

FOCUS

Bond's Broadcast

By Hank Bond



Taking a new job . . .

No matter how bad a job may be . . . no matter where it may be . . . and no matter what it pays you always have to look back sometime.

We have all had a teacher of sorts, somewhere along a career, who has had a big impact on our decision to stay in a particular career.

For me it was Ed Cavitt. For someone else it may have been Bob Woodward, however, somewhere along the line that person makes an impact upon us.

Entering the journalism profession is somehow something one should never enter unless the desire and effort is there to make a commitment to excellence.

From working in other career paths, I know it to be true in almost every profession, but in journalism or mass media of any type commitment and results apparently must walk hand-in-hand on a beach somewhere.

I have worked at a handful of newspapers and several radio stations and have always found it takes a lot of effort to succeed - or sometimes even come close.

Success can be directly measured in some professional fields - but - in the newspaper business someone grabs that measuring stick with every picture taken and every story written.

To have no one to work with a reporter or ad salesman who can give leadership and direction should be considered a professional sin in this business - but some places that just isn't available.

My wish is for anyone entering this business or moving from job to job that this be available. If not, it can be a tough row to hoe.

Julie Pfeifer has left The Carlisle Mercury for other pastures. Her last day with this publication as well as The Mercury + Plus and The Robertson Record was last Thursday.

She will still be in the newspaper business of sorts, going to the weekly newspaper and total market publication produced by the Georgetown News & Times in Georgetown.

That rings a familiar bell to me, since that was where I was employed prior to venturing to Carlisle and Nicholas County - and then expanding a publication to cover Nicholas, Robertson and more.

I can say today - just as I have said before - it was the right decision.

I hope the decision for Julie Pfeifer was the right one. It is never possible to know if a decision is the correct one - until after it is made. Only time will tell.

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty

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Hank Bond Publisher

Marjory Bond Co-Publisher & Office Manager

Kathleen Boykin Composition Supervisor

Patricia Boykin Sales Representative

Lee Poffle Sales Representative

Carol Boyd Reporter/Photographer

Clara Clark Publisher Emerita

Warren B. Fisher Editor Emerita

Katherine T. Fisher Editor Emerita

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Letters to the editor

time high and we are thankful. Our Sheriffs and Deputies. The majority of the 120 county sheriff's offices participate in the underprivileged youth to help build new facilities since 1980, the latest being a new barracks that will now serve 130 children per week and double the amount that we could take care of in the late 70's. We are thankful for all the golfers and club managers all over Kentucky who help us put on fund raisers that keep our camp solvent, plus the many other sheriffs, good citizens, etc. who help us with our fund raising efforts.

Guest Editorials

The Independent, Ashland (Dec. 7, 1988):

For the second time in a year, a statewide poll has clearly shown that a majority of Kentuckians are willing to pay more taxes for better schools.

The same Blasgen State Poll that revealed widespread dissatisfaction with schools among eastern Kentuckians also revealed that almost two out of three respondents were willing to pay more taxes for education. A total of 65 percent of the 808 Kentuckians polled supported more taxes, while only 26 percent opposed higher taxes for schools. Four percent said their positions would depend on the type and size of tax increases, and the rest said they did not know.

A poll commissioned by the Kentucky School Boards Association earlier this year also showed a majority of Kentuckians favoring higher taxes for education.

Although not all the problems with Kentucky's public schools involve money, a lack of revenue cer-

Concerning KENTUCKY

by Nancy S. Gentry

At a special ceremony in Frankfort recently, I had the opportunity to congratulate Kentucky teachers who have demonstrated excellence in their profession and were chosen by their peers as top educators.

Many Ann Davernport, a third grade music teacher at Mount Middle School in Wayne County, was named Kentucky's Teacher of the Year for 1989. As 11-year veteran of the teaching profession, Many Ann will make an outstanding representative for Kentucky in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

Another outstanding teacher is Greg Smith, a chemistry teacher at Shelby County High School, who was chosen Secondary Teacher of the Year and Jean Vies, who teaches gifted children at Warner Elementary School in Jessamine County, was named Elementary Teacher of the Year. These three teachers were selected from 82 candidates by a panel of education professionals. Each has earned our respect for exemplifying excellence in the classroom. We're proud of each of them.

There are lots of Many Ann Davernport and Greg Smiths and Jean Vies in Kentucky schools. Unfortunately, I think we have too many of our good teachers and present them from doing the job they are trained to do. The problem is an education system that is 100 years old and in need of repair.

I want to make it easier for our teachers and other education professionals to do their jobs effectively. I want to give them the freedom to decide for themselves, as professional educators, what will work best in their classrooms. I have traveled all over Kentucky talking about our schools and how I think we should go about improving them. I've convinced now more than ever, that the only way we will ever see significant improvement in our schools is by restructuring our system of education. We must make basic changes in the way we educate our children.

My education framework would give our teachers more power to invent, to be creative in the classroom, and more flexibility to meet the individual needs of their students. I want to move decision-making about teaching from the statehouse to the schoolhouse. I've said it before and I'll say it again, all knowledge does not reside in Frankfort. It never has and it never will. In fact, the rules or policies handed down by

help build new facilities since 1980, the latest being a new barracks that will now serve 130 children per week and double the amount that we could take care of in the late 70's. We are thankful for all the golfers and club managers all over Kentucky who help us put on fund raisers that keep our camp solvent, plus the many other sheriffs, good citizens, etc. who help us with our fund raising efforts.

Yes, we are very appreciative and thankful to everyone who helps us build the underprivileged youth of Kentucky. We can make them good citizens, great Kentuckians and outstanding Americans.

Lexington Herald-Leader

(Dec. 4, 1988):

It is possible that there are only a couple of hundred capable people in Kentucky? It seems that way, at least when it comes time for Gov. Wallace Wilkinson to make appointments.

The latest case in point is Wilkinson's appointment of Jerry E. Overbey Jr., ex-chairman of the state Public Service Commission, Overbey is a Murray lawyer with no appreciable experience in the laws governing utilities. It is what the PSC does.

What Overbey does have is a political connection to Wilkinson. His wife worked in Wilkinson's campaign and now works in the governor's scheduling office.

This is a familiar pattern. Despite a campaign pledge to conduct a nationwide search for his administration, the governor has turned again and again to a small circle of insiders when it came time to make key appointments.

This doesn't necessarily mean that Overbey's appointment was inappropriate. Perhaps he is the right choice and will do an exemplary job heading up the PSC.

The Beatyville Enterprise

(Dec. 1, 1988):

The Kentucky branch of the American Civil Liberties Union has filed suit to stop the Nativist scene at the state capital in Frankfort. The ACLU cited its obligation to protect the rights of minorities and to guarantee the separation of church and state.

Shenanigans such as this one are among the reasons that voters of mainstream America recently turned thumbs down on a presidential candidate who boasted of being a card-carrying member of the ACLU.

Perhaps the initial intentions of the ACLU were of the highest order, and certainly no one would advocate denying the protection of the Constitution to about the rights of the majority? Should the rights of the majority be suspended because some self-appointed group such as the ACLU presumes to speak for America?

In its pretext to safeguard our freedom of religion, the ACLU is in actuality attempting to ban public expression of same. . . . Our founding fathers were religious men and they bore no shame in that fact. . . . The history of our country and a trust in God run parallel. The banning of religious expression smacks of