



Photo submitted  
Jack and Ruth Scroggin will celebrate their 74th anniversary on Feb. 18.

## Scroggins to celebrate 74th anniversary

HARTFORD — Jack and Ruth Scroggin, Hartford, will celebrate 74 years of marriage Tuesday, Feb. 18. Jack Scroggin and Ruth Bower were married in rural Cottonwood Falls on Feb. 18, 1951. The couple has five children, JoAnn (Rick) Kuhlmann, Olpe, Jerry (Mona) Scroggin, Hartford, Donna (Jim) Wolf, Burlington, Dave (Debbie) Scroggin, Emporia, and Ron Scroggin (deceased). They also have 11 grandchildren, 14 great-

grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. A reception and dance to celebrate the beginning of their 75th wedding anniversary will be hosted by their children, 1:30 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, at the Hartford Community Building, 117 Commercial St., Hartford. Wayne Stoll Band will provide dance music beginning at 2:30 p.m. Cards will reach the couple at 2191 Road 105, Hartford, KS 66854.

## Living Well Wednesday kicking off with financial health

K-State Research and Extension is kicking off the 2025 Living Well Wednesday webinar series this February, offering a wealth of knowledge to help Kansans thrive financially and emotionally. This year's spring topics focus on practical strategies for financial resilience, cost-saving tips in the kitchen, and understanding the psychology behind spending habits. The free webinar series, hosted by Family and Consumer Science professionals, takes place on the second Wednesday of each month from 12:10 to 1 p.m. Each session will provide research-backed advice in an accessible format for individuals, families, and communities.

**February 12: 52 Ways to Climate-Proof Your Finances**  
Dr. Elizabeth Kiss, K-State Family Finance Specialist, will share actionable strategies to help families and individuals build resilience against financial challenges caused by climate-related events. Tips will range from smart insurance options to cost-saving food practices, home upgrades, and planning for economic uncertainties.

**March 12: Pinchin' Pennies in the Kitchen**  
With food costs up 25% since 2020, this session will focus on practical, money-saving kitchen strategies. Participants will learn how

to stock a pantry efficiently, use unit pricing, and create affordable homemade meals like casseroles and soups. The session will help families stretch their grocery budgets without sacrificing nutrition. **April 9: Money Habitudes**  
Elizabeth Brunscheen-Cartagena, Sedgwick County's Family Life & Resource Management Agent, will guide participants through the concept of "Money Habitudes." This session explores the habits and attitudes driving financial decisions, helping individuals and families better understand their money mindsets and build healthier financial practices.

Each webinar is designed to be engaging, actionable, and easy to implement. For those unable to attend live, all sessions will be recorded and made available on the Living Well Wednesday website, along with supplementary resources. Registration is required to attend the live webinars. To sign up or learn more, visit the Living Well Wednesday website at <https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/fcs/livngwellwed/>.

This series will help participants build healthier financial habits, save money, and gain confidence to navigate some of life's unexpected challenges. Don't miss your chance to invest in yourself and your family's future with these expert-led sessions. Follow K-State Research & Extension - Coffey County on Facebook for the most up-to-date information on education programs or visit our website at <https://www.coffey.k-state.edu/>.

### NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Madison Telephone, LLC d/b/a MT Networks (MTN) is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, MTN is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or conducted or funded by the USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov). MTN is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



## County

Continued from Page 1A

operations employing 49 staff members. Included in the report: Coffey County maintains 1,200 miles of road, including 228 miles of asphalt roads, 962 miles of gravel/rock roads, and 10 miles of earth roads. Maintenance costs totaled \$8.5 million, of which half was for asphalt/concrete roads. Construction costs totaled \$1.2 million, which included just over \$1 million for road construction (Old Highway 50) and \$178,085 for culvert construction. Overhead and administrative costs totaled \$1.6 million. Those costs are pretty broad, including the cost of office personnel, office supplies, inspections, equipment repair and maintenance, paid time off, vacation, training, etc.

During 2024, Durst reported several snow and ice storms impacting 22 days. Crews chip and fog sealed 39 miles, contracted for 11 miles of asphalt overlays, and contracted for 6 miles on the Old Highway 50 reconstruction. They completed 205 work orders, both public request and county identified maintenance (76 entrance culverts replaced, 30 erosion issues, 39 crossroads replaced, 10 culverts lined and over 25 crossroad structures maintained). They hauled over 58,000 tons of road rock (over 3,900 loads) in order to add gravel to over 100 miles plus 40 full miles rocked. Normal maintenance includes blading and mowing along 960 miles of gravel roads, patching and mowing along 240 miles of asphalt roads, and county-wide sign replacement and repair.

