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## Death Notices Page 3

- ☐ Joseph Coursen, 62
- ☐ Bill Hill, 68
- ☐ Larry Malik, 69
- ☐ Edwin McCoy, 76
- ☐ Nancy Reynolds, 74

## Early Deadline

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, The Republican will be distributed one day early. The deadline for all items for the Nov. 26 edition is 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20. The newspaper will be printed and distributed Tuesday morning. The Republican office will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26 and 27.

## Public Notices Page 8

- ☐ Estate of Patricia Jean Mays - Notice to Creditors.
- ☐ Coffey County Treasurer - Quarterly Report.
- ☐ Coffey County Appraiser - Invitation to Bid Vehicles.

Access public notices throughout Kansas at  
www.kansaspublicnotices.com

## Lake Levels

### John Redmond

8a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17  
Lake Elevation: ..... 1,040.7  
Normal: ..... 1,041  
Inflow (cfs): ..... 18  
Release (cfs): ..... 96

### Council Grove

Lake Elevation: ..... 1,272.5  
Normal: ..... 1,274  
Inflow (cfs): ..... 0  
Release (cfs): ..... 27

### Melvern

Lake Elevation: ..... 1,034.65  
Normal: ..... 1,036  
Inflow (cfs): ..... 5  
Release (cfs): ..... 20

### Pomona

Lake Elevation: ..... 972.81  
Normal: ..... 974  
Inflow (cfs): ..... 5  
Release (cfs): ..... 15

## Average Gas Prices

Week ending Nov. 17, 2020

### Kansas Nation

\$1.89/gal. \$2.10/gal

▲ 0.5 cents = 0.0 cents  
KansasGasPrices.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



8 0 4 8 7 9 4 2 0 0 7 1

## Tough Loss

The Lebo Wolves saw their playoff run come to an end in a challenging sectional game against Frankfort Friday, Nov. 13.  
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# Plea to Coffey Countians: wear masks

Mark Petterson  
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — Coffey Countians are being urged to wear masks around other people and to take other measures to reduce the number of active COVID-19 cases. Dr. John Shell, who serves as Coffey County's local health officer, officially made that plea when Coffey County Commissioners met Monday morning for their regular weekly meeting.

Dr. Shell interacted with commissioners remotely through the StarLeaf video conferencing equipment. All Coffey County Health Department employees were present for the discussion as well as representatives from the sheriff's office, emergency preparedness office and others.

Dr. Shell initially planned to have Coffey County Commissioners approve a mask wearing mandate for Coffey County, similar to other nearby counties. "With lots of discussion with

personnel behind the scenes, I thought it would be reasonable to have more of a community plea to follow a recommendation ... enforcing a mandate would be difficult," he said.

Shell's primary concern in making the plea is the current state of the health care system. "Our hospitals are being overrun," he said. "Last week we had to contact seven hospitals to handle a (transfer) patient that didn't even have COVID. The health care system is at a point where it can't handle the

number of patients that COVID is presenting, so patients who are requiring care, even though they don't have COVID, can't get it. That was our concern back in March ... to flatten the curve."

Coffey County Health Administrator Lindsay Payer reported earlier in the meeting that, as of Friday, Coffey County had 34 active COVID-19 cases - 18 males and 16 females - after a week that saw 32 new cases and 28

See **Masks**, Page 9

# Paige named Kansas Health Care Worker of the Year

Tracy Campbell  
For The Republican

BURLINGTON — Coffey Health System Environmental Services Supervisor Toby Paige received statewide recognition as one of four Kansas Hospital Association Health Care Worker of the Year recipients.

His selection was announced on Oct. 21 but, unfortunately, the pandemic forced a postponement of the award presentation. Cindy Samuelson, KHA senior vice president for member and public relations, presented the award at Coffey County Hospital on Nov. 11.

The award recognizes hospital employees who have made a significant contribution to the betterment of their hospital and routinely go above and beyond the call of duty. A committee of KHA lifetime achievement award recipients selected four recipients from a field of 16 nominees from hospitals throughout the state.

"We really wanted to present this award to Toby in person at our Annual KHA Convention and Trade Show ... but there was just no way that we could do that kind of meeting, so we did a virtual meeting," Samuelson said. "I hear that (Toby and a group of CHS staff) got together to watch the virtual presentation and the announcement of Toby's award, but that is still not the same. I am happy that I could come down and recognize Toby in person."

