

IT'S ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY!



The Hickman County Chamber of Commerce donated \$100 to the Clinton Woman's Club from the Farm to Fork Dinner proceeds. The Clinton Woman's Club provided desserts for the dinner. L-R: Kimberly Elks, her daughter, Freya, Sue Doering, and Christy Kimbell.

By **SHERRY ALLISON**
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Last week, the Hickman County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting at Yani's in Clinton. This is the beginning of additional efforts to promote small local businesses in our area. Each month we plan to meet at local Chamber member restaurants or purchase our meals from a local Chamber merchant. We are looking to support businesses who support the Chamber of Commerce as well. As we know it takes us all to help grow our county.

The meeting also included a report on the surplus from the Farm to Fork Dinner. The Chamber is pleased to report a surplus of \$2,987.81 which goes into the Revitalization Fund. In the past, the monies from the fund have gone to help with sidewalk replacement projects, the purchase of self-watering planters for Clinton and Columbus, as well as other projects. From the general funds have been donations to projects and events that are often determined by the economic impact they have on the community. For instance, each year the Chamber of Commerce has given to Civil War Days. This popular event which is coming up in October draws people from across the United States and beyond. Many bring their RVs to stay at Columbus Belmont Park's RV area. Others stay at local Airbnbs. While here, Civil War Day attendees shop our local businesses and add revenue to the Snack Bar at the park. Last year, for the first time, we donated to Bluegrass on the Bluff, a new event located at Columbus Belmont Park that also generated the same type of economic impact to the community, just for a shorter time span.

Youth Leadership Program

This year the board approved a \$1,000.00 donation to go to Youth Leadership, an investment into the future growth of Hickman County. The youth participating in this program bring fresh ideas to projects they im-

plement for use in Hickman County. Likewise, donations and gifts are used at the beginning of each school year in support of our teachers who are responsible for the education of the students in our county school system.

Clinton Woman's Club

A small donation was given to the Women's Club in support of their scholarship program for graduates. As the Chamber of Commerce meets each month, more ways to contribute toward the revitalization of our community will be discussed and implemented.

Micro Grant opportunity for Small Business

One such implementation the Chamber is announcing this week is a Micro Grant opportunity for small business and local nonprofits. The grant, which carries a \$1000.00 award, will open online on October 1, 2026. The deadline to apply for the grant will be February 1, 2027 with the winner to be announced at the Annual Hickman County Chamber of Commerce meeting on March 6, 2027.

One of the requirements to apply for the grant is that the applicant must be a Hickman County Chamber of Commerce member. With membership for businesses and nonprofit organizations at only \$50.00, that shouldn't put a burden on anyone wishing to become a member. Watch the Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page for more about this grant.

A special thank you goes out to Lindsay Bowles, KYGRRO Executive Director and Director for the Chamber of Commerce in Ballard County for her invaluable help on the implementation of this grant. Another thank you goes to Hillary Webb, Chamber board member, and Fiscal Court Administrative Assistant for preparing the grant online application.

Sit A Spell Friday 5-6 pm

Take note. Happening this week. The Hickman County Library will be hosting a Sit A Spell from

5-6 p.m. on September 18. Gather round and listen to tall or not so tall tales from Hickman County's past.

Arts, Crafts, Book Fair

Upcoming events being hosted by the Chamber are Arts, Crafts and Book Fair on November 15 which will be at the Hickman County Elementary School.

Hay Bales Artwork Competition

A new and fun activity is scheduled for this fall. The details for concerning a contest for painted round hay bales is being announced soon. Forms will soon be going out if you would like to enter the competition for your artwork on hay bales. Bales of hay will be delivered and picked up by Allen House. The fee for this service is \$40.00. Many of the decorated bales will be displayed on the open Clinton Bank area next to the Hickman County Historical Society. The winning entry will receive a \$150.00 gas card from Acees.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

There is also a pumpkin decorating contest which will be located on the sidewalk beside 2 Creative Gals. This activity will be prior to the Halloween Parade.

Christmas Light Bus Tour, Christmas Parade & More!

Another activity being added this year is a Christmas Light Bus Tour (more details to come) and of course we will have the Christmas Parade on December 5th at 6 p.m. around the Courthouse square and Hickman County Memorial Library's Cookies with Santa will be on December 6 at the Library from 2-4 p.m.

More on all of these will be in upcoming editions of The Hickman County Times.

With so much going on (and I'm sure more will be added), we have a highly active and inter-connecting community. As you know. After all. It's All About Community.

The Crystal Palace

By **DANNY WHITLOCK**
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I believe the year that this story takes place was 1966. I was living in St. Louis with my first wife, Nancy who was pregnant with Michael. We moved to the city after graduation at Murray State and a wedding. We traveled back to Kentucky frequently as we both lived there growing up. My parents had not visited us yet, but planned to.

Sometime in the summer of that year, my parents found someone to work at the A&W Grocery and made the trip to St. Louis to visit. My mother, father, and little sister, Pam arrived on a Friday night.

On Saturday, we did the normal drive around and looked at the sights. We went by my work place, KV Pharmacal, and where Nancy worked as well. We talked about dinner that night. I wanted to do something special and impress my parents. We settled on a restaurant called Nantucket Cove. They specialized in seafood cuisine especially live lobsters. I knew my dad would eat a steak and they had excellent choices if that was what you wished to have for dinner. We arrived at the restaurant and it was crowded as usual. We waited in the bar. My dad and I had a drink together before we were seated. My father did not have a drinking problem, but when in a social setting, he liked to enjoy a drink or two. Dur-



ing dinner, the waiter kept his cocktails free flowing. When we finished up and headed out, I could tell he was a little tipsy.

