



Contact Us

CALL (620) 364-5325  
FAX (620) 364-2607  
EMAIL  
ccrepub@gmail.com

or MAIL  
THE REPUBLICAN  
324 HUDSON ST.  
BURLINGTON, KS 66839

ONLINE EDITION:  
www.coffeycountyonline.com

Death Notices  
Page 3

☐ Marge Gannaway, 82  
☐ Nina Urton, 87

Inside

Deal Questioned  
The man charged with killing a Wyandotte County deputy was free due to a plea deal in Anderson County. Critics say a dismissed charge should have put the violent felon behind bars.  
Page 11

Lake Levels	
John Redmond	
3p.m. Tuesday, August 5	
Lake Elevation:	1,042.43
Normal:	1,041
Inflow (cfs):	694
Release (cfs):	2,301
LAST GATE CHANGE: 1 p.m.	
Monday, August 4 — 6 tainter	
gates open 0.5 feet; 2 low flow	
gates open 45%. Flood pool	
2.54% full.	
Melvern	
6a.m. Tuesday, August 5	
Lake Elevation:	1,036.12
Normal:	1,036
Inflow (cfs):	5
Release (cfs):	20
Pomona	
Lake Elevation:	974.62
Normal:	974
Inflow (cfs):	5
Release (cfs):	15

Public Notices  
Page 10

☐ Estate of Ivan Paul Salyer Jr. - Notice of Sale.

☐ Petition of Rebecca Jane Bruza-Perry to Change Name to Rebecca Jane Perry.

☐ Long-Scott Creek Watershed - Notice of Budget Hearing.

☐ Estate of Janet A. Naylor - Notice of Hearing.

☐ Coffey County - Invitation to Bid Tires.

☐ Pottawatomie Township - Notice of Budget Hearing.

☐ City of Hartford - Notice of Hearing to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate and Budget Hearing.

Access public notices  
throughout Kansas at  
www.kansaspublicnotices.com

Index	
Classifieds .....	9
Community..	2,5,6,7,11
Courthouse.....	10
Deaths .....	3
Devotional .....	5
Opinion.....	4
Public Notices .....	10
Record.....	3
School.....	8
Sports.....	8
Weather .....	3

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



Postal changes will create delays

BURLINGTON — Changes to the U.S. Postal Service's operations are causing delays for local mail, including subscription newspapers. The truck that hauls mail from the Burlington Post Office to Topeka and Kansas City now departs earlier, leaving the post office with a cut-off time of 9 a.m. for mail to make that day's shipment. Previously, the truck left after 2 p.m.

This adjustment means that newspapers destined for areas outside Coffey County are likely to experience delays in reaching subscribers. The Coffey County Republican has proactively created solutions so the changes do not affect in-county subscribers. The Burlington Post Office handles deliveries to Burlington and New Strawn and has processes in place to get papers to Waverly, Gridley and LeRoy, bypassing the papers heading to Kansas City. The Republican will deliver directly to the Lebo post office.

The recent changes are part of a nationwide decision to stop afternoon mail pickups. As a result, almost all outgoing mail, including bills, packages, and newspapers, will sit at local post offices or inside mailboxes for an additional day unless dropped off early in the morning.

The Coffey County Republican Publisher Chris Faimon said the newspaper is now shouldering some of the responsibilities previously handled by the Postal Service.

"We try to avoid the so-called 'black hole' of Kansas City as much as possible," he said. "The post office continues to raise rates and provide less service. Our postal rates have increased drastically, which has been a huge financial hit for the newspaper. Our local post offices and personnel are not the issue. They bend over backwards to get the papers to in-county subscribers the very next day. Our hands are tied by the decisions being made that affect subscribers outside of Coffey County."

The changes are expected to have broader effects on mail delivery across the nation, as the Postal Service grapples with increasing costs and declining mail volume. Postal workers continue to adjust to the new schedule, though many local customers may continue to experience slower mail delivery.

Robinson remembered 50 years after his presumed death in Vietnam War

BURLINGTON — It has been 50 years since Staff Sergeant Floyd H. Robinson of Burlington was officially declared dead after being missing in action for more than six years during the Vietnam War. Though he remains officially listed as Missing in Action (MIA), Robinson's sacrifice continues to be honored by his hometown, state, and fellow veterans.

Robinson, a Burlington native, attended Burlington High School before enlisting in the U.S. Army in November 1967. After completing basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and NCO school at Fort Polk, Louisiana, he was assigned to Company E, 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division.

On March 12, 1969, while on a reconnaissance mission in Kontum Province, South Vietnam, Robinson and four other soldiers came under fire. Three of the men were found dead, one survived, and Robinson was never recovered.