Paige has been a fixture at Coffey Health System for nearly 30 years. He took care of countless Coffey Countians in his 22 years as an EMT, then spent five years in the facilities department. In 2018, Toby was called upon to lead the environmental services

See **Paige**, Page 7



Photo submitted



Photo submitted

Above, Toby Paige displays the Kansas Hospital Association Health Care Worker of the Year he received from Cindy Samuelson, KHA senior vice president for member and public relations. Paige is supervisor for the environmental services department for Coffey Health System. Left, four members of the CHS environmental services team joined the celebration of Supervisor Toby Paige's Health Care Worker of the Year award presentation. The team - including, from left, Heather Bess, Ken Davis, Darwin Doerr and James Turner - has worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to protect CHS patients and staff.

## COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

# Parcels to be added for tax sale

Mark Petterson  
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — If not for COVID-19, a tax sale on Coffey County real estate with delinquent property tax would probably be wrapped up by now. Instead, Coffey County Commissioners on Monday decided to add more parcels with

plans to hold the tax sale later in the spring.

Present for the regular weekly meeting were Commissioners Tom Huginin, chairman, Don Meats, Bob Saueressig, Fred Rowley and Tim Johnson, County Clerk Angie Kirchner, County Counselor Wade H. Bowie II, Administrative Assistant Donna Berland,

Payroll/Benefits Coordinator Denise Humlicek, Technology Director Brad Scheibmeir, Commissioner-elect Jesse Knight and Treasurer-elect Richard Croll.

Commissioners met via StarLeaf video conference with two attorneys from the

See **Sale**, Page 4

# Waverly City Council OKs bonuses, repairs

Ida Wilson  
Reporter

WAVERLY — The Waverly City Council approved Christmas bonuses, repairs at the sewer lift station, renewal of a service contract on the radar sign, and other business when it met Nov. 11 in regular session.

Mayor Jacob Marsh convened the council, which included Taylor Everhart, Kevin McMillen, Nicole Rasmussen and Tammy White. Jerry Collins was absent. Visitors

included Coffey County Commissioner Tim Johnson, who was present to listen.

Jackie Clarkson, chairman of the Waverly Veterans Banner Committee, clarified documents regarding the banners. Waverly has 27 banners and room to accept more. It was noted the banners belong to the person who purchased them. It is not too late to join the project.

The Waverly Booster Club is sponsoring a Christmas

See **Waverly**, Page 12

# Canvassing board certifies election results

Mark Petterson  
Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — Coffey County Commissioners on Monday convened as a board of canvassers to canvass the results of the Nov. 3 General Election.

Coffey County Election Officer Angie Kirchner said 102 provisional ballots were cast

in the election. Consistent with state statutes, she recommended accepting 72 provisional ballots and rejecting 30 provisional ballots, which the board approved. The provisional vote totals were then added to the appropriate races. The provisional votes did not affect the outcome of any race.

Most of the provisional bal-

lots were cast by people who moved to different townships within the county. Twenty-nine provisional voters were not registered to vote in Coffey County, including people who moved into the county, younger people who had not voted before and a few older people who had never voted

See **Canvass**, Page 9

# USD 244 BOE OKs retirement request

Katie McMurray  
Reporter

BURLINGTON — The Burlington USD 244 Board of Education, at its regular monthly meeting Monday, Nov. 9, accepted a retirement request and handled several other personnel matters.

The retirement request of Troy Barrett, a longtime bus driver for the district, was ap-

proved with regret and was effective Oct. 26.

The board held two executive sessions totaling 35 minutes to discuss the superintendent's evaluation pursuant to nonelected personnel exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act. No action was taken upon return to open session.

The resignation of Doug Vander Linden as BMS head

wrestling coach effective Oct. 29 was approved.

New hires included Doug Vander Linden and Michael Vander Linden as BMS co-head wrestling coaches for the 2020-21 school year; Holly Thomsen, Diane Marshall and Michael Vander Linden as junior class sponsors for the 2020-21 school year; Kevin

See **USD 244**, Page 12

# Lebo awarded grant for multi-use sidewalk

Ida Wilson  
Reporter

LEBO — The City of Lebo has been awarded funding for a multi-use sidewalk to run from the downtown area to the business area on the north edge of the city limits.

Kramer Consulting, LLC helped Lebo City Hall with the paperwork and engineering part of the application. The application was submitted in September to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) Cost Share Program.

This multi-use project will give a safe route for pedestrians and bicycles to go from Fifth Street to businesses located along Bree Drive.

The project is estimated to cost \$304,500. The city's share of the project will be \$93,055.

The multi-use sidewalk will be 10 feet and run along the west side of K-131 Hwy, also known as North Ogden Street. Safety is the primary concern leading to the project. The project is also considered as a contribution to

See **Lebo**, Page 12