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Inside: Lady Panthers are having their best season start in 12 years. **Page B1**

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025

\$4

'We are going to try'

Henry County action plans focus on basic housing, CIT support, community engagement

By **KATIE CLONTZ**
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NOTE: This is the third article in a multi-part series about Henry County's participation in a Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Map-

ping workshop. The final article in the series will appear in the Nov. 22 edition of The Courier-Times.

It is no secret that Henry County has a housing shortage. Several recent studies have highlighted the need in

detail. But there's also an increasing homeless population, as well as individuals who need shelter during emergency situations, like those

See **PLAN**, page A6



Katie Clontz / C-T photo

A group of individuals at a Henry County Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Mapping workshop work to create an action plan to address basic housing needs.

HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS!

The 36th annual Knights of Pythias All-American Christmas Parade took place Nov. 15 in New Castle. The weather was unseasonably warm, yet windy. The parade route started at Baker Park and went north on Main Street, ending at Santa's Broad Street headquarters (Tis the Season). The event featured dozens of holiday-inspired entries. More parade photos can be viewed on The Courier-Times Facebook page.

Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in New Castle Nov. 15 during the 36th annual Knights of Pythias All-American Christmas Parade.

Katie Clontz / C-T photos



The Grinch made a parade appearance and represented the Rose Bowl.



Several horses participated in the Christmas parade.



Photo provided

ABOVE: Aslan Fur Baby Spa, a New Castle dog-grooming business, participated in the parade. Several canines wearing festive holiday attire also joined the fun.



A marching band played festive songs along the parade route.



The Skinner Transfer parade float had an Island of Misfit Toys theme. Pictured are Kelli Blackburn, Dawn Baumer, Tanner Baumer, Aden Rulien, Klaire Flockhart, Nettie Flockhart, Shana Flockhart and Deanna DeWitt. Not pictured, but driving the semi, was Scott DeWitt.

Planning commission meets Nov. 20 to discuss proposed data center

Field trip to similar site contemplated

By **KATIE CLONTZ**
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The Henry County Planning Commission will meet at 5 p.m. Nov. 20 in the conference room of the Henry County Sheriff's Office to discuss a potential technology park (data center) at the corner of Interstate 70 and State Road 109 in Knightstown.

The planning commission tabled a decision last month regarding the proposed project. Meanwhile, discussion about a field trip to a similar data center site, if one can be found, remains ongoing.

The Henry County Commissioners talked about the data center project and potential field trip during their Nov. 12 meeting.

The subject was broached by Southern District Commissioner Susan Huhn.

"As the southern district commissioner where that project is, I have just been looking for ways to make sure that there's an educational process that's going on so that there's an informed decision," Huhn said.

Huhn said she has been brainstorming the matter and talking with Henry County Attorney Joel Harvey. One idea Huhn suggested was finding a similar data center and taking a field trip that would be open to the commissioners, planning commission members and interested members of the public, which Harvey said could be done legally.

Huhn also floated the idea of having a joint meeting between the county com-

missioners and the planning commission to talk more about the data center, but Harvey advised against it as it could be viewed as though a commissioner was trying to influence the planning commission.

Huhn also went through a list of data center issues she felt warranted discussion, such as a Planned Unit Development (PUD), safeguards, water, chemicals and disposal, the size of a gas-powered plant, number of turbines, pollutions, etc.

"I think there are a lot of questions and it would really be good to make sure they are discussed so we're making an educated decision for our constituents," Huhn said. "I want to do that in a way that is appropriate and won't be questioned in the future ... I would like to see something like this, if we can find it."

"I have actually had conversations with the developers, being the Southern District commissioner, that other people weren't invited to at the beginning, and I'd be happy to share that information with the other commissioners or with the planning commission to make sure they have any information I have," she said. "I want to do that in the right way. I just wanted to start this conversation."

Henry County Surveyor Steve Rust attended the Nov. 12 commissioners meeting and encouraged Huhn to examine guidelines and exercise caution.

"I think you've really got to walk a fine line," Rust said. "Either way, I don't care which way it goes, more information is better, yes. But your planning commission board is to do

See **DATA CENTER**, page A2

Volume 185, issue number 93



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