



The Hickman County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting Saturday morning, Oct. 25, as friends and family of Herman Eaton (back, center) came to celebrate the opening of his 106 South Jefferson tattoo artistry business, Ink By Koot Tattoo Studio. (Photo by Gaye Bencini)



New benches have been placed by the county at the new pickleball court in Fulgham, which is now open! Plans now turn to upgrades to Blair Street Park in Clinton next summer. (Photo by Gaye Bencini)

## HICKMAN COUNTY HALLOWEEN PARADE

Friday, Oct. 31 6 p.m.

Line-up 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. (See ad on page 10)

## Senior Center building project still on go; Cap remains on net profit/payroll tax; County to buy Byassee property

By GAYE BENCINI

Hickman County Fiscal Court met in regular session Thursday, Oct. 23 in the Hickman County Judge/Executive's Office. Present were Hickman County Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson, Magistrates Henry Cole, Irvin Stroud, and Kory Naranjo; Administrative Assistant Hillary Webb; County Treasurer Amy Leslie; Dept. Judge/Exec. Dawn Allen; County Attorney Jason Batts; Sheriff Ben Natividad; and Gaye Bencini.

The Hickman County Fiscal Court voted to approve the second reading of the budget amendment ordinance for Fiscal Year 25-26 concerning an additional \$83,428 grant added to the budget for the Hickman County Senior Citizens Center project. This is in addition to the recently awarded grant of \$750,000 already in the budget for upgrades to the Hickman County Senior Citizens Center building. The \$83,428 will go toward engineering costs and architectural fee.

Judge Wilson said work is expected to begin next spring.

Recently, concerns arose following announced budget cuts to senior centers across the state. However, Judge Wilson said Governor Andy Beshear has put money into the state budget to keep the meals going.

Gov. Andy Beshear announced Monday, Oct. 20 that his administration has reallocated \$9.1 million to the Aging and Independent Living appropriation for the Senior Meals program following news that Area Development Districts (ADDs) have exhausted all previously budgeted funding for the program.

The Hickman County Senior Citizens Center provides dine-in meals and a meals home delivery service to qualifying seniors, delivering 60-68 meals a week to homes in Hickman County.

The fiscal court voted to approve five resolutions, paperwork matters, related to the CDBG for the senior center.

### Cap remains on payroll/net profit amendment

The fiscal court voted to keep the cap on the payroll/net profit tax at \$750 rather than the \$1,000 it was originally set years ago. This is voted on by the fiscal court annually.

### Bridge Funds

The fiscal court voted to approve the Resolution agreement for 80/20 Bridge Funds in the amount of \$43,480. This is for pipes on McWhorter, Stanley, and Taylor Road. Once it is sent to the state, and the state approves the paperwork, work can begin.

### Opioid Funds

The fiscal court discussed the possibility of purchasing medical equipment for the Clinton-Hickman County Ambulance Service with state Opioid funds that come back to counties. However, Attorney Jason Batts said he was told by the state that the funds could not be used for this. They will continue to research the matter.

Continued on page 2



## Free Soup!

A Soup Social will be held at Rotary Park in Clinton on Monday, Nov. 3 from 6-8 p.m., or until all of the soup is gone. The event is hosted by Dee Luker and Leanna Wilkerson. They are doing this event as a way for people to meet new friends an reacquaint themselves with everyone who attends. They will be there until there is noting left!

Luker said she and Wilkerson had been discussing this for some time. "We just decided that with all the divisiveness in our nation, our little community can come together. Not about politics or religion, just community."

If you'd like to donate a pot, please do and more can be fed!



This little Fire & Rescue First Responder Ryder Reed Jewell, son of Dylan and Mykala Jewell, was among those on hand keeping the Columbus-Belmont State Park Campground safe Saturday evening during the annual Un-Boo-lievable pre-Halloween event with costume contests, food, trick or treating and a hay ride! (Photo by Gaye Bencini)



It was fun for all ages, as this granny can attest, at the Columbus-Belmont State Park Campground Saturday evening during the annual Un-Boo-lievable event. Little Miss Birdee B is the daughter of Kristen and Austin Cunningham. (Photo by Gaye Bencini)

## HCIDA accepts counteroffer for West Clay properties; Votes to also purchase properties from Hickman Co. Historical Society

West Clay properties are where the long-time hardware store was located; historical society property is the empty lot on the corner of Clay and Jefferson (historical society had a building there that collapsed years ago and was cleared) and lot behind building next to their empty lot.

The Hickman County Industrial Development Authority (HCIDA) met on Oct. 24, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. for a special called meeting.

Members in attendance were Teresa Dowdy, Kory Naranjo, Mike Grimmitt, Rick Canty, Tommy Roberts, Mattea Mitchell and Judge/Executive Kenny Wilson. Guest in attendance was



8 10499 02122 2

Jason Batts. Teresa Dowdy called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

See HCIDA on page 2