Commissioners approved: ♦ a \$17,600 bid from Hoyt's Trailer Center, Topeka, for one 2025 Diamond C HDT 210 trailer. This was the lowest of three bids. ♦ soliciting formal bids for one road sweeper with option of possible trade-in to be determined. ♦ waiving the purchasing policy as to competitive bidding, due to Municipal Program Pricing with Sourcewell, and to approve the purchase of one 2025 Crafcro Supershot 125 crack filler machine from Crafcro Inc., Wichita, in the amount of \$68,460.40. ♦ approving the bid submitted by Scotwood Industries, Inc., in the amount of \$1.26 per gallon, as the best bid for magnesium chloride. Scotwood had the lowest bid out of three bidders. The total cost is estimated to be \$107,100.

### Executive Sessions

Commissioners entered into two executive sessions - one for 15 minutes and the other for 10 minutes - both Bowie and Durst present regarding a medical issue, under the Kansas Open Meetings Act exception to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel. No action was taken upon return to open session.

### Additional Action

Commissioners also: ► authorized the chairman to sign one tax abatement

in the amount of \$662.52. ► authorized payment to Didde for office equipment for District Court, in the amount of \$11,355.20, from the Equipment Reserve Fund - District Court Line Item. ► approved the 2025 Salary Chart reflecting the 3% cost-of-living increase.

► authorized the chairman to sign a CP-2 payroll notice for Tremaine Boyle, new hire, jail, corrections II, classification 30-2, wage \$20.11, effective Jan. 27. The Board of County Commissioners will meet at 9 a.m. Monday in Room 201 of the Coffey County

Courthouse. As of press time, the agenda included (9:05) River City Construction - weekly jail construction update, (9:10) hospital board appointments, (9:15) phone system RFP, (9:30) Governmental Assistance Services Garrett Nordstrom - amendment to SSM road project.

## WAVERLY SCHOOL SPELLING BEE



Photos submitted

Above, the Waverly school spelling bee was held Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Waverly gymnasium. A total of 15 students from grades four through eight participated in the bee. Participants were, from left, front row - Lachlan Waddle, Zek DeGraaf, Margaret Foltz, Jase Bailey, Kayden Clancy, Kolbie Teal, Hayes Burkdoll; back row - Archie Piper, Jaxson Arb, Gavin Stice, Alex Stice, Addison Drumm, Adalynn Glover, Peyton Turner and Kelsie Lockwood. Right, winners of the Waverly school spelling bee were, from left - Jase Bailey, first place; Addison Drumm, second place; and Adalynn Glover, third place.



## SCC DISTRICTWIDE SPELLING BEE



Photo submitted

The LeRoy-Gridley USD 245 districtwide spelling bee was held Wednesday, Jan. 15, at the gymnasium in LeRoy. A total of 14 students from grades four through eight participated in the bee. Participants were, from left, front row - Gracie Smith (5th grade), Ella Loveall (6th grade), Addison Dowd (4th grade), Penelope Harris (4th grade), Ivan Winkelman-McElfresh (5th grade); back row - Raegan Berry (8th grade), Dominic Jacobs (8th grade), Bentley Hatch (7th grade), Bentley Ashburn (7th grade), Lyric Bussell (6th grade), Ralston Jones (6th grade), Teagan Houston (8th grade), Ryker Houston (5th grade) and Austin Morray (7th grade).

## USD 244 BOE hires new BHS administrator

Katie McMurray  
Reporter

BURLINGTON — The Burlington USD 244 Board of Education met briefly in special session Wednesday, Jan. 29, to approve the hire of a new administrator for Burlington High School.

The board approved, by a 4-0 vote, a two-year contract for Arianne Seidl for the Burlington High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director position, for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years.

Board members present for the vote were Lucas Allen, Monique Hart, Ron Hess and Johnny Hernandez. Board members James Higgins, Bob Plummer and Selena King were absent.



Photo submitted

Winners of the LeRoy-Gridley USD 245 districtwide spelling bee were, from left - Teagan Houston, first place; Ryker Houston, second place; and Addison Dowd, third place.

## There is a new CPA in town!

Douglas A. Sutton, CPA would like to help you with your taxes, financial statements and other accounting needs.

Call Today for an appointment!  
408 W. Neosho St., Burlington  
(620) 481-6973 • (913) 764-4564  
Certified Kansas & Missouri • Established 1974

### MEMBER AICPA & KSCPA

- Auditing & Accounting
- Business Financial Planning
- Personal Financial Planning
- Small business Services
- Tax Return Preparation



## Treat Your Sweetheart

Valentine's Day Sweetheart Special for Two  
2 - 8 oz. KC Strip steaks  
2 - Side salads  
2 - Choice of potato (Baked or Fries)  
2 - Hot Rolls  
All for just \$25!

## ACROSS THE BORDERS

320 Neosho St., Burlington  
(620) 364-1455