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Developer appeals stop work order

THOMAS J. BARR
THE PIONEER NEWS

FOX CHASE – A developer disagreeing with a decision by the county’s planning administrator will get its day in court.

Well, it will be a hearing before the Bullitt County Board of Adjustments.

GNS Express was developing property on East Hebron Lane between the city of Fox Chase and Interstate 65.

The property would be used for

a truck storage facility.

When the work began, the original thought was that it was zoned Light Industrial for years; however, planning administrator Charlie Spalding later discovered that it was actually zone residential.

A cease and desist order was placed on the property to stop any further development of the tract.

Earth-moving vehicles started a whirlwind of concern by neighbors in the area. A group continues to host regular meetings to determine what could be done to stop

the truck storage facility.

County attorney Tammy Baker said the normal path to appeal a decision by Spalding would be to file action seeking a hearing before the Bullitt County Board of Adjustments.

That would be held on Tuesday, Sept. 15, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bullitt County Courthouse.

Depending upon what the board decides, the applicant could file for a rezoning request, if needed. At some point, action in Bullitt County Circuit Court could be sought.

Since Baker will need to represent Spalding during the hearing, she recommended the Board of Adjustments hire someone to represent that agency at the hearing.

Keith Brown, a noted planning and zoning attorney with the local firm of Pike Legal Group, was retained by the board for representation. He would also be able to lead the board members through the appeals procedures.

The meeting is open to the public and it has been moved to the courthouse to allow more

individuals to attend.

The property is actually in the city of Hillview. If rezoning is requested in the future, it would be Hillview City Council that would make that decision.

Residential concerns have included having an industrial project utilizing state roads which are less than the required width, pollution from noise, light and dust, safety of East Hebron Lane for passenger motorists and declining property values.



U.S. Sen. Rand Paul talks with magistrate Shaun Logsdon and CFO Keith Griffiee.

Sen. Paul makes stop in Bullitt County

On the first day of his August break from Washington, D.C., U.S. Sen. Rand Paul made a stop in Bullitt County to talk with local officials.

During his stop, Bullitt County Judge/Executive Jerry Summers took the opportunity to pull the senator aside to talk about needs for a new EMS facility and the joy it would be to have some federal dol-

lars to assist on the project.

Paul told the audience that the problem in Washington remains that no one is willing to cut spending in an attempt to begin balancing the budget. He said that both sides have their good points and bad points but that everyone must begin pulling together to deal with budgetary issues which will continue to plague the country.



U.S. Sen. Rand Paul and Bullitt County Judge Jerry Summers talk.

All photos by Thomas J. Barr

Council seeks path to road improvement plans

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SHEPHERDSVILLE — Over the years, there have been lists. And there have been committees. And there has been a lot of talk.

But Dana James, newly-appointed to serve the final five months of the late Mike Hibbard’s term on the Shepherdsville City Council, brought up an old topic.

At the Aug. 10 meeting, James inquired whether there had been any type of road committee formed since she left office.

And she wondered if there was any plan for the future for both roads and for the care of existing streets in the city.

In terms of the future, mayor Jose Cubero said Strand Associates has been working with the city to develop a long-term transportation

plan for Shepherdsville.

A public workshop was recently held to map out some of the possibilities.

Key future priorities include the 119 interchange on Interstate 65 at Preston Highway (which was first mentioned in the 1980s by the late state Rep. John Harper); a second bridge over the Salt River east of the current city limits; and widening of Preston Highway from the bridge to Highway 245.

But James said she was more worried about the current issues with roads.

Cubero said the public works department handles the maintenance of the roads and people could go on the website to report a problem.

James said that residents drive the roads daily and they really have an understanding on how much work

really needs to be done.

At a prior meeting, councilman Brad Whittaker mentioned the roads in the eastern portion of the city which were in poor condition.

To fall in line with James’ discussion, Whittaker said an updated list of road projects for paving and patching would be appreciated. It would be helpful to have a list on what projects are planned.

Last year, the city opted to a sealing product to repair roads when resurfacing could be avoided.

A major surfacing project this summer included Omega Parkway through the Cedar Grove Business Park, which had been scheduled previously but was finished in June.

In other business:

*Councilmember Jennifer Mendez brought up the idea of

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Man to serve nine years for federal fraud

LOUISVILLE – A Shepherdsville man was sentenced on Aug. 11, 2026, to nine years in federal prison for wire fraud and spending fraud proceeds.

U.S. Attorney Kyle G. Bumgarner of the Western District of Kentucky, Special Agent in Charge Olivia Olson of the FBI Louisville Field Office, and Acting Special Agent in Charge Bobby Kuszynski of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, Detroit Field Office made the announcement.

Stacy Allen Taylor, 59, of Shepherdsville, conspired with others in an international wire fraud scheme to defraud more than 40 victims out of over \$23.6 million. Victims believed they were investing money into a private trading platform that would provide significant returns on their investments. Most victims lost their entire investment to the scheme.

Taylor was previously convicted in the Western District of Kentucky and served a three-year sentence for federal fraud and drug crimes related to his role in an illegal online pharmacy.

In this case, Taylor entered guilty pleas to the seven counts in his indictment, including charges for wire fraud, wire fraud conspiracy, and carrying out transactions over \$10,000 with criminal proceeds. Taylor has been ordered to pay restitution to victims of his fraud scheme.

“Taylor is a repeat offender engaged in complex fraud, causing significant harm to dozens of victims,” said United States Attorney Kyle Bumgarner. “A dedicated team of agents from FBI and IRS-CI worked together tirelessly over the course of years to bring justice to the fraud victims in this case. Taylor’s significant prison sentence will help protect others who might have fallen prey to this fraud scheme and, hopefully, sends a strong deterrent message to other fraudsters to stop or they will certainly find themselves in a cell next to Taylor.”

FBI Special Agent in Charge Olivia Olson stated, “Investment schemes like the one perpetrated by Mr. Taylor may not only lead to

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First day of school works to perfection

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MOUNT WASHINGTON – It was totally like a new campus when Bullitt East students returned to class last Wednesday to start the 2026-27 school year.

After a couple of years of construction and expansion, things are coming together nicely as Bullitt East can now house up to 2,000 students.

Acquiring the former Old Mill space, building a connector, constructing a fine arts building, adding more classrooms, moving office space and home to a completely new cafeteria, things are different.

“Bullitt East has a much different feel this year,” said superintendent Dr. Jesse Bacon. “Every teacher has their own classroom space and the

hallways are much more navigable during class changes. Students and staff have more room to move around; the hallways do not feel as packed as they have in the past; and students can navigate the space much faster.”

As the school year begins, work continues to complete the fine arts center and the physical science fieldhouse.

For a district with over 12,325 students, opening day was pretty routine.

With the exception of the rainy weather, Bacon said things were fairly normal for the first day of class.

At the three high schools, a major change this year has been the implementation of the weapons detection system.

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FOOTBALL BEGINS THIS WEEKEND....

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