



# Happy Birthday, **America**

and enjoy the  
*July 4th weekend,*  
everyone!

**Coffey County  
Celebrates!**

A Special News Supplement to  
The Coffey County  
**Republican**  
June 26, 2025



# Cities have rules about shooting fireworks

While state law has changed to allow year-round sale of consumer fireworks in Kansas, local authorities, especially cities, retain regulatory control.

State statutes expanded the window seasonal vendors can sell fireworks, from nine days to 18 days. Seasonal sales, which generally include local firework stands, are allowed June 20 through July 7.

State statutes allow for year-round fireworks sales at a permanent location that is registered and inspected.

While fireworks are popular in celebrating Independence Day, users should be aware of certain state and city laws. Fireworks users should take precautions and avoid fire hazards when shooting fireworks.

Many cities have ordinances that define when fireworks may be discharged, as well as restricting the use of certain fireworks.

In general, all fireworks discharged within the cities must be of a type that has been tested and approved for sale and use within the state by the state fire marshal. Bottle rockets and other similar self-propelled fireworks or fireworks devices consisting of a tube and attached guiding stock or rod cannot be sold or discharged.



Most cities make it unlawful for any person to discharge, ignite or fire any fireworks in a public street, alley or avenue or in any park or public place within the city. Throwing fireworks at any person is prohibited, and any person, firm or corporation must first obtain a permit to give any

public display of fireworks.

The following information is specific to area towns:

## Burlington

Burlington's city ordinance states no fireworks may be discharged before July 1 or after July 5. On these days, no fire-

works may be discharged before 8 a.m. or after 11 p.m. A public fireworks display will be held as part of the Freedom Festival at Kelley Park July 4 at dusk. An ordinance prohibits the discharge of fireworks in public parks.

See FIREWORKS, Page 8

**HOOVER'S** Have a Safe & Fun  
**Thriftway** 4th of July!  
 Open 9-5 on the 4th.

## Enjoy 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Coffey County!

**We know how to celebrate!**

- **Gridley Independence Day Celebration**
- **Lebo Stars & Stripes**
- **Burlington 4<sup>th</sup> of July**

**#EnjoyLocal**  
 Coffey County  
 KANSAS

Coffey County  
**Chamber**  
 of COMMERCE  
 is a proud supporter  
 of local events!

# Celebrate safely this Independence Day

Whether you're a grill master or a first-time barbecue cook, food safety should always be part of your routine to ensure a healthy and happy Fourth of July.

"Recent USDA consumer behavior studies have shown that individuals don't always properly wash their hands or use a food thermometer," said USDA Under Secretary for Food Safety Dr. Emilio Esteban. "Show your family and friends that you're a true grill master by cooking food to a safe temperature and washing your hands after handling raw meat and poultry."

Ensure your food is safe to eat this Fourth of July by following these food safety steps:

**Clean:** Scrub the grill clean before use. Clean utensils and plates before they touch food. No access to a faucet? Carry bottled water, soap and paper towels. Wash your hands before and

after handling raw meat and poultry. Follow proper handwashing steps to stop bacteria from spreading from your hands to your meal. Make sure to wet hands, lather with soap, scrub for 20 seconds, rinse and dry.

**Separate:** Avoid cross contamination. Separate raw meat and vegetables by using different cutting boards. Place raw meat or poultry on one plate and cooked meat and poultry on another. Don't use the same utensils to place raw meat and poultry on the grill and take cooked food off.

