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OPINION

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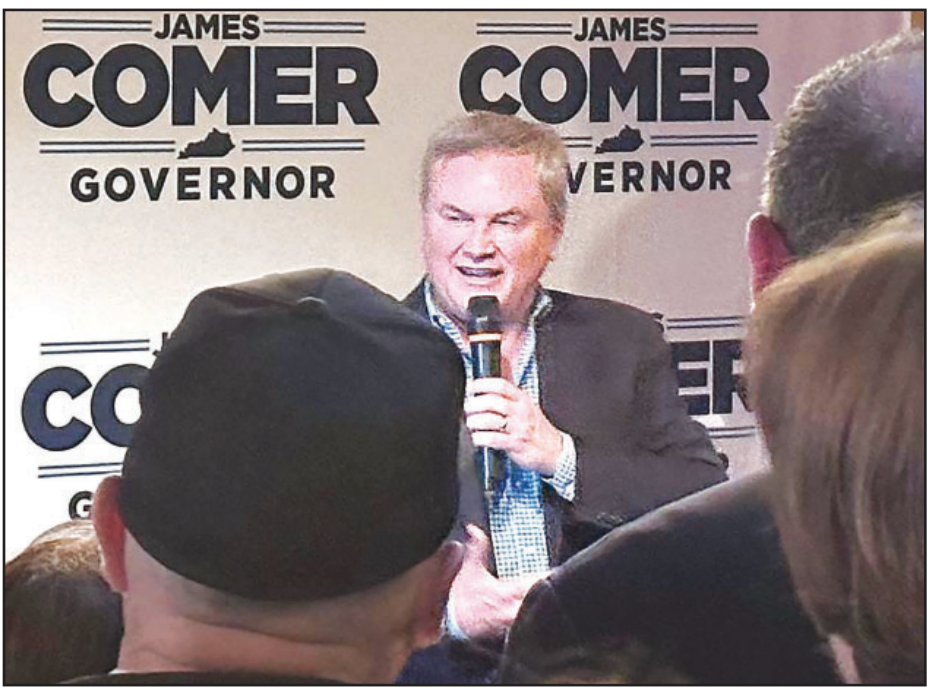
November 25, 2026



Comer enters Kentucky governor's race

Tompkinsville Republican makes his second bid after losing the 2015 primary by 83 votes



▲ Jeff Jobe | JOBEnews Photo

U.S. Rep. James Comer of Tompkinsville speaks to a crowd in Barren County about his run for Kentucky governor as he makes campaign stops across the region and throughout the state.

STAFF REPORT

U.S. Rep. James Comer of Tompkinsville entered the 2027 Kentucky governor's race Monday, Nov. 16. His campaign filed a statement of spending intent with the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance ahead of a Monday evening telephone town hall.

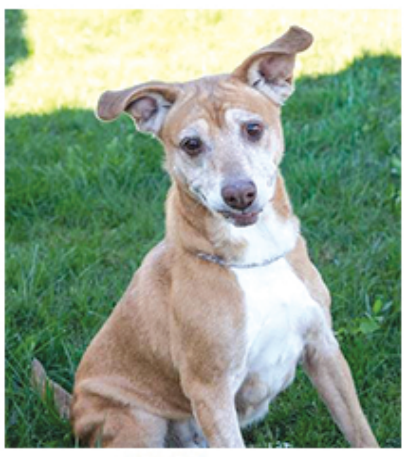
Comer was Kentucky's agriculture commissioner when he first ran for governor in 2015. Matt Bevin defeated him by 83 votes in the Republican primary. The following year, voters elected Comer to represent Kentucky's 1st Congressional District. He won reelection to that seat earlier this month.

A former state representative, Comer has chaired the U.S. House Oversight Committee since 2023. He drew support for a return to Frankfort before entering the race. At the Fancy Farm picnic in August, Kentucky Secretary of State Michael Adams urged Republicans to support Comer for governor.

The 2027 race will determine who succeeds Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear, who is serving his second consecutive term and cannot seek a third in 2027. Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman and former Kentucky House Democratic Leader Rocky Adkins are seeking the Democratic nomination.

PET of the WEEK

Call For Adoption Fee



Meet **Oakley,** a Sweet Senior looking for her Forever Home! Oakley isn't asking for much. Just a loving and caring family. This precious older gal deserves to spend her golden years surrounded by love, comfort, and kindness. Oakley has so much love left to give, and we'd love nothing more than to see her spend the rest of her days knowing she's safe and right where she belongs. She's proof that age is just a number! She's active, curious, eager to explore, and always ready for a little adventure.

When you adopt an older dog, you're not just giving them a home. You're giving them a second chance, a reason to wag their tail, and the opportunity to spend their golden years knowing what it feels like to be loved. Please stop by BRAWA to see this sweet lady at 175 Trojan Trail, Glasgow.

BARREN RIVER ANIMAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION

BRAWA Barren River Animal Welfare Association
175 Trojan Trail • Glasgow
270-651-7297

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Hughes Road deserves the same review as State Quarry Road



When Barren County Fiscal Court considers the future of Hughes Road, I hope magistrates ask the same question they faced on State Quarry Road in April. Who depends on this road, and how would removing it from the county road system affect their access?

The Barren County Progress has confirmed an important detail about the two requests. On State Quarry Road, a few property owners held land along the affected section, and all of them asked the county to discontinue it. On Hughes Road, one landowner, Kentucky Industrial Alliance LLC, owns the property on both sides of the road and at its dead end. In each case, every adjoining owner supported the request.

On April 1, magistrates voted unanimously to discontinue the 0.39-mile section of State Quarry Road beyond the railroad tracks off U.S. 31W near Park City. The county found that the section served solely as the entrance to private businesses. No one spoke at the public hearing.

The *BCP* has since confirmed with local property owners that little has changed along State Quarry Road. They said the decision caused them no inconvenience because the road still provides the same access to those businesses it always has.

Hughes Road branches off Herbert Turner Road southwest of Cave City and ends within the proposed Cave Point development site. The request to discontinue it came in October. On November 17, magistrates appointed Charles Embry and Joe Bailey to examine the road and report on any inconvenience its removal would cause. A final decision is pending.

Once again, I believe opponents of the proposed data center are asking county officials to change a routine process because they disagree with what private owners want to do with their property. Residents have every right to oppose the project and to speak at the hearing. If someone depends on Hughes Road for access, magistrates ought to hear where that person needs to go and how the proposed change would affect them.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, at 8:30 a.m., before the regular fiscal court meeting. The landowner deserves the same consideration the county gave the owners along State Quarry Road.

Send your letters to the editor to:

BARREN COUNTY THE PROGRESS
101 N. Public Square
Glasgow, KY 42141
or Email:
progress@jpinews.com