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# 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*

## EDITORIAL

# Capital punishment

**Wade Daffron**  
 The Times Journal

Last week, officials in Somerset-Pulaski County announced they were now officially "The Capital of Lake Cumberland."

There's even been a "registered service mark" so they can use the term for promotional efforts.

Well, isn't that special?

You know, we're dealing with a pandemic, trying to get our state opened up for commerce, which certainly includes tourism, and we feel this is NOT the time to try to usurp one of America's largest, and most popular, man-made lakes.

Tourism is a big deal. It brings millions of dollars to our area.

The shoreline of Lake Cumberland includes Russell, Pulaski, Wayne, Clinton, and possibly other areas depending on how one approaches it geographically.

Our neighbors to the east may want to consider where the lake they lay claim to originates.

If we were living in an animated world, we could go down to the Wolf Creek Dam, turn a giant, cartoon faucet off, and see how they'd feel about THAT.

"Good to the last drop," indeed!

Sure, Somerset is a bigger city, but we don't have the traffic and con-

gestion they do.

We have SEVERAL marinas and more access/launch points (official and unofficial) than anyone can count.

And we'd darn sure put our hospitality up against ANYONE.

Now, about the oft-used term, "Houseboat Capital of the World"...

Indeed, in 2014, Kentucky as a STATE was designated as the "Houseboat Capital of the World" by then Governor Steve Beshear - (We hear his son has gone on to great things!) - at a ceremony in... wait for it...JAMESTOWN.

FUN FACT: Russell Springs is considered "The Gateway to Lake Cumberland."

Your Honor, we rest our case...

OK, seriously now, a huge holiday - July 4th, Independence Day - is upon us, and tourists will hopefully be flocking to our area. OUR area. As in ALL of us. ALL the cities and counties along Lake Cumberland.

Can we not work together? Because what benefits everyone, benefits EVERYONE.

Of course, this editorial is written somewhat tongue-in-cheek, but we hope to not "rock the boat," and have "smooth sailing" from here on out.

Aye aye, Captain?

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As most have seen on their televisions, there have been riots and wholesale destruction of businesses around America. Majority of the violence is in city's controlled by the Democartic Party for decades and in some city's since the late 1800's!

The people of those city's blame others for their problems yet refuse to accept or understand that the problems are of their making. They voted for these 'Progressive' persons to lead them. But when it falls apart as all dreams of Socialism do, they blame others for the failures.

And, on top of that, they are tearing down statues of important Historical figures. A statue hurts no one physically and it shows the changes America has made in 240 some odd years. These 'woke' people are even tearing down statues of Abraham Lincoln, pretty much a local boy, the President who brought America out of slavery.

What I have learned is that Ameri-

can History has not been taught in our schools for decades. This must be addressed immediately. If we continue to raise historically ignorant children, we will raise a generation who will repeat the mistakes of the past.

In High School do the History books show that slavery has been around ever since Man has walked on Earth? Do they show what mistakes have been made and what Americans have done to correct those instances? Do they include the wonderous things we have invented that help all peoples?

We must teach our children that America is the greatest Country ever in History. There has never been a concept such as Freedom of Religion. the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, Freedom of Speech and all of the other Inherent Rights given to us by God/Nature.

We must protect and defend America and our Rights or lose them all to enemy's Foreign and Domestic.

Thank you  
 Mike Peinsipp

## LEADERSHIP continued from page one

economic development, industry, government/public services, agriculture, healthcare, education, and youth opportunities. Programs are held at various locations throughout Russell County, providing participants an opportunity to view some of our community's unique facilities.

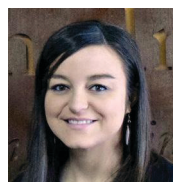
Participants in Leadership Russell County are selected after submitting a completed application. All local businesses are encouraged to

nominate employees for this opportunity. The deadline to submit the applications and payment to the Chamber of Commerce office is Monday, August 3, 2020.

For further information on Leadership Russell County, contact the Russell County Chamber of Commerce at (270) 866-4303 or Christy A. Martin, Leadership Russell County coordinator, at (270) 866-4477.

## EDITORIAL

# School districts: allow remote learning from home



By **MARY BETH SALLEE**  
 Jobe Publishing, Inc.  
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Last week, Governor Andy Beshear, Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, and Kentucky Department of Education Commissioner Kevin Brown announced guidelines for the reopening of Kentucky schools this fall.

I've got a little boy who will be an upcoming kindergarten. The choice has been made: this fall, he will be homeschooled.

The choice wasn't made purely because of the guidelines handed down from the Governor and his administration. I personally believe those guidelines are necessary to keep students and staff healthy at school since many want education to resume in-person.

Point blank, the choice was made to homeschool my little one because I simply will not take the risk of him contracting COVID-19, a virus that does take the lives of children, a virus that many are still not taking seriously.

When I go out into a store - wearing my mask, using hand sanitizer, wiping down everything I've purchased - I do so because I'd rather be overly cautious than not cautious at all.

But then I see adults, parents mind you, taking no precautions at all when out and about, even with their children. And I see it everyday on Facebook: adults posting about the pandemic being a hoax, that masks are an infringement upon their constitutional rights, and so much more that they pretend to be "experts" on. (Insert eye roll here.)

Nevertheless, because of the choice to homeschool, I've already had an overwhelming cloud of questions raining down on me: Will the school district allow distance learning from home? If not, what program and/or books should I purchase? How do I organize countless lessons each week? What will I need to turn my at-home office into a classroom? Do I handcraft a learning board for my son, or just spend the \$30 on a dang calendar chart from Amazon?

Worry and anxiety. It has hit me hard for the past seven days.

As a mom, I want my son to have the absolute best education possible. And I will spend every last dollar I have and lose countless hours of sleep to make that happen. My boy is my top priority.

But also as a mom who never asks for help, I'm asking for it now.

Actually, I'm begging for it from our school districts.

If the education of every child in our county truly matters, then parents who choose to homeschool need the support of the school district.

If the safety and well-being of every student is of the utmost importance to teachers and school administrators, then I am asking the leaders of our school districts to understand our concerns in the midst of this pandemic.

As cautious parents who are choosing to homeschool, we aren't conspiracy theorists. We aren't nuts. We don't want to hide our children from the world or keep them from receiving a great education.

The fact is, we just want to keep our kids safe because we love them, because they are our everything. All we ask is that our school districts accept us parents who are choosing what we believe is the best option for our children.

For many of us, this will be the first time we dive into homeschooling head-first.

Please, support us by allowing the choice for our children to still be a part of your school district by offering the option of remote/distance learning for students.

If all children truly matter, if this is truly about #OneHartKY and #TeamKentucky, then don't give up on our children just because they will not be walking into your schools and classrooms.

Help us. Guide us. Support us. And above all, let our children here at home know that you care about them, too, just as much as the child sitting in-person in your classroom.

## Letter to the Editor Policy

The Russell County Times-Journal welcomes letters to the editor regarding our publications or local issues of importance. Letters should be no more than 300 words; we reserve the right to edit for clarity or length, or to reject letters that are in poor taste or libelous. Writers must include their name and a valid telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will be rejected. Send your letter by email to jobe@jobeinc.com or mail to or drop off at any Jobe Publishing office.

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