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PART I:
Comer Backs President's Handling of Iran, Warns of Global Consequences

BY JOBENEWS

Following the Barren County Lincoln Day Dinner, JOBEnews reporters asked Congressman James Comer for his assessment of rising tensions involving Iran and the broader geopolitical risks.



of American-forced regime change," he said. "But there's clearly a problem in Iran, and it started during the Obama administration. President Trump is having to go in and clean that up."

Comer said global powers are closely watching developments in the region, including Russia.

"Of course they're watching Russia," Comer said. "But the good thing is Ukraine is keeping Russia busy right now. I don't think Russia wants any part of the United States. If you've watched the first 24 hours and the video, you know our military is superior. We have the best equipment and the best forces in the world."

Comer noted he is not a supporter of American-led regime change efforts overseas but acknowledged serious concerns about Iran's leadership and nuclear ambitions.

"I'm not a big fan

Comer said Iran was dangerously close to obtaining a nuclear weapon and posed a direct threat to Israel.

"They were very close to having a nuclear weapon and threatening to fire that weapon at Israel — and potentially being able to penetrate the Iron Dome," Comer said. "If the Middle East breaks out into war with Israel, you're talking about the potential for World War III."

COMER
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Federal Charges Filed In A 30-Year-Old Cold Case

Kidnapping and Murder of 7-Year-Old Morgan Violi

U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Kentucky

US Department of Justice

BOWLING GREEN, KY — A federal criminal complaint and arrest warrant were filed in U.S. District Court on February 26, 2026, charging Robert Scott Froberg, 61, with the 1996 abduction and death of 7-year-old Morgan Violi.

U.S. Attorney Kyle G. Bumgarner of the Western District of Kentucky, FBI Special Supervisory Agent William Kurtz, Chief Michael Delaney of the Bowling Green Police Department and Commonwealth's Attorney for the 8th Judicial Circuit Kori Beck Bumgarner made



▲PHOTO | FBI
Morgan Violi who was only 7 years old when abducted and murdered.

the announcement at a press conference held on February 27, 2026, at the Bowling Green Police Department.

According to the complaint, Morgan Violi was abducted July 24, 1996, while playing with her sisters and friends at the Colony Apartments in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Witnesses saw a white man grab Morgan, put her in a maroon Chevrolet van and drive away. Two days later, the van suspected to be involved in the abduction was found south of Nashville, Tennessee, and searched for evidence. Morgan's body was found on October 20, 1996

▲PHOTO | FBI
The man charged in connection with the 1996 abduction and murder of Morgan Violi, in Bowling Green, is 62-year-old Robert S. Froberg.



▲PHOTO | FBI
The maroon 1978 Chevrolet van that was used in the abduction of Morgan Violi in 1996. Many in South Central Kentucky may remember the police asking for the public's help in the frantic search for the maroon van.

— three months after her abduction — in the woods in White House, Tennessee. For years, Morgan's kidnapping and murder went unsolved.

The complaint alleges that with recent advancements in forensic testing of DNA evidence, a hair found in

COLD CASE | CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

HIGHLIGHTS: From the City Council Meeting

BY PJ MARTIN
EDITOR | THE HERALD-NEWS

The Edmonton City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 2nd, at the Edmonton City Hall.

Those in attendance were Mayor Doug Smith, Councilmembers Teresa Hamlett, Curt Estes, Cathy Nunn, Faye Word, Tommy England, and City Attorney Brian Pack.

Others in attendance were City Clerk/Administrator Dawn Devore, Public Works Superintendent Moe Hensley, Police Chief David Robertson, ABC Administrator Fred Ray, Park & Recreation Director Brian Garrett, and for the *Herald-News* PJ Martin.

Two of the regular attendees were absent: 911 Director Jordan Crump and Edmonton Fire Chief Jerry Clemmons.



▲PHOTO | PJ MARTIN
Paige Hadden from the BRADD office was on hand to talk about Strategic Plans updates.

The mayor opened the meeting, "Myself and this council would like to extend condolences to Fred Ray and his family at this time."

He then declared a quorum present, and the minutes from the February 2nd meeting were approved after motions by Beard and Estes.

He then introduced Paige Hadden from The Barren River Area Development District (BRADD).

Hadden began, "I'm the Public Administration Specialist. We are joining you all today to spread the word and the update of your county strategic plan. BRADD is partnering with counties and cities across the region to refresh their existing strategic plans, not willing to start over, but just to ensure current goals are still relevant. Data is up to date, action steps to reflect today's community needs, and funding opportunities. As part of this effort, we'll also be updating our regional Hazard Mitigation Plan."

COUNCIL | CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

Mystery Building



▲PHOTO | PJ MARTIN
Many people have asked the *Herald-News* about the building being constructed at the Metcalfe County Fairgrounds. After being informed that it was for the county 4-H, we went to the source, our Metcalfe County 4-H Agent, Amy Branstetter, to find out. "It is a multi-purpose building that will be used for Extension, Community, and Fair events." Mystery solved.

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