

Tax petition trial spans two days

BY VICTORIA COX
EDITOR

The trial for the litigation attempting to recall the LaRue County Board of Education's 2025 property tax levy has concluded, though an official judgment is still pending.

The Board's 2025 tax rate of 57.2 cents per \$100 of assessed value for real and personal property was approved during a special-called meeting in Sept. 2025. The rate was 4.2-cents higher than the previous year. During the rate approval, Board members stated that the increase was necessary to satisfy state requirements for a nickel tax,

which is required to potentially obtain additional funding from the state for building projects.

Three local men – David Ragland, William “Bill” Manning and Jerry Bird – known collectively as the petition committee, subsequently filed to recall the portion of the increase that was subject to a recall vote (3.8 cents). The 88-page petition with 1,082 signatures was submitted to LaRue County Clerk Rhonda Metcalf on Oct. 20. The group needed at least 731 certified signatures from registered and qualified LaRue County voters to fulfill the petition requirements.

Three days later, Metcalf announced that the petition did

not meet statutory standards, causing it to be declared insufficient. Per her determination, state law that governs petitions requires that all papers of a petition be substantially uniform in style; if this requirement is not obeyed, the petition does not meet statutory standards and therefore must be determined to be insufficient. Metcalf stated that two pages of the petition were not substantially uniform in style as they contained different headings and verbiage than all the other papers of the submitted petition.

The *LaRue County Herald News* obtained a copy of the petition

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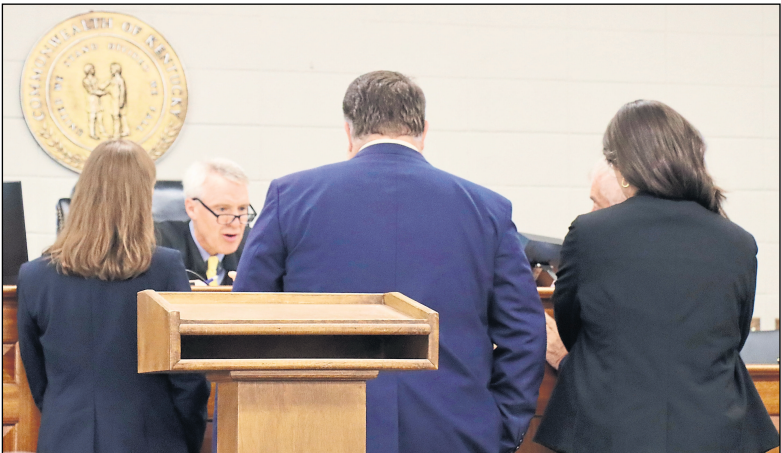


Photo by Victoria Cox

LaRue County Circuit Court Judge Charles C. Simms III, second from left, talks with Adrienne Southworth, representing the petition committee, left, Grant Chenoweth and Valerie McCubbin, representing the LaRue County Board of Education.

Lincoln Jamboree Celebrates 72 Years



Cam Lasley

Country singer John Foster performed at Joel Ray's Lincoln Jamboree this past weekend as the Jamboree celebrated it's 72nd year in business. Located at 2579 Lincoln Farm Rd., Hodgenville, the country music venue serves us good food and lots of entertainment. For more information about the restaurant or upcoming shows, call 270-358-3545 or visit lincolnjamboree.com



From Handshakes to Health Care,
A Message to Kentucky Farmers:
You Are Appreciated!



A Special Publication From The Kentucky Department
of Agriculture's Raising Hope Program To Kentucky's
Farmers, Their Neighbors And Friends.



He Lived His Best Life, Planned His Legacy

As this publication made its way into the final stages of production, Dale Dobson unexpectedly passed away.

As Director of Farm Safety and Rural Health, Dale took the lead on the content of this Raising Hope special publication. Together, Dale and editor Sharon Burton created the concept for this publication after Dale voiced a desire to reach families – farmers and their neighbors – across Kentucky with a message of hope.