After years of uncertainty, he was officially declared dead on July 8, 1975. Because no remains have been recovered, Robinson's military status remains MIA with a presumptive finding of death, noted under the military's status code XX. He is memorialized on Panel 29W, Line 23, of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and his name stands as a somber reminder of the many lives lost in the Vietnam War.

Robinson's service and sacrifice have also been honored locally. In 1974, American Legion Post 227 dedicated a Freedom Tree in his name. The State of Kansas has since designated a 27-mile stretch of U.S. 75 in Coffey County as the Floyd H. Robinson Memorial Highway.

Next week, area residents will have the opportunity to pay tribute to Robinson and other fallen heroes when The Wall That Heals, a traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, visits Emporia. The exhibit provides a place for reflection and remembrance for those who served, those who lost loved ones, and the communities that continue to honor their legacy.



Ssgt. Floyd Henry Robinson

COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

Board approves economic development loan, discusses noxious weeds and waste concerns

BURLINGTON — During its August 4 meeting, Coffey County Commissioners received an update on the county's comprehensive plan, approved economic development funding, and heard public concerns about waste disposal on agricultural land. Chairman Wayne Thomsen called the meeting to order at 9 a.m., with Commissioners Michael Abendroth, Mark Petterson, Steve McCurry, and Todd Barker present.

The commission approved a tax abatement in the amount of \$69.40, following a valuation reduction through the protest process.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Heidi Harris reported on the completion of six town hall meetings for the county's comprehensive plan. Approximately 235 residents participated in meetings held in LeRoy, Gridley, New Strawn, Burlington, and Waverly. An additional 193 online surveys were submitted. Feedback will be used by a planning consultant to draft the updated plan, which will undergo review this fall. Harris also discussed survey data and potential publication of results online, pending commission approval.

The Coffey County Sheriff's Office raised \$11,790 for Special Olympics Kansas, exceeding its



Younger 4-H members line up for the bucket calf scramble. The event is a tradition held just prior to the livestock sale, the final scheduled event at the Coffey County Fair. Lined up, from left, are Margaret Foltz, Sadie Bazil, Merritt Morray, Harper Wright, Greyson Brooks, and Abby Hughes. Right photo, 4-H'ers attempting to catch their calf in order to place a halter and lead it back to the finish line are, from left, Greyson Brooks, Sadie Bazil, and Merritt Morray. Livestock results are printed on page 7.

Photos by Macy Mae's Photography



LeRoy City Council applauds city clean-up efforts, considers police option

Mark Petterson  
Managing Editor

LEROY — During its August 4 regular monthly meeting, the LeRoy City Council had discussions ranging from utility bill relief to homecoming preparations and city maintenance updates.

Mayor Steve Cox presided at the meeting with a full council present: Terry Tyler, Georgie Eggleston, Ricky Yeager, Dave Houston and Braden Meyers.

A resident sought council assistance after receiving a water bill nearly four times higher than usual due to a toilet leak. She had a bill that exceeded \$300 last month, which was paid in full, and a bill twice that amount this month, which she addressed the council. The issue has since been repaired, and the council unanimously voted to reduce the bill by \$250 and allow up to 90 days for repayment. Mayor Cox reminded attendees that landlords are typically ultimately responsible for water bills, adding context to the discussion.

Jeff Freeman provided an update on the Brownfield building remodel, noting the completion of the back wall and preparation for roof work. He reported that 161 bricks were replaced on the building's north side, which he personally funded. The project has benefited from HEAL grant funds and is nearing completion.

See LeRoy, Page 12

Fair Results Inside—

Today's edition includes a 24-page tabloid section with 4-H and Open Class results from the 2025 Coffey County Fair. Livestock sale and a list of awards are on pages 6 and 7 of the broadsheet section.

Mobile Vietnam War Memorial coming to Emporia next week

EMPORIA — The Founding City of Veterans Day will soon host an important tribute: The Wall That Heals, a mobile, three quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, complete with a traveling Education Center.

The exhibit will be on display at Ball McCollm American Legion Post #5 in the West Field of Longbine Autoplaza, 2921 W. 12th Avenue. An opening ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday, August 14. A closing ceremony will be held at 1:45 p.m. Sunday, August 17.

The exhibit will be open 24 hours a day, allowing visitors to experience the Wall during quieter early morning or overnight hours.

The Wall That Heals bears the names of 58,281 servicemembers who died in Vietnam, honoring more than three million Americans who served in the conflict. Alongside the Wall, the Education Center features exhibits and digital displays telling stories of hometown heroes.

See Wall, Page 11