

COMPETITIVE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Since then, we have added 2-1/3 respected community newspapers, two radio stations and our second commercial printing and publishing operation. We are also just weeks away from launching our JOBEnews daily online news and marketing site, with links connecting readers to every community we serve, as well as Frankfort and Washington, D.C.

But growth cannot simply mean buying more.

While looking for new opportunities, I also took a harder look at what we already owned. I didn't like everything I saw.

In some communities, one news editor was doing everything. In others, editors rarely left home while freelancers handled most on-site coverage. We even had a situation where I was being charged \$50 to have a civic meeting covered while the company was already paying the organization's membership and the employee's meal.

That isn't the local journalism I believe in.

So while we have added businesses and new revenue opportunities, we have also refocused on something basic: real, on-the-ground local news coverage.

That means being at the city council meet-

ing, school, ballgame, ribbon cutting, festival, fire department and civic event. It means being where the community is.

Technology can make us faster and more efficient. It can improve our photography, pages, advertising, printing and distribution.

But technology cannot replace showing up.

Over the years, I have learned that if you surround yourself with good, hardworking people who care about their work, you can survive almost any change the marketplace throws at you.

But when someone is more interested in protecting themselves than improving, training feels like criticism, suggestions become threats and better practices become something to resist.

That mentality is far more dangerous to a business than the internet ever was.

Today's challenges are different. We compete for attention online. Customers expect multiple payment options. Sophisticated design and marketing tools once available only to major corporations are now available to almost everyone.

That doesn't frighten me. It excites me.

I have never been more excited about the future

of JOBEnews and Jobe Publishing.

We have something few media companies can duplicate: approximately 68 media professionals living, working and participating in the Central Kentucky communities we cover. We combine newspapers, radio, digital media, commercial printing and marketing with people who actually know those communities.

Our reach is tremendous, but reach alone isn't enough. We have to earn people's attention every day.

We must remain competitive enough to question yesterday's methods, confident enough to retrain ourselves, humble enough to recognize a better idea and hungry enough to keep improving even when business is good.

That may be the madness of being competitive.

But after more than 40 years in this business, I wouldn't want it any other way.

I wrote in a commentary some 28 years ago words that remain just as meaningful today:

Together we will grow.

That was our foundation then.

It remains our foundation today.

Former Trooper Island Director indicted on theft charge

Staff Report

A former director of Kentucky State Police's Trooper Island Camp has been indicted following an investigation into the alleged misappropriation of camp funds.

Former KSP Trooper Jonathan Biven, who previously served as director of Trooper Island, was charged with Theft by Unlawful Taking, over \$10,000, after a Clinton County grand jury returned an indictment Thursday, Aug. 6.

According to Kentucky State Police, the agency

discovered potential misappropriation of Trooper Island funds in September 2024. The KSP Special Investigations Branch opened an investigation and reviewed financial transaction records before presenting its findings to the Clinton County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office.

The Commonwealth's Attorney presented the case to the grand jury, which returned the indictment.

Biven retired from KSP effective Sept. 30, 2024.

Master Trooper Scott Ferrell began serving

as acting director of Trooper Island on Oct. 1, 2024, and was formally appointed director Dec. 4, 2024.

KSP said it remains committed to maintaining the integrity of Trooper Island and providing quality experiences for Kentucky children. Since its creation, the camp has served more than 40,000 youth, including some who later pursued careers with KSP and other law enforcement agencies.

An indictment is an accusation, and Biven is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPERTY SALE AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN – Glasgow Kentucky

The City of Glasgow is formally advertising the intent to sell approximately 60 acres of property designated for residential development and 22 acres designated for commercial / retail development as well as an additional 45 acres designated as flex tracts that are available for sale but that the City recognizes may be beneficial for public use. The subject property is located at 1573 Cleveland Avenue in Glasgow, KY and is owned by the City of Glasgow, formerly known as the Johnson Farm. RFP packages are available by request. Contact Jim McGowan or Rob Campbell. Jim McGowan: (270) 651-5977, jim.mcgowan@cityofglasgow.gov Rob Campbell: (502) 719-7940, rcampbell@qk4.com Interested parties will be required to submit a conceptual development vision, price proposal, and financial qualifications, describing their plan to purchase and develop the property along with their financial viability to complete the development. A preliminary vision of the development is included in the RFP package. This plan was developed by incorporating desired land uses, aesthetics, and development patterns desired for this property, and with consideration of the due diligence completed. Glasgow has documented the property zoning as a Planned Unit Development (PUD) with specific covenants and restrictions which will be also included with the RFP to maintain the intended vision the City has for the property. The rules and requirements of the PUD, CCR's, and the Barran County Planning Commission will be observed with the planned development proposed by the prospective purchaser of the property or properties. The City purchased the properties with a vision to create attractive, desirable housing to help bolster their ability to attract persons to live in the City of Glasgow as well as to attract companies to locate in Glasgow and Barren County. The City also recognizes the need for commercial development that would support the new housing and amenities in the project area and has dedicated land to that purpose. Interested developers will follow the following schedule for submittal of their proposal.

Release of RFP	August 3, 2026
Deadline for Written Questions	September 14, 2026
Last Addendum Deadline	September 21, 2026
Proposals Due	September 28, 2026
Evaluation of Proposals	October 5, 2026
Offeror Presentations/Interviews	October 12, 2026
Contract Negotiation and Award	TBD

NOTICE TO BARREN COUNTY TAXPAYERS

Barren County Clerk Helena Chase Birdwell and the Barren Fiscal Court, pursuant to KRS 424.130, announce that the 2025 Delinquent Real Property Tax Bills (Certificates of Delinquency) will be published in the BARREN COUNTY PROGRESS on Thursday, AUGUST 20, 2026.

The list of Certificates of Delinquency are available for public inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the County Clerk's office located at 117-1A North Public Square Glasgow, KY 42141. The list of delinquencies may also be inspected on the Delinquent Tax website. The Uniform Resource Locator (URL) of the website is *kydtax.smlc.us*.

The tax sale will be held on September 23, 2026, at 8:00 a.m. All interested participants must register with the County Clerk's office, beginning September 1, 2026, until the close of business on September 11, 2026. Please contact the County Clerk's office for additional information about the tax sale registration process, registration fees or required deposit amounts.

Taxpayers may continue to pay their delinquent tax bills at the County Clerk's office anytime prior to the tax sale.

Please Note: All payments must be received in the County Clerk's office by 4:00 p.m. September 22, 2026. Payments received after September 01, 2026, must be made by cash or credit card. If the tax bill is purchased during the tax sale by a third party, owner payments received after the tax sale will be returned without exception.

County Clerk Helena Chase Birdwell reminds taxpayers that delinquent tax bills purchased by third parties can result in additional fees, penalties, and interest, as well as foreclosure.

Some delinquencies – although they have been advertised – will be excluded from the tax sale in accordance with the provisions of KRS 134.504(10) (b).

If you have any questions, please contact the County Clerk's office at 270-651-3783.