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Henry County Local

Data center draws more discussion during fiscal court meeting

BY JOE DURBIN
CORRESPONDENT

Concerns about a controversial \$6 billion data center abandoning its efforts to build in Oldham County and coming to Henry County continued to be a talking point during the May 20 meeting of the Henry County Fiscal Court.

The discussion centered on a social media post from a now-private group that previously represented Henry County's economic development interests. During public

comments, speaker Julie Wolf said the post welcomed the data center to build in Henry County.

Wolf said she doesn't want that to happen and when discussing it with members of the fiscal court, which now handles economic development efforts, was told none of them are trying to attract the business.

"It's kind of confusing," Wolf said. "I love Henry County as it is."

The fiscal court in March

severed all ties with the group by a 4-2 vote and forbid it to act with "any authority or the appearance of authority of Henry County Fiscal Court in any capacity."

In doing so, County Attorney Kassidy Dees advised county members to make no further comments or statements because it is "apparent this organization is now of an adverse position to our county," she said in a statement.

"It is of great importance to limit liability of our county by

not making any comments or engaging in the mass amount of misinformation already circulating our community."

During the meeting, the fiscal court voted unanimously to increase the required threshold for sealed bids from \$20,000 to \$40,000, following a motion by magistrate Brad Fisher.

The decision was prompted by a discussion about the county's skid-steer loader breaking down.



Photo by Joe Durbin
Smithfield resident Julie Wolf voices her objections to any effort to have a controversial data center brought to Henry County during the May 20 meeting of the Henry County Fiscal Court.

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GRADUATES CELEBRATE



Left: Henry County High School graduates cheer following a graduation ceremony held Saturday morning. Right: Eminence High School senior Noah Gilkison smiles at his graduation ceremony Friday night. For more graduation photos, see A5.

Dees named grand marshal for Spring Fling

Annual New Castle event slated for June 14

BY JOE DURBIN
CORRESPONDENT

Henry County Attorney Kassidy Dees was named grand marshal of the New Castle 43rd Annual Spring Fling parade, event organizers announced.

"She does so much in the community and that's why we chose her," said Charlie Sevier, Spring Fling chairman. "She very graciously accepted."

Dees was the Miss Kentucky County Fair Queen in 2007 and she graduated from Eminence High School in 2008 as the class valedictorian. Dees received dual credit from

the Gatton Academy of Math and Science at Western Kentucky University's inaugural class of 2008.

Dees graduated from the Dayton School of Law in 2016 with honors. She began working for the Ivers and Harrod Law office at age 15 in 2005. She became the assistant county attorney in the fall of 2016.

Dees became Henry County Attorney in 2022 and opened her own law office in January 2023 in New Castle.

"Kassidy's hobbies are gardening vegetables and flowers, canning, crafting, sewing and thrifting," said Ronda Dees, Dees' mother. "Kassidy has always known she wanted to be

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Eminence High celebrates senior accomplishments

BY JOE DURBIN
CORRESPONDENT

Eminence High School seniors were recognized May 27 during the Senior Honors night in the Eminence High School gymnasium.

Local scholarship recipients are listed below:

Coomes Scholarship: Avin Young

Jonathan Carroll Adams Memorial Scholarship: Delana Kelley

Lt. Joseph Durbin Scholarship: Delana Kelley

O.L. McElroy Scholarship: Blaze Berry

J.C. Thomas Memorial Scholarship: Isabella Coffee

Baird Family Scholarship: Isabella Coffee

McCoy Tarry Scholarship: Blaze Berry

Martha Tarry Scholarship: Sadie Perkins

Eminence Education Foundation Scholarship: Martha Hinojosa Oropeza, Blaze Berry, Isabella Coffee, Delana Kelley, Sadie Perkins and Arabella Ceralde

Dr. Steve Frommeyer

Scholarship: Blaze Berry

Meadows Outstanding Service and Leadership: Isabella Coffee

Steve Metcalfe Community Service Scholarship: Blaze Berry

Give Wholeheartedly Scholarship: Isabella Coffee

United Citizens Bank Scholarship: Delana Kelley and Kyler Hinkley

Jerry Martin Softball Scholarship: Morgan Rucker and Delana Kelley

Jack Purvis Memorial Scholarship: William 'Nick' Mitchell

Eunice Marie Payne NAACP

Scholarship: Avin Young

ServePro Scholarship: Blaze Berry

Merriweather King Street Scholarship: Jack Fackler, Eric Reza and Avin Young

PTSA Scholarship: Sadie Perkins

KySTE STPL Engineering Scholarship: Truman Gilbert

Koch Foundation Scholarship: Addison Roederer

KHEAA Promote Your School Scholarship: Delana Kelley

Senior Class Officers: President Micah Willis-Walker, Vice President Isabella Coffee, Treasurer Avin

Young and Secretary Martha Hinojosa Oropeza

The following students completed program requirements for their vocational programs at either the Shelby County Area Technology Center or through a school based pathway program: Jarren Beverly, Serenity Breeding, Bridgette Browning, Arabella Ceralde (Computer Programming), Dillan Chestnut, Tayten Clark, Brayden Cole, Victor Cruz Hernandez,

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