**Cook:** Use food thermometers to ensure your grilled food is ready. Insert the thermometer through the side of the patty until the probe reaches the center. Color is never a reliable indicator of doneness. Cook food to a safe minimum in-

See SAFELY, Page 4

**Closed  
July 4th**

*The City  
of Burlington  
wishes everyone  
a happy and safe  
Independence  
Day!*

*Our office will be  
closed in observance  
on Friday, July 4.*

**Happy  
Fourth  
of July**

*Independence Day*

**MT  
Networks**

**814 N. 4th, Burlington**  
**(620) 364-3222**  
[www.mtnetworks.com](http://www.mtnetworks.com)

**Happy 4th**

*Burlington Recreation Center will be closed on July 4th.*

**RR**

*Celebrate the holiday at the Outdoor Pool  
which will be open from 1-5 p.m.!*

*Veterans and 55+ get Free admission!*

**4 JULY**

**Happy 4th of July!**

**Ratcliff Propane LLC**

**Travis: (620) 366-1967 • Scott: (620) 437-6425**  
[ratcliffpropanellc.com](http://ratcliffpropanellc.com)

*"And the star-spangled banner  
forever shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the  
home of the brave!"*

Francis Scott Key

As we celebrate Independence Day, we are once again reminded that freedom is not free. Just as America fought for independence in 1776, American troops continue to defend freedom around the world today. July Fourth is a day to honor the men and women who have sacrificed so much to protect our liberty. It's a day to proudly celebrate our great country and the ideals it represents.

**Happy Birthday, America let freedom ring forever!**

**The Coffey County  
Courthouse will be  
closed Friday,  
July 4 in  
observance of  
Independence Day.**

**Regular business  
will resume  
Monday, July 7.**



# 50 YEARS

# Worth the Drive

# 50 YEARS

GRIDLEY 2025

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

### Friday, July 4th, 2025

6 am-11 am	Sunrise Social Sips & Bites	Jones Park
7 am	Gridley Gravel Ride (awards presented at 9:30 am)	Jones Park
4-7 pm	Gridley Cruise In	Main Street
5-7 pm	Firework Dinner--Hamburger & Hot Dog Dinner By Trimble & MacLuskey Oil and TrustPoint Insurance & Real Estate	Community Building
5-7 pm	Community Farmers' Market	Jones Park
5-9:30 pm	Drinks by Gridley Christian Church	Jones Park
5-9 pm	Face Painting & Tattoos by Stories Dance Company	Jones Park
6 pm	5K/10K Friday Night Fun Bike Ride (Registration begins @ 5:30)	Jones Park
6 pm	Ice Cream Social - Free Will Donation Sponsored by Gridley UMC	Jones Park Shelter House
6-7:30 pm	Music by Lora McDonald Sponsored by the Coffey County Council for the Arts	Jones Park Shelter House
8 pm	Family Bingo — 1st Card Free! Cash Prizes!	Community Building
9 pm	Firecracker 5K Glow Run for Honor Flight (Registration begins at 8:30 pm) Sponsors: Kitchen & Bath Trends of Kansas, Citizens State Bank, Thomsen & Sons	Jones Park

