, Rock Creek Township.

Candidates filing for precinct committeewoman positions are Jamie Sigg, Burlington Ward 2; Denise Humlicek, Burlington Ward 3; Kim Strawder, Key West Township; Phyllis Otto, LeRoy Township; Ida M. Wilson, Lincoln Township; and Mary Kropf, Pottawatomie Township.

No Democratic precinct committee candidates have filed.

The filing deadline for local, state and federal offices is noon June 1. The Coffey County primary election is scheduled for Aug. 4. Additional filings are expected as the deadline approaches.

A list of state candidates who have filed is available on the Kansas Secretary of State's website.

# Logan receives KRPA Award

The Kansas Parks and Recreation Association recently recognized Burlington Recreation Center Aquatics Director Justin Logan as the recipient of the KRPA Outstanding Aquatic Professional of the Year award. Logan was presented the award during a ceremony held as part of the KRPA Conference held in Topeka. The Association's awards recognize excellence, innovation and dedication in parks, recreation and community services throughout Kansas.

Logan has become a cornerstone of aquatics in Burlington and a trusted leader throughout his community.

As aquatic director for USD 244 recreation, he brings energy, creativity and a deep sense of responsibility to the work of running a safe, welcoming, and engaging aquatic facility.

Logan is known for empowering young staff, giving them meaningful leadership opportunities and helping them build skills that carry far beyond the pool deck. His impact reaches well beyond summer operations.

As a certified CPR, first aid and AED instructor, Justin has trained not only his own guards but also recreation staff, high school coaches and even university students at Emporia State. His commitment to safety education has strengthened multiple organizations and raised the standard of preparedness across the region.

At the pool, Justin continues to expand programming with new events and

See **Logan**, Page 7



Photo submitted

Justin Logan recently was honored as the 2026 Kansas Parks and Recreation Association Outstanding Aquatic Professional of the Year.

## CONSERVATION AWARD



Kristi Vogts/The Republican

Coffey County Key Banker Carie Collins presents the 2025 Soil Conservation award to Clinton and Chelsie Souder during the 85th annual meeting of the Coffey County Conservation District, held Thursday, February 19, at the 4-H Community Building in Burlington. Kansas Bankers Association sponsors the annual award. In addition to taking care of annual business, members reelected Bob Culbertson and Terry Romig to the Coffey County Conservation District Board of Supervisors.