

Solar farm permit denied

BY VICTORIA COX
EDITOR

The company hoping to construct a solar farm on more than 800 acres of land in Magnolia has been denied a conditional use permit to do so.

Known as Magnolia Solar and Storage Farm, the project is being developed by Doral Renewables LLC, a Philadelphia-based developer, owner and operator of renewable energy assets throughout the nation. The Magnolia Solar project would encompass approximately 840 acres of “undeveloped, agricultural and forested land with rural low-density single-family residential

development.” Approximately 515 of these acres would be fitted with arrays of photovoltaic modules mounted on a rotating tracking rack system. The project would generate 63.25 MW (megawatt) of power – enough energy to power approximately 6,000 households per year – and may also have a battery storage component of approximately 60 MW/hour. The power generated by the project would be connected to the electric transmission grid via the existing East Kentucky Power Co-op transmission line crossing the site by an onsite substation.

In LaRue County, solar fields have been made a conditional use

in every zoning category. The Land of Lincoln Planning and Zoning Commission defines a conditional use as “a use which is essential to or would promote the public health, safety and welfare in one or more zones, but which would impair the integrity and character of the zone or adjoining zones which it is located unless restrictions on location, size, extent and character of performance are imposed.”

The county has also issued a list of 29 possible restrictions – also known as conditions – a solar field may have to meet to obtain a conditional use permit from the



Photo by Cam Lasley

Whitney Rubin, Vice President of Development for Doral, standing, presented the company's conditional use permit to the Land of Lincoln Board of Adjustments for the proposed solar farm on Monday, Sept. 28. A large crowd gathered inside the LaRue County Courthouse to hear the presentation and provide public comment regarding the potential development.

SEE **SOLAR/PAGE A9**



Photo by Victoria Cox

Karson Ball, Preston Grayson, Ameilia Ellison, Justin Chaney and Selena Lopez, pictured from left, were dressed as the one and only Abraham Lincoln during Lincoln Days 2026.

Lincoln Days 2026

BY VICTORIA COX
EDITOR

With beautiful weather and a packed schedule, downtown Hodgenville was bursting with people on Saturday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Oct. 4 for the 55th annual celebration of Lincoln Days.

Despite the forecasted threat of rain, weather was not a factor for the

fifth year in a row, with attendees mainly experiencing bright, sunny days. Dozens of booths lined Lincoln Square, and food and drink vendors were spread out between the square and Creekfront Park. Countless musicians also performed throughout the two-day festival.

Eventgoers took advantage of many available activities, including look-alike contests for Abraham

Lincoln and Mary Todd; 4-H country ham auction; Railsplitter Run; parade; an antique tractor show; classic and late model car show and much more. Multiple inflatables and bouncy castles, a petting zoo and face painting were also set up for children.

One of the more unique, as well as entertaining, aspects of Lincoln

SEE **LINCOLN/PAGE A7**

2026 LCHS Football Homecoming Queen



Allison Shepherd

Jocelyn Corleto was crowned the 2026 LaRue County High School Football Homecoming Queen Friday, Oct. 2. She was escorted by senior Braylin McDowell.

City proposes increased tax rate

BY VICTORIA COX
EDITOR

The City of Hodgenville is proposing an increase to its property tax rates for the 2026 tax bills. A public hearing to obtain comments regarding this rate will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 21 at Hodgenville City Hall.

The city proposes increasing its real and personal property tax rates from 10.9 cents per



\$100 in assessed value to 11.1 cents. The new rate is expected to produce \$256,278 in revenue,

SEE **CITY/PAGE A2**

100 Years Young



Allison Shepherd

Wilma Atherton celebrated her 100th birthday working at the Lincoln Jamboree restaurant on Friday, Oct. 2. On Saturday she participated in the Lincoln Days parade.



Allison Shepherd

100 year old Murle Elliott smiled and waved at those lining the streets of Hodgenville, during the Lincoln Days parade.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Informing voters with candidate questionnaires

BY VICTORIA COX
EDITOR

In an effort to educate the public on the upcoming election, *The LaRue County Herald News* is continuing its series of candidate questionnaires.

This week, you'll find the candidates running for District 24 State Rep-

resentative on A4 and District 14 State Senator on A5. All individuals were given the same questions and deadlines.

This is the final set of questionnaires. Questionnaires already published include LaRue County Judge Executive and District 1 and District 2 Magistrate in the Sept. 9

SEE **VOTERS/PAGE A7**



INSIDE

Classifieds, B6
Education, B4
Farm & Home, B9
Opinion, A7

Religion, B2
Records, A2
Sports, B1

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