### Saturday, July 5th, 2025

ALL DAY	Nancy's Grocery — PIZZA-COLD DRINKS-TACO SALAD	Main Street
7-9:30 am	Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast by Class of 2026	Community Building
7:30 am	3 on 3 Basketball (\$20/team)	Jones Park
8 am	Vendor Booths	Jones Park
8-9 am	Youth Fishing Derby (FREE) Register at the lake	Gridley Lake
9 am	Pickleball Tournament - Proceeds go to GCA	Jones Park
9 am	Red Woodcock Memorial Horseshoe Pitch (Registration begins @ 8:30)	Jones Park
9 am-12 pm	Gridley Branch Library Open	Gridley Library
10 am	Western Themed Baby Contest	Jones Park Shelter
10 am-4 pm	50/50 Raffle by Class of 2029	Jones Park
10:30 am	Kids Games - Bring your BOX turtle!!	Jones Park
11 am-5 pm	Drinks by Gridley Christian Church	Jones Park
11 am-7 pm	Tropical Paradise	Jones Park
11 am-1:30 pm	Hog Man BBQ	Jones Park
11 am-1 pm	German Dinner	Community Building
11 am-5 pm	Dunk Tank by Class of 2028	Jones Park
11 am-3 pm	Fancy Lemonade by Class of 2027	Jones Park
12 pm-3 pm	Fred's Caricatures Live Sponsored by FCS Mfg.	Jones Park
12 pm-4 pm	The Axe Shedd - Mobile Axe Throwing Trailer	Jones Park
12 pm-4 pm	Bounce Houses & Water Slide	Jones Park
1 pm	Scavenger Hunt — Get 1st clue at DJ table (Sponsored by Nancy's Groceries)	Jones Park
1 pm-5:30 pm	Face Painting & Tattoos by Stories Dance Company	Jones Park
2 pm	Corn Hole Tournament - Proceeds to Mudcat Baseball	Jones Park
2 pm-4 pm	Funnel Cakes by Class of 2026	Jones Park
3 pm	Watermelon Eating Contest and FREE Watermelon by Gridley Christian Church	Jones Park Shelter House
3:30 pm	Kids Money Hunt	Jones Park
4 pm	Kids Spray Down by the Gridley Fire Department	Jones Park
5 pm	Sloppy Joe Dinner	Community Building
5:30 pm	Performance by Topeka High Drumline	Main Street
7 pm	Parade — 6:15 Entry Time @ Grade School "Worth the Drive, Gridley 2025"	Main Street
Dusk	Concessions by the Masons Fireworks brought to you by the City of Gridley & the Masons Dance Following Fireworks BYOB - NO GLASS BOTTLES	City Lake

LIVE BAND!! Savanna Chestnut  
Brought to you by Evergy - Wolf Creek Nuclear Power Plant  
Find us online at <http://www.facebook.com/GridleyIndependenceDayCelebration>  
Complete Schedule and All Registration Information Online!

## Safely

Continued from Page 3

ternal temperature by using a food thermometer:

- Cook whole cuts of meat to 145 F with a three-minute rest time.
- Cook fish to 145 F.
- Cook ground meats to 160 F.
- Cook poultry (ground or whole) to 165 F.

Although frozen products may appear to be pre-cooked or browned, treat them as raw food and cook thoroughly. Products labeled as "Cook and Serve," "Ready to Cook" and "Oven Ready" must be cooked.

Chill: Bacteria multiply rapidly between 40 F and 140 F — aka the Danger Zone. Perishable food should be consumed or refrigerated within two hours (one hour if outdoor temperatures are 90 F and above).

For more food safety information, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854), email [MPHotline@usda.gov](mailto:MPHotline@usda.gov) or chat live at [ask.usda.gov](http://ask.usda.gov) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday.



# 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY

# HAPPY OF INDEPENDENCE DAY



## CB FINANCIAL

### Craig Barnwell, CF2

Certified Financial Fiduciary  
(620) 794-6979  
[craigbarnwell@cbfinancialadvisors.com](mailto:craigbarnwell@cbfinancialadvisors.com)

## In honor of Independence Day, we will be closed Thursday, July 3 and Friday, July 4.




Heath, Holly, and Larry

## Farm Bureau Financial Services

516 Neosho, Burlington (620) 364 5341



**HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE 4TH OF JULY****Grill Safety**

1. Keep grill away from structures
2. Grill in a well-ventilated area
3. Keep away from children & pets
4. Never leave grill unattended

**Firework Safety**

1. Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks, even sparklers can reach 1200'
2. Keep a bucket of water or hose nearby
3. Never point fireworks at any person or structure, keep a safe distance from people or pets
4. Never try to re-light fireworks



110 S. 6th St., Burlington  
(620) 364-2721  
Find Us on Facebook  
[www.coffeycountyks.org](http://www.coffeycountyks.org)

\*More pets get lost on July 4th than any other day of the year. Many animals are scared of fireworks. Assure pets have a safe, protected space away from fireworks & that they are wearing ID tags, should they get loose & run.\*



"We believe in America because we have great dreams, and because we have the opportunity to make those dreams come true."