We went in search of a little nightlife before returning to the apartment. I was familiar with the Gas Light Square entertainment area. We drove, parked, and started to look around. My sister was 17 years old and wouldn't be allowed inside any of the bars. As we walked around, we passed an entertainment venue called the Crystal Palace. Posted on the front were pictures of belly dancers who were performing inside.

My dad grabbed his stomach and said, "I've got a little heartburn. Danny, we should go inside and see if I can get an Alka-Seltzer." We headed in and over to the bar. The belly dancers were performing to the enjoyment of their crowd. My dad called the bartender over and said, "Give me a Seagram's VO and 7 Up...Danny, do you want something?" I said, "No, and I thought you needed an Alka-Seltzer." Dad just smiled and whispered, "I just wanted



to see the dancers. Let's stay for a minute or two." I answered, "Remember that we left my pregnant wife, my mother, and your daughter standing on the sidewalk outside." He smiled and I headed out to check on my family. I told them what was happening and my mother and my sister were not at all surprised. We waited about five minutes and Dad came out ready to head home.

They headed home on Sunday. All in all it was a good trip and I'm glad they got to come. My father died a year later in August of 1967. I was 24 at the time. He was 53 years old. I loved him deeply. I have always regretted that although I knew him as my father, I never really got close to him as a friend.

SUMMARY OF HICKMAN COUNTY ORDINANCE NUMBER _2026-03,

An Ordinance of the Fiscal Court of Hickman County, Kentucky, Declaring a Temporary Twelve-Month Emergency Moratorium on the Construction, Expansion, and Operation of High-Impact Data Center Facilities and High-Density Computing Operations Pending Infrastructure, Environmental, and Natural Resource Capacity Studies; Establishing Neutral Performance-Based Exemption Thresholds; Providing for Administrative Petitions and Appeals; and Fixing Penalties, Civil Fines, Daily Accruals, Stop-Work Orders, and Injunctive Remedies for Violations

This ordinance imposes a temporary 12-month emergency moratorium on the construction, establishment, physical expansion, and operation of high-impact data center facilities within Hickman County, Kentucky. "High-impact data center facilities" are any building, structure, complex, or site dedicated to centralized digital information processing, server hosting, cloud computing, artificial intelligence processing, or digital transaction processing that meets any one (1) or more of the following operational thresholds:

Electric Utility Demand: A continuous or peak electrical load requirement equal to or exceeding two (2) megawatts (MW), or requiring dedicated utility substation infrastructure modifications.

Water Resource Draw: A continuous or peak consumption rate exceeding ten thousand (10,000) gallons per day of groundwater, surface water, or public utility water for thermal management, cooling towers, or operational processes.

Acoustic Output: Operational acoustic emissions exceeding fifty-five (55) dBA between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., or fifty (50) dBA between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., measured at the boundary line of any receiving property.

This restriction shall be in force for 12 months from the Ordinance's enactment date. During this timespan, county officials and agencies are prohibited from processing or issuing permits, electrical authorizations, or utility connections for high-impact data centers. Applicants or landowners may petition the Fiscal Court for an exception by submitting professional engineer-certified studies at their own expense proving zero net negative impacts on groundwater, electrical grid stability, acoustic limits, and county roads. The Fiscal Court will hold a public hearing within 30 days of receiving a completed petition.

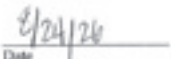
During the moratorium, the Fiscal Court will investigate and conduct a study of high-impact computing operations, which may include consultation with legal counsel, engineering consultants, public utility partners, and outside sources.

The Ordinance imposes civil fines of \$250 for a first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses. Each day of non-compliance constitutes a separate offense. Unpaid fines become a lien against the real property at 12% annual interest. In addition, it establishes criminal misdemeanor penalties per daily offense of up to \$5,000 for corporations, and Class A Misdemeanor charges (up to \$500 fine and/or 12 months imprisonment) for individuals who knowingly authorize violations. Lastly, the Ordinance permits the Fiscal Court to pursue preliminary/permanent injunctions and abatement orders in Hickman Circuit Court. Citation or Stop-Work Order recipients may appeal to the Fiscal Court within 7 calendar days for an administrative hearing held within 15 days.

The Hickman County Fiscal Court will consider the ordinance for second reading on Monday, September 28th, 2026 at 8:00 a.m. If the Hickman County Fiscal Court approves the ordinance on September 28th, 2026, it will become law and the 12-month moratorium begins. A complete copy of the ordinance is available for inspection in the office of the Hickman County Judge/Executive, and those who call the office can receive a copy mailed or emailed to them upon request.

I, Kenny Wilson, Hickman County Judge/Executive, on behalf of the Hickman Fiscal Court, hereby certify that the Hickman Fiscal Court reviewed and considered this Summary on the date signed below, and certified this Summary as accurate by a motion made and approved by members of the Hickman Fiscal Court as reflected in the record of these proceedings lodged in the Office of the Hickman County Clerk.


Kenny Wilson
Hickman County Judge/Executive


Date