

### Fall Sports

The 2020 season is getting into full swing this week for area high school cross country, football and volleyball teams. Read about the area teams in the Fall Sports Preview. News Supplement



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### Early Deadline

Due to the Labor Day holiday, The Republican will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7, so the staff can enjoy time with their families. The deadline for all items for the Sept. 10 edition is 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4. The holiday will not affect printing or delivery.

### Death Notices

Page 2

- Donald Jelinek, 82
- Bonnie Morray, 90

### Lake Levels

#### John Redmond

8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1  
Lake Elevation: 1,041.20  
Normal: 1,041  
Inflow (cfs): 36  
Release (cfs): 162

#### Council Grove

Lake Elevation: 1,274  
Normal: 1,274  
Inflow (cfs): 0  
Release (cfs): 22

#### Marion

Lake Elevation: 1,349.9  
Normal: 1,350.5  
Inflow (cfs): 0  
Release (cfs): 14

#### Melvorn

Lake Elevation: 1,036.17  
Normal: 1,036  
Inflow (cfs): 50  
Release (cfs): 20

#### Pomona

Lake Elevation: 974.01  
Normal: 974  
Inflow (cfs): 10  
Release (cfs): 15

### Public Notices

#### Page 8

- Estate of Beverly A. O'Leary - Notice of Hearing.
- Estate of Dorman O'Leary - Notice of Hearing.

Access public notices throughout Kansas at [www.kansaspublicnotices.com](http://www.kansaspublicnotices.com)

### Average Gas Prices

Week ending Sept. 1, 2020

**Kansas** \$1.98/gal. **Nation** \$2.22/gal

▲ 0.5 cents ▲ 1.6 cents  
[KansasGasPrices.com](http://KansasGasPrices.com)

### Index

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

### 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



# CHS selects new chief executive officer

Tracy Campbell  
For The Republican

BURLINGTON — Jeremy Clingenpeel will replace Leonard Hernandez as chief executive officer at Coffey Health System on September 28. Clingenpeel brings 17 years of healthcare administration in western Kansas and northwest Oklahoma. Hernandez resigned to accept the position of President and CEO of Susan B. Allen Hospital in El Dorado.

"When Leonard came to Coffey Health System, he inherited a \$4.5 million deficit. Five short years later, we have financial stability—along with national accreditation and a long list of awards and accolades," said Board Chair Jodi Thomas. "We can never thank Leonard enough for everything he has done. As the selec-

tion committee reviewed candidates, it was clear that Jeremy has the experience and leadership skills to take the baton and lead Coffey Health System forward."

As CEO at both Satanta District Hospital and Hamilton County Hospital (both in western Kansas), Clingenpeel led health systems similar to Coffey Health System: critical access hospitals, with long-term care facilities, and physician clinics. He is finishing a seven-year tenure at Satanta. Prior to that he was CEO at Hamilton County (Syracuse) for two years. His experience



Photo submitted  
Jeremy Clingenpeel has been chosen as the new chief executive officer of Coffey Health System.

in healthcare finance includes terms as chief financial officer at Drumright Regional Hospital in Oklahoma and Greeley County Hospital in Tribune.

He holds a master of science degree in health care administration from Oklahoma State University, a bachelors in business administration from the University of Oklahoma, and an associates in business administration from Northern Oklahoma College.

Clingenpeel and his wife, Doris, have three children: Preston, Anna Belle, and Avree. They are

all active in the community including church and youth group, love outdoor water sports, baseball, football, volleyball and cheer.

"We are all excited to come to such a welcoming community that already feels like family," Clingenpeel said.

Coffey Health System offers a wide range of healthcare services in Coffey and Woodson Counties. In addition to Coffey County Hospital, five physician clinics serve patients in Burlington, Gridley, LeRoy, Waverly, and Yates Center. The CHS continuum also includes Coffey County Emergency Medical Services; The Meadows, CCH Home Health Agency, and CHS Rehabilitation & Wellness Services in Burlington; and Sunset Manor long-term care in Waverly.

—Tracy Campbell is director of marketing for Coffey Health System.



Sherman Smith/Kansas Reflector

Secretary of State Scott Schwab convenes a meeting Friday of the state canvassing board to certify the primary election results. More than 636,000 Kansans voted in the 2020 primary.

# Kansas primary recorded unprecedented volume of votes

Sherman Smith  
Kansas Reflector

TOPEKA — Nearly 150,000 more Kansans turned out to vote in this year's primary than ever before, including an unprecedented surge from mail-in ballots.

Kansas Secretary of State Scott Schwab, Attorney General Derek Schmidt and Gov. Laura Kelly convened as the state's canvassing board Friday to certify results from 636,032 votes.

That figure tops the previous high-water marks of about 487,000 two years ago and 488,000 in 2004. The 34.2% of registered voters who took part in the primary exceeds the 20-27% who participated in primaries over the past decade.

Kansas voters turned in 261,180 ballots by mail and cast 51,664 ballots in advance in person. Another 323,188 showed up on Election Day.

Schwab's office praised the efforts of county election officials who handled both unprecedented turnout and challenges presented by the coronavirus.

"Under normal circumstances, local election officials have a difficult task and the uncertainty with COVID-19 only compounded their challenges," the secretary of state's office said in its canvass report. "However, they rose to the challenge and were steadfast in their diligence to successfully administer the 2020 primary election amidst a global pandemic."

The report also said the primary demonstrates the state election system's ability to handle an expected surge in mail-in ballots for the general election, as well.