Dale's final column is published below, and in it you will find that he had committed himself for the very message he wanted this edition of Raising Hope to relay – LIVE YOUR BEST LIFE. PLAN YOUR LEGAL health challenges in hopes of helping farmers face their own. We share this message to honor Dale's life and legacy, and to



Dale Dobson will long be remembered for his passion for Kentucky farmers and their families as a well and healthy farm he is shown tending one of his most recent projects, a new grain silo safety trailer that will be used for rescue training.



Jonathan Shell
Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner

From Ag Commissioner
Jonathan Shell:

**Ky. Agriculture
Has Lost a
Great Champion**

Inside Today's Edition

This edition of *The LaRue County Herald News* includes a special “Raising Hope” publication from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture recognizing the upcoming Farmer Appreciation Day, but the publication is for everyone in Kentucky’s rural communities – not just farmers.

While it highlights the lives and challenges of farm families, its message is about the value of neighbors, the importance of safety on our roads, and the well-being of all who call these rural communities’ home.

Inside, you’ll find stories of resilience, practical advice on estate and health planning, and examples of how young people and neighbors are coming together to support one another.

The lessons and resources here – about

planning for the future, caring for mental and physical health, and building a safer, more connected community – are relevant to every household.

This document highlights the importance of farm safety, mental health awareness, and community support in Kentucky agriculture. It also emphasizes the legacy of Dale Dobson, a LaRue County firefighter and KDA staffer who dedicated his life to farm safety, mental health, and preventing accidents.

Dobson, who served as director of Farm Safety and Rural Health for KDA, initiated the idea of sending this message of “Raising Hope” to newspaper readers across Kentucky because he believed that life is good for all of us when we look out for each other.

Free Shuttle Service: Park and Ride

On the first weekend in October, the 55th annual Lincoln Days Celebration will be held in Hodgenville, KY.

During the two-day festival held in Abraham Lincoln's birthplace, festival-goer's can enjoy Pioneer Games, the Art Show, Lincoln look-a-likes, a parade, live music, food booths, vendors of all kinds, an ice cream eating contest, a classic car show, the Rail-splitter 5K and 10K race, along with many kid and family activities. To make things easier this year's festival will feature expanded shuttle service for attendees.



FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
9 am – 6:45 pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
10 am – 3:45 pm



Running continuously from LaRue County High School parking lot and Downtown Hodgenville



Sponsored by
City of Hodgenville
Tourism Commission
visithodgenville.com

On Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, thanks to the generous support of the City of Hodgenville Tourism Commission, Lincoln Days will provide a free shuttle service to historic downtown Hodgenville. Shuttles will be available on Saturday, October 3 from 9 am to 6:45 pm and Sunday, October 4 from 10 am to 3:45 pm

Multiple 15-passenger vans will run continuously between the LaRue County High School located at 925 S. Lincoln Blvd. Hodgenville, KY and the corner of West Main Street and South Walters Avenue (near the Post Office)

Passengers will receive tickets for their return trip. Please note, due to the size of the vans, wheelchair users will need to transfer out of their chairs to ride. Chair must be foldable for transport.

Lincoln Days will also offer limited handicap parking one block from

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Lincoln Invitational

ALLISON SHEPHERD

The LaRue County Band of Hawks will be the host for this year's Lincoln Invitational Band Contest on Saturday, Sept. 19 at the LaRue County High School Football Stadium located at 925 S. Lincoln Blvd, Hodgenville, with opening ceremonies beginning at 12:30 p.m.

There are nine bands scheduled to compete including Breckinridge County High School, Adair County, and Russell County all in Class 3A. Meade County High School, Ohio County, Allen County Scottsville

H.S., Anderson County, Central Hardin H.S. and North Hardin H.S. will compete in Class 4A competition.

Preliminary awards are scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

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OBITUARIES

Geneva Mae Bolin, 88
Alton “Buddy” Cordell Milby, 89
Tickle Hambright Ragland, 90

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