— Wendell L. Wilkie

**In Honor of Independence Day, First National Bank will not be open on Friday, July 4 or Saturday, July 5.**



[www.fnbofks.bank](http://www.fnbofks.bank)

600 N. 4th, Burlington • (620) 364-8472  
305 Pearson, Waverly • (785) 733-2564  
18 W. Main St., Osage City • (785) 528-3133

**Friday, July 4**

**Freedom Festival**

**Kelley Park • Burlington**

**Food • Music • Fireworks**

**Food provided by Hogmans BBQ**

6:30 p.m. until dusk

**Live Music provided by Linda Traw**

Mrs. Senior Oklahoma 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

(sponsored by The Council of the Arts)

**Fireworks**

at Dusk presented by Strawder's Fireworks

**Fireworks sponsored by the following sponsors:**

- City of Burlington
- Burlington Recreation Center
- Wolf Creek NOC
- Kansas Power Pool
- Lewis Oil
- Strawder's Fireworks
- TrustPoint Insurance
- Country Haven Inn

# CITY OF LERO PRESENTS 36TH STARS & STRIPES CELEBRATION ART-RAGEOUS

**July 3rd - July 6th, 2025**

**Parade Theme "Art-Rageous"**

**THURSDAY, JULY 3**

6:30 p.m. West Park Family Night  
At Dusk **FIREWORKS** by Cortney Bartley & Rainbow Fireworks @ the West Park

**FRIDAY, JULY 4**

**JUNIOR CLASS CONCESSIONS & FRESHMAN ICE CREAM AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT EVENTS**

7-10 a.m. Biscuit & Gravy Breakfast @ Lebo School - Sophomore Class  
9 a.m. Baby Contest & Toddler Costume Contest @ Community Building  
10 a.m. Cornhole Tournament @ the Heidi inn  
11 a.m. Parade - 2025 Parade Marshals: Ted & Mary Vannocker  
12-2 p.m. BBQ lunch @ Lebo school - senior class  
1-2:30 p.m. Kid Art Class @ Community Building  
3:30-6 p.m. Adult Art Class @ Community Building  
7 p.m. Frog Creek Bull Fights

**SATURDAY, JULY 5**

7-9 a.m. Breakfast @ Legion  
8:30 a.m. Color Run  
9 a.m. Transportation & Bob Ellis Memorial Tractor Show - W. Broadway St.  
1 p.m. Bingo @ Community Building - Hosted by Lebo's American Legion  
3-4 p.m. Drop off for Art & Craft Contest @ Lebo Library  
5-7 p.m. People's choice judging for Art & Craft Contest @ Lebo Library  
6-8 p.m. Kids Games - Ogden St. between Library & Community Building  
6-9 p.m. Axe shedd mobile trailer @ Lebo Library  
7 p.m. Hometown Gravel Grind Bike Ride & Walk - starting line on W. 4th  
8-11 p.m. Dance & DJ - Ogden St. Community Building

**SUNDAY, JULY 6**

11 a.m. Bob Ellis Memorial Tractor Pull  
1 p.m. Alumni Lunch - Lebo School

*\*The Stars & Stripes Celebration is funded in part by donations from Every, Coffey County Sheriff Department, the Coffey County Council for the Arts, Coffey County Economic Development, and Casey's. The City of Lebo would like to thank everyone for their donations of money and time to help make the celebration a success each year. The kids' games would not be possible without this great group of volunteers: Blue Ribbon 4-H Club.*





## Fun Facts: Fourth of July

### The Beginning of Independence

The Declaration of Independence was approved on July 4, 1776, by the 2nd Continental Congress leading 13 colonies to gain independence. This holiday of freedom is celebrated with various festivities that include fireworks, parades, concerts, and time with family. There were 56 signers to the Declaration of Independence and among them a committee of 5 (Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman, and Robert R. Livingston) drafted the declaration.

