

Editorial & Opinions ENOUGH

The Mission Statement of Jobe Publishing, Inc.

"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



One Year Later



By **MARY BETH SALLEE**
 Times-Journal Reporter
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Next week marks my one-year work anniversary as a reporter with Jobe Publishing.

It's hard to believe that it's passed by so quickly, but one thing is for sure: I have absolutely no regrets in joining the team.

Sure, the newspaper business has its stresses, even for a writer: deadlines, late nights, and - of course - the always troublesome writer's block. But any negatives that came my way this past year have by far been outweighed by the positives. Over the past 365 days, I've formed friendships with my co-workers. I've developed bonds with some great leaders in our county. I've been able to renew my passion for writing.

But most importantly, I've been fortunate to tell the stories of so many wonderful people.

I've written stories about those celebrating accomplishments and successes. I've told the stories of people who are doing good in our communities. I've shared the story of one person's artwork and the story of another who raised a kangaroo. I know what it's like to sit in the home of a couple that has been married for 60 years and listen to their story of love and family, while also being offered beans and cornbread for

lunch.

But I also know what it's like to share in those darker moments with people, those hard times that others may never know about. I've sat across the desk from people and have cried along with them as they shared their stories with me. I've helped tell the stories of mothers who have battled postpartum depression and their fight to overcome it. I've listened as others have told me about their loved ones that committed suicide. And I've even made the phone call to schedule an interview with a Vietnam veteran, only to be told it was too late as he had lost his battle to cancer. That one hit me hard.

The people that I meet, the words that I write, the stories that I tell - they all stay with me long after this newspaper is printed. It can be both a blessing and a curse to feel things so deeply sometimes. Either way, I'll take it.

So, to those I have interviewed, thank you for not only sharing your story with me, but also your deepest vulnerabilities and for having the guts to do so.

To the readers each week, thank you for growing with me as we have learned more about our community each week and those we share it with.

To each and everyone of you, thank you for letting me be your story teller this past year. I am truly grateful.

Mary Beth Sallee resides in Hart County with her husband and son. She works as a reporter for Jobe Publishing.

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.

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 TIMES-JOURNAL**
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