The state received \$2.6 million in emergency federal funding to reimburse counties for election expenses related to COVID-19, including the

cost of mailing applications for advanced ballots. Counties also used funds to increase pay for election workers and purchase ballot-counting machines. About \$1 million was spent on personal protective equipment.

The secretary of state's office also oversaw random auditing of election results across the state's 105 counties. Under Kansas statute, each county audits one local, state and federal race.

Audits in 82 counties produced results that matched the tallies from election night. The other 23 counties had "minor, explainable discrepancies," according to the state report. Those discrepancies included voters marking an oval too lightly for a machine to read.

Comanche County produced unexplained discrepancies in its original audit, but a second audit matched election night results.

### COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

# Johnson receives two appointments

Mark Petterson  
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — On Monday, Coffey County Commissioner Tim Johnson officially sat in on a regular weekly meeting of the Board of Coffey County Commissioners since being appointed by Governor Kelly to represent District 4. The Coffey County Republican Central Committee on Aug. 20 selected Johnson to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Cody Haddock and Johnson received the governor's official appointment on Aug. 24.

Commissioners approved two appointments for Johnson. They appointed Johnson as the non-lawyer member to the Fourth Judicial District Judicial Nominating Commission, beginning immediately and ending March 4, 2024. They also appointed Johnson as the Coffey County ECKAN representative to replace Cody Haddock, effective immediately.

Commissioners present for the regular weekly meeting were Tom Huginin, chairman, Don Meats, Bob Sauresig, Fred Rowley and Johnson. County Engineer Wayne Blackburn

presented his weekly report. During the past week, a road permit was issued to Great Lakes Dredging for the John Redmond Reservoir Confined Disposal Facilities (DCF) at 14th Road and Kafir Lane. In exchange for discharging water into the county road ditches from the DCF, Great Lakes Dredging would have a \$10,000 maintenance bond in effect for 10 years and provide an escrow account with the county treasurer for gravel road material replacement costs of \$4,000 for replacement gravel on Kafir Lane.

A zoning permit was issued to Anthony Hartness to construct a 1,216 square foot single-family dwelling and a 1,920 square foot addition to a family dwelling one-quarter mile east of Fifth and Shetland roads, which is zoned A-2 Agricultural Transition.

Commissioners approved Blackburn's recommendation to take informal bids to reroof and replace decking as needed for the two highway department salt storage sheds.

Blackbourn said a contractor planned to start laying the liner for the new landfill cell on Tuesday. As part of the project, Knight Trucking was go-

ing to haul 15,000 pounds of filter rock for the project.

Blackbourn said the Mathias Lake project is at the top of the list to work on after the landfill.

Commissioners and Blackbourn spent about 40 minutes discussing how to make Old Highway 50 safer. The 20-foot highway was widened several years ago and now the edges are in bad shape. One option discussed was ripping up the shoulders and returning the highway to 20-foot wide.

Blackbourn also suggested designating truck routes and possibly issuing county permits to keep commercial truck traffic on designated routes. The dialogue about Old Highway 50 is expected to continue during future meeting.

### County Jail

County Counselor Wade Bowie II briefly updated commissioners about the Coffey County inmate situation. He said Coffey County is housing 12 inmates in the Anderson County Jail and 11 in the Coffey County Jail. He

See County, Page 5

# Football contest begins this week

Football fans around the county should sharpen their pencils, as it is once again time for the annual football contest hosted by area businesses and The Coffey County Republican. The annual Pigskin Picks Contest kicks off this week in the print edition of The Republican.

Entrants in the contest will try to predict the winners of area high school, college and Kansas City Chiefs games. The top entrant with the fewest number of misses each week will receive a \$20 cash prize. Winners are encouraged to spend their prize money at the businesses sponsoring the contest.

Simply write your predictions for

See Contest, Page 12

# County up to seven active COVID-19 cases

As of Monday, Aug. 31, Coffey County has seven active cases of COVID-19. The Coffey County Health Department has announced six new cases and two recoveries, as well as one case removed from the county total due to the individual being from another county, since Wednesday, Aug. 26.

Two new cases, one male and one female, were announced Wednesday, Aug. 26. Both cases have an unknown source of infection. That same evening, Burlington USD 244 Superintendent Craig Marshall, in an 244Alert System message sent out via Everbridge, confirmed that Burlington High School has one confirmed case. The student will be quarantined for 10 days. CCHD and Burlington Schools are working together to do contact tracing, with those found to have close contact put in isolation for 14 days, and both entities determined it to be safe to continue holding school in all buildings and BMS Meet the Cats events, though BHS Meet the Cats events were cancelled as a precaution.

CCHD announced two new cases, one male and one female, in its Friday, Aug. 28, update. One case is a connected case and the other has an unknown source of infection.

Two more new cases, both female, were announced Aug. 31. One is a connected case and the other has an unknown source of infection. The county has a total of 81 positive cases of COVID-19, with eight deaths and 66 recoveries.

# K-58 resurfacing projects delayed

LeROY — The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) had planned to start two projects to resurface K-58 this week; however, both projects have been delayed until late September or early October.

The 15-mile combined project area begins at the west city limits of LeRoy and continues east to end at U.S. 169.

Once the projects begin, flaggers and a pilot car will direct one-lane traffic through the work zone during daylight hours; expect delays of 15 minutes or less.

The resurfacing work should be finished in one month, weather permitting. Bettis Asphalt & Construction, Inc., of Topeka is contractor on the projects, which have a combined construction cost of \$1.1 million.

Persons with questions may contact KDOT Area Engineer Darrin Petrowsky, (620) 901-6557, or Public Affairs Manager Priscilla Petersen, (620) 902-6433.