### Then & Now

Population of the 13 Colonies and Their Signers to the Declaration of Independence

	Signers	Estimated Population*
Pennsylvania	9	434,373
Virginia	7	747,610
Massachusetts	5	378,787
New Jersey	5	184,139
Connecticut	4	237,946
Maryland	4	319,728
New York	4	340,210
South Carolina	4	249,073
Delaware	3	59,094
Georgia	3	82,548
New Hampshire	3	141,885
North Carolina	3	393,751
Rhode Island	2	68,825

Population of the First 13 States and Their U.S. House of Representatives Seats

119th Congress	Estimated 2024 Population
17	13,078,751
11	8,811,195
9	7,136,171
12	9,500,851
5	3,675,069
8	6,263,220
26	19,867,248
7	5,478,831
1	1,051,917
14	11,180,878
2	1,409,032
14	11,046,024
2	1,112,308

\*The United States did not conduct its first official census until 1790—these estimates were cobbled together from a variety of sources.

Sources: Data on this page come from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2024 Population Estimates, 2024 International Trade Statistics, 1790 Census: Whole Numbers of Persons within the District of the U.S. report, Historical Statistics of the United States: 1789-1945 report, Fourth of July Facts for Features, My Congressional District, U.S. Population Clock, and 2022 County Business Patterns.

United States  
Census Bureau

CENSUS.GOV/SCHOOLS

### A New Free Nation

**2.5 Million**

The number of people living in the new free nation in July 1776.



**340.1 Million**

The nation's estimated population as of July 2024.

### Celebrating With a Bang!

• **Approximately \$470 million** — The value of fireworks imported into the United States in 2024.

### Stars and Stripes

• **\$4.7 million** — The value of U.S. imports of American flags in 2024.  
• **\$2 million** — The value of U.S. flags exported in 2024.



### Backyard Barbecues

In the United States in 2022, there were...

- **183** businesses that made household appliances, including **barbecue grills**.
- **266** businesses who use paper and cardboard to make different products, such as **paper plates and cups**.
- **751** snack food manufacturers.



Note: These are for establishments with employees.



STATISTICS  
IN SCHOOLS  
Classrooms Powered by Census Data

**OPEN 10 A.M.-10 P.M.  
ON JULY 4TH!**

**HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY  
INDEPENDENCE DAY!**



**105 Bree Dr., Lebo, KS  
(620) 256-5888**

**Beer • Wine • Spirits**  
**The Quart House LLC**

**BEYER MOTOR  
COMPANY**

*Since 1949*

***In observance of Independence Day,  
we will be closed July 4.***

*Your Satisfaction is our Number One Priority*

**510 Main St. - Gridley  
(800) 554-4277 or (620) 836-3181**

*Have a safe and fun 4th of July!*

**Pam Luthi**  
INSURANCE SOLUTIONS LLC  
Empowering individuals in financial decisions

**Medicare • Financial Assessment • Group Healthcare • Insurance Solutions – (785) 267-0157**

**Closed Friday, July 4  
in honor of the  
4th of July!**

**Chrisman Hardware**  
1125 N. 4th, Burlington  
(620) 364-5542

**Happy 4th of July!**  
Closed Friday, July 4.


**COOK'S PLUMBING INC.**  
~ Plumbing ~ HVAC  
~ Backhoe ~ Trenching  
507 Neosho - Burlington • (620) 364-2866

**HAPPY  
INDEPENDENCE  
DAY!**



**Celebrate Safe!  
Utilize a Designated Driver**

**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**



Coffey County Sheriff's Office  
Thomas L. Johnson, Sheriff  
625 Neosho St  
Burlington, KS 66839  
(620) 364-2123

*Stock up early on your  
favorites for the  
4th of July!*



**KING'S LIQUOR  
& WINE**

510 N. 4th St. - Burlington  
**(620) 364-8800**  
Monday-Thursday: 10 am-9 pm  
Fri-Sat: 10 am-10 pm • Sun: 11 am-8 pm

**AUBURN  
PHARMACY**  
We will be closed Friday, July 4th

**HAPPY  
Independence  
Day**

*We have TWO great locations  
serving Coffey County!*

**Lebo: (620) 256-6122**  
6 West Broadway St, Lebo, KS 66856  
Mon-Fri 8:00-6:00 & Sat 8:00-1:00

**Burlington: (620) 364-3388**  
716 North 4th St, Burlington, KS 66839  
Mon-Fri 8:30-6:00 & Sat 9:00-2:00

[www.AuBurnPharmacies.com](http://www.AuBurnPharmacies.com)

