

THE PIONEER NEWS

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026 WWW.PIONEERNEWS.NET VOL. 143, No. 87 \$2

County has no interest in data centers

THOMAS J. BARR
 THE PIONEER NEWS

CEDAR GROVE – There is a lot of discussion about data centers looking to locate across the country. But Chris Baxley is not one who would look forward to such a facility in his back yard. Baxley recently approached Bullitt County Fiscal Court with questions. Through social media, a site off Cedar Grove Road at Millers

Lane seems to be a hot spot for such a data center. He wondered if fiscal court had heard such talk and how would it react if a request was made. Magistrate Brian Bleemel said the property in question was zoned agricultural, which require a rezoning, according to county attorney Tammy Baker. County judge/executive Jerry Summers said it would be unlikely that fiscal court would have a say in that matter.

Traditionally, those wishing to build warehouses have asked to be annexed into the corporate limits as they can provide utilities such as sewer. He said the fiscal court has not approved zoning for warehouses as those have all been in city limits and the councils decide zoning issues. In his research, Baxley said that some data centers have been approved and others haven't across the country.

"I can't find anything positive," said Baxley. He said the common complaints would be placing a strain on utilities and they provide no jobs. There is also the consideration of lowering property values to surrounding residents. Magistrate Shaun Logsdon said there has been no notice of any attempt to locate a data center in Bullitt County. If something was proposed, he said it would start with a public

hearing at the planning commission. A recommendation would be made and the governing body would make the final decision. He agreed with Summers that the county doesn't have the utilities desired and that normally means the property is annexed by a city. As a part of the real estate community, Logsdon guessed that there are some agents who are marketing property for data centers just to see what the interest might be.



File photo

Watermelon eating is one of those cool and messy fair events

Bullitt County Fair set for June 15-20

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CLERMONT – School is out. The temperatures are rising. So it must be time for the Bullitt County Fair. The Bullitt County Fair will open on Monday, June 15, and run through Saturday, June 20. The traditional events will return for this year's fair, as well as the pay one price and ride all the rides and see all the shows.

ADMISSION/HOURS

The popular Monday is Family Night will return this year. Admission for all those over 36 inches will be \$10. That gets you all the rides and shows. But food and games are extra. On Tuesday through Saturday, admission will be \$20 for those over 36 inches and under 55 years of age. If you happen to be a senior citizen 55 or over, bring a proof of age and you will enter the fair for \$10 a person – every night of the fair. If you are an active duty member of the military, show your identification for \$10 admission any day of the fair. What if you have young children? If you are under 2 years of age and/or under 36 inches in height, admission is free. However, if you are over 36 inches in height, you will have to pay admission to ride the rides – no matter the age. Gates will open at 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. And, on Saturday, the gates will open at Noon. That will also be the time the rides will begin each day. For those motorsports fans, admission

to the pits will be an additional \$5 fee. Oh, parking is always free.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Some events will be held throughout the run of the fair. Of course, the home economics entries will be located inside the main building. There will also be vendors who will have booths located inside. Plus, the students from Bullitt County Public Schools will return with their popular United display of completed projects from the past year. They will also have items for sale throughout the fair. And there will be taxidermy displays in the building all week. The petting zoo is always a big attraction for young and old alike. It will be located near the entrance to the fairgrounds. Food vendors selling those traditional fair goodies will be open all week. There will also be beer sold in the tent behind the pavilion. A new addition this year will feature Karaoke Showdown every night from 9-11 p.m. in the pavilion. Sign up at 8:30 p.m. each evening. Winners will be selected for the first five days and earn \$50. They will return on Saturday at 9 p.m. for the grand finale and \$100 prize, plus a \$50 gift card to Cluckers. **MONDAY, JUNE 15** The opening day will feature the Miss Bullitt County Fair pageant at 7 p.m. This annual event will be contested under the pavilion. For motorsports fans, who will have

events every night, the kickoff will be the KOI Dirt Drag racing in the arena. Racing begins at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

What would a fair be without cattle? The dairy cattle competition will open the night at 5 p.m. on Tuesday in the barn behind the pavilion. The beauties will again take the stage on Tuesday. The Pre-Teen Pageant will be held at 6 p.m. with the Mrs./Ms. Bullitt County Fair Pageant following at 7 p.m. The motor sport arena will be filled with demo derby and flat track competitors starting at 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

One of the messiest annual events happens to be the watermelon eating contest. Competitors will gather at 6 p.m. at the rear of the main building to see who can eat the fastest. The pavilion stage will host the Teen Miss Bullitt County Fair Pageant at 7 p.m. And down the hill, the demo derby and flat track competitors will return to the arena.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

The cattle – this time, the beef variety – will return to compete for prizes. The beef cattle show begins at 5 p.m. in the barn. The tastiest contest of the fair will be the chocolate dessert/treat competition. Bakers will gather at 6:45 p.m. in the home ec section of the main building.

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Free fun at KidsFest to benefit local students

STEPHEN THOMAS
 THE PIONEER NEWS

SHEPHERDSVILLE — It's a little unusual to think that all of the kids at the original KidsFest are now parents of the kids who may attend this year's event. All the more reason that KidsFest remains one of Bullitt County's most popular family events while raising funds for the Bullitt County Foundation for Excellence in Public Education. BCFEPE representative Lou Ann Moore said the funding came from the many vendor participants who help with the event. As a result, KidsFest remains a free community festival. "A completely free event all around," said Moore. "No sales at all there. This event began years ago as a Chamber of Commerce event. This long-time event

has had lots of changes since. A free event means free ice cream, among the other many highlights awaiting the youngsters. "When BCFEPE took over, everything here became free and it will stay that way," Moore said. KidsFest takes place both inside and outside at Paroquet Springs Conference Centre. Weather permitting, the kiddo can visit a petting zoo sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance. The famous Hillview Train will be in the parking lot area providing free fun rides. Other vehicles for kids to visit include local fire engines and school resource officer Drug Abuse and Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) police cruisers, as well as the Bullitt County Public Schools Learning Bus. Shepherdsville Police will SEE KIDSFEST/PAGE A6

County approves equipment to weigh trucks

THOMAS J. BARR
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FOX CHASE – Slowed but not stopped. That is the situation residents of West Hebron Lane are seeing at the site of a future truck parking lot. Bullitt County Planning Administrator Charlie Spalding has issued a cease and desist order on the property just west of Fox Chase. The action resulted from a violation of the land disturbance permit previously secured. On Tuesday, residents got a bit of good news as Bullitt County Fiscal Court voted to purchase a set of scales for the sheriff's office. The scales will help deter overweight trucks from crossing the 22-ton bridge close to UofL Health South Hospital on Hebron Lane. Before the court members could begin discussion on the purchase of the scales, several neighbors spoke about the on-going problems in the area. Veronica Brown said that the only thing that slowed down site preparation was Mother Nature. Now, there has been trees knocked down and burned

on the property. And there has been a retention basin built that she said could be very dangerous if children got inside. Brown said there was no fencing around the basin and the water was very deep. There has been no encroachment permits issued from the state Department of Transportation, said Brown. While there is a weight limit sign on the bridge near the hospital, there is none on the bridge closer to the city's entrance. She added that the dust from the construction site gathers on nearby cars and homes. The group of area residents fighting the project has retained an attorney, according to Brown. She hoped the legal assistance would not be needed. Mike Robison, who lives in Deer Run, said his daughter will be the seventh generation of the family to live in the area, which was originally part of the Joseph Brooks family. He said that the area is full of nice homes which contribute to the county's tax base. SEE COUNTY/PAGE A6

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WONDERFUL SPORTS WEEK
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