

# Editorial & Opinions ENOUGH

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*"Create an interactive environment that facilitates debate among readers on issues concerning them," Jeff Jobe, 1998*  
*"Because you have stood with us in the past; we commit to never allow pressures to stop us from standing for you today," Jeff Jobe, 2010*



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Russell County's oldest continuous news source.

## Coordinating a community plan for growth

By **JEFF JOBE**  
 jobe@jobeinc.com

The end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019 is a time of reflection, a time to take pride in all the great things we have achieved as a nation, state, region, and community. But we must also look ahead and be realistic about the challenges that remain and the opportunities they present.

While most experts believe the economy is fundamentally strong, for us here at home we need to be honest with ourselves; we have not seen the growth others have and we need to coordinate a plan to make it happen.

Elections are over and those re-elected can stop pretending all is good. For those newly elected they can now prove to those who supported them that they have what it takes. Now is the time for us all to come together and cooperate for the good of our community.

I say cooperate because this is the absolute most important aspect of leadership. Too many times, we have community leaders spend as much time behind closed doors than they do in open session. I have been covering community news and editing it for decades and I assure you that little good is done in closed sessions and even less for the good of us all if details are not known in advance.

Now is the time for an unified and open team approach to growing our region as a whole. Each city and county should have citizen groups organized to communicate with existing industry, tourism and others who focus on new local initiatives for bringing business and creating incentives for those already here to expand, or upgrade their community appeal.

Nobody should expect for all this to be done in a single one-hour monthly meeting. The official not truly worthy of leadership will not understand the importance of delegation and be intimidated by others wanting to help their community.

A few weeks ago it became so very clear to me that even though we may not always agree on politics and yes we do have extreme diverse opinions; that when it comes to local initiatives we should be able to put aside these differences for the good of community.



**JOBE FOR KENTUCKY**  
 with Jeff Jobe

This realization came about when Barren County Circuit Clerk Krissie Fields reached out to our newspaper, the Glasgow Daily Times, Royce Radio and Commonwealth Broadcasting asking for help in coordinating a political forum.

For the first time, I sat in the same room with each of these long serving community media groups as contributors to community rather than historians documenting the meeting. We established rules and a plan for a political forum; we secured questions from our supporters and brought them together. We met a couple times on our own and I enjoyed the experience.

The Glasgow-Barren County Chamber chose not to participate for some reason so Fields asked us to pick up the slack and we did. By coordinating this effort, we were in agreement on the approach and I believe having us working together helped assure fairness for participants.

South Central Kentucky has been good to our company and the families who make it up and I am offering our services to help promote, coordinate or hit the ground running in 2019 in anyway and work with anyone who wants to serve our communities in an open and honest manner.

We can't afford to go back to the failing closed door practices that has us falling behind communities our size a decade ago.

*Jeff Jobe is founder and CEO of Jobe Publishing, Inc. His commentary reflects his personal views and does not reflect the views of personal or professional associations and affiliations. Reach him at jobe@jobeinc.com. Read his previously published commentary at www.jobeforkentucky.com.*

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## Community Meeting Schedules

**Russell Springs Council** – 2nd Thursday of each month at the municipal room at the City Hall at 6 p.m.

**Jamestown Council** – 3rd Thursday of each month in the basement of Jamestown City Hall at 6 p.m.

**Fiscal Court** – 2nd Monday of each month in the Russell County Courthouse at 6 p.m.

**School Board** – 3rd Monday of each month at various locations at 6 p.m.

**Russell County Chamber of Commerce** – 3rd Tuesday of each month at various local businesses at 12 noon (CST). Contact the chamber office at (270) 866-4303 for details of this month's meeting location.

**Lake Cumberland Area Development District** – Board of Directors – 4th Thursday of every odd numbered month at the Area Development District Office at 11 a.m.

**Russell County Health Department Board** – Local health board meetings are held annually and occur in February. District board meetings are held quarterly.

**Russell County Ambulance Board** – 2nd Tuesday of each month.

**Russell County Library Board** – 2nd Tuesday of each month at Jamestown Library at 5 p.m.

**County Extension Office Board** – 3 meetings a year, one in September; no time set yet for the remaining meetings. Located at the Extension Office.

**Partners In Prevention** – 4th Thursday of each month at the Russell County Auditorium/Natatorium Complex at 12 noon.

**Airport Board** – 1st Tuesday of each month at the airport at 5 p.m.

**Lake Cumberland Tourist Commission Board** – 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Tourist Commission, located at 650 S. Hwy. 127 between Arby's and Long John Silver's restaurants, at 12:30 p.m.

**County Conservation District** – 1st Monday of each month at the district conference room, located at 159 Ferco Way, Jamestown, at 12 noon.

**Russell County Industrial Development Authority** – 4th Monday of each month at Duo County Telephone, at 8:30 a.m.

## Glasses have been a blessing for me

By **JUNE RICE**  
 Jobe News Network Contributor

When I was in seventh grade I got so I could not read the words on the blackboard where, at that time (before any kind of duplicator was in use) the teacher would write the test questions and information she wanted us to write down and learn. My parents took me to an eye doctor and I got my first pair of glasses. I could still read without glasses, but I was surprised that I could see individual leaves on the trees instead of just a big green blob.

This opened a new world to me, as I could see the blackboard, see details at the movies (television had not made its appearance at that time) and I put on my glasses first thing in the morning. I never lost my glasses. My nearsightedness progressed until I had my rimless glasses and a plastic-rimmed pair in case I broke my glasses. By that time I was in college, and my roommate, Jennie Foster, also wore plastic-rimmed glasses. One day she was polishing her fingernails with a pretty bright red color. She was tempted to paint the rims of her glasses, but chickened out.

I said, "You can paint my spare glasses. I haven't needed to wear them anyhow." She did, and I put them on. This was 1948 and one was supposed to make glasses as inconspicuous as possible. I got so many compliments that I wore them all the time instead of my "good" glasses. First thing I knew, I had more boyfriends than I had ever had before!

When I notified the person who was going to meet my bus when I traveled to Waterman, Illinois, to interview for a job, I told them I would be wearing red glasses. The school secretary later told me that bit of information caused the Board of Education some concern! I got the job anyhow, and for years I wore those red glasses.

I don't remember ever being teased because I had glasses. I wouldn't have cared if I had. I loved being able to see clearly what everybody else was seeing, and though my eyesight is failing, I am so glad I can still see well enough, with glasses and a magnifying glass, to read a book or a magazine, or anything else I need to read.

My glasses have been a great blessing to me since I was 12 years old!