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# The Winchester Sun



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## Wills retires as president of Community Trust Bank

BY MATT CIZEK

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Both professionally and his community endeavors, David Wills has become a familiar face to many Clark County citizens.

Now, the long-time banking employee is calling it a career.

Wills, who joined Community Trust Bank, Inc., in 2001 and has served as Winchester Market President, announced his retirement recently.

A ceremony honoring him took place inside the Community Trust Bank building at 120 S. Main St. on

Friday, June 27.

"It's been a great career. I'm looking forward to retirement and continuing to work in the community," Wills said. "Winchester and Clark County has been a great place to live, raise my family, go to church, [and] be involved."

Wills began his career in 1977, during the presidency of the late Jimmy Carter.

After starting out at Federal Land Bank, the Pendleton County native was later named Vice President and Director of Pioneer Federal Savings Bank before moving on to Pendleton

Federal Savings Bank as President and CEO in 1993.

After moving to Community Trust Bank in 2001, Wills' stint with the company easily made up his longest-term stay at any one location.

The appreciation and dedication others from the community have for Wells was evident on Friday, with attendees to his retirement ceremony including Winchester-Clark County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Cindy Banks, Winchester-Clark County Industrial Development Authority Director

See **WILLS**, on A2



David Wills, in yellow, celebrated his retirement with family and friends at Community Trust Bank on Friday, June 27. (Photo by Matt Cizek)

## New historical marker unveiled honoring Winchester native John Fryer

BY PETE KOTOULAS

WinCity Voices

This piece was originally published on [www.wincityvoices.org](http://www.wincityvoices.org).

It started with a discovery. A Winchester native who helped make ground-shifting changes in America for the civil rights of gay people in the 1970s, a man who was celebrated in his adopted city of Philadelphia, had never been recognized for his achievements in the place of his birth and early life.

It concluded on Sunday, June 29, with the dedication of a new historical marker on Lexington Avenue, finally bestowing upon Dr. John Fryer (1934–2003) the recognition long overdue from his hometown.

About two dozen locals gathered at 1 PM at the marker, located at the intersection of Bön Haven Avenue, the birthplace and childhood home of Dr. Fryer, to attend the unveiling of the sign.

According to a search at <https://history.ky.gov/markers/>, the new sign represents the 32nd Kentucky historical marker to be placed in Clark County. It is only the fifth in the state in the category of "LGBTQ History," and the first outside of Kentucky's two largest cities, Louisville and Lexington.

Harry Enoch and Brett Chevront, who made the discovery in



A historical marker denoting the life and work of Dr. John Fryer was unveiled this past Sunday in Winchester. (Photo by Whiskey & Wiles Photography)

2023 and initiated a letter-writing campaign that led to the approval of the marker, were in attendance. Harry served as master of ceremonies, and Brett was given the honor of unveiling the sign.

Speaking on behalf of the Kentucky Historical Society, Dr. Charles Welsko talked about the process of getting the new marker installed. He thanked the locals who led the effort and the dozens of letters in support of the monument that community leaders sent in. He also thanked the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, particularly staff at the District 7

office that serves Clark County, for working with organizers to ensure the marker was ready for Sunday's unveiling. And he recognized HCA Pharmacy for allowing the marker to be placed on their property.

Next up was Dr. Jonathan Coleman, representing the Faulkner Morgan Archive, a Lexington nonprofit devoted to preserving and promoting Kentucky's LGBTQ history. Dr. Coleman gave a stirring speech focused on the subject of the historical marker, Dr. John Fryer.

See **FRYER**, on A2

## Work on High Side Project extends to Low Side

BY MATT CIZEK

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The Main Street High Side Project continues moving forward, with plans for the near future following the fourth of July.

According to the most recent edition of the Main Street High Side Project newsletter, released on June 27, a recent meeting between the City Of Winchester, The Allen Company, and Palmer Engineering saw The Allen Company provide an update that the final retaining wall has been poured on the High Side, at the location near the Lexington Avenue end of the project area. Having completed this phase, the concrete company is set to begin cleaning the area in preparation for upcoming stages.

In the meantime, work has started on the Low Side with sidewalks near the Broadway Street and Main Street intersection having been demolished and asphalt backfill being used for the footer curb - defined as the base for a curb, and which is often laid prior to the curb itself.

Water meters along this section, lying between The Happy Corner and High Speed Collectibles businesses - have been relocated. All sewer laterals crossing Main Street in this location, made of copper, have been inspected and determined to be in good condition thereby eliminating the need for replacement.

Meanwhile, concrete continues being poured for sidewalks, and both pedestrian and social stairs - which are located on the High Side. Afterward, brick work will continue to progress.

Crews have been busy removing the remaining sections of sidewalk on the High Side and replacing them with dense-grade gravel, a final step in completing excavation on that side of the street.

See **HIGH**, on A2

## Magistrates respond to zoning change, truck stop proposal

BY MATT CIZEK

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As confirmed in previous articles, the Clark County Fiscal Court approved in May a proposed ordinance changing the zoning classification at 1859 Paris Road, near Interstate 64.

However, some members of the community - including the Paris Road Action Group - showed concern, particularly with a truck stop that they felt would be inadequately placed at the location.

Asked for comment, multiple Magistrates responded.

One of them was Magistrate

Robert Blanton.

Blanton's full statement is as follows:

"With regards to the exit ninety-six [sic] rezoning, I have been assured and feel certain that the Winchester Clark County Planning Commission complied with all public notice requirements

and public hearing protocol.

Furthermore, the comprehensive plan that was deliberated for months after considerable public input, supported the Commission's recommendation to approve the zoning map amendment at exit ninety-six [sic]. That finding is paramount in the zoning process as re-

quired by KRS 100.

Be mindful, the Clark County Fiscal Court can only act on the zoning map request that was before the Commission. The Fiscal Court has no authority to approve or deny development plans.

See **RESPONSES**, on A2

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