**Worth the  
Drive**  
GRIDLEY 2025

*Office will be closed  
Friday, July 4 in observance  
of the holiday.*

*Have a safe and  
happy 4th of July!*

**from  
The City  
of Gridley**

**Rodgers Oil Co.**

**"Good service  
& Great  
conversation."**

**Celebrate our  
great nation's  
independence!**

**Tire Shop • Full Service Garage • Fuel**

542 Main St. ~ Gridley  
**(620) 836-2233**  
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. • Sat. 7:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!**

**Tri-County Real Estate  
Tri-County Insurance**

**Carmen Y. Mackey • (620) 341-0838**  
[carmenymackey@gmail.com](mailto:carmenymackey@gmail.com)



## Fireworks

Continued from Page 2

### New Strawn

In New Strawn, fireworks are allowed between 8 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. June 27 to July 5, with the exception of July 4, on which fireworks are allowed to be discharged until midnight. New Strawn does not plan to have a public fireworks display.

### Lebo

Lebo's city ordinance states citizens may fire or discharge fireworks in the city between the hours of 8 a.m. and midnight June 27 through July 4. No sales of fireworks are allowed within the city limits. Lebo will host its annual Stars and Stripes Celebration July 3-6, which will include a public fireworks display at dusk Thursday, July 3, at West Park.

### LeRoy

In LeRoy, fireworks are allowed between 8 a.m. and midnight June

27 to July 5. LeRoy does not plan to have a public fireworks display.

### Gridley

Gridley city ordinance states fireworks may be discharged within the city limits between the hours of 8 a.m. to midnight July 1-4, provided the discharge is within the confines of the shooter's own premises. Gridley will host an Independence Day celebration July 4 and 5, with a public fireworks display planned at dusk Saturday, July 5, at Gridley City Lake.

### Waverly

Waverly's city ordinance states fireworks may be discharged between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m. June 27 through July 3 and 8 a.m. to midnight on July 4 and 5. Waverly does not plan to have public fireworks display.

### Hartford

Hartford does not have city ordinances specific to the use of fireworks. Hartford will not have a public fireworks display.

**SMILE AMERICA! It's Your Birthday.**

**Happy 4th of July from the office of  
Dr. Jordan Weber, D.D.S. and Dr. Rick Smith, D.D.S.**

*Our office will be closed in observance of the holiday  
on Thursday, July 3 and Friday, July 4.*



**BURLINGTON  
Dental Center**

314 Neosho, Burlington  
(620) 364-8414



*This 4<sup>th</sup> of July*

**SHOP LOCAL**

**LET'S CELEBRATE  
THE BUSINESSES THAT  
IGNITE OUR COMMUNITY**

**COFFEY COUNTY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

# Get Fired Up

**for the 4th**

**Huge Selection of Fireworks  
– Deep Discounts and  
Lowest Price Guaranteed!**



*Stop by and check out all of  
our new inventory at one of  
our 3 locations below:*

**Celebrating  
49 years!**

**BURLINGTON** – Maroon Building  
1/2 mile south of town, east side of Hwy 75  
\*Open June 20-22 and June 27-July 7

**NEW STRAWN** – New Strawn Community Center  
(New Strawn location is operated by the Radiant Life Church Youth/  
Children's ministries to raise funds for future events and activities.)  
\*Open June 27 - July 7

**BETO JUNCTION** – West side of Hwy 75 (large tent)  
\*Open June 27 - July 7

**Since  
1976!**

# Strawder's Fireworks

**Proud Sponsor and Producer of the Freedom Festival  
Fireworks Display in Kelley Park on July 4th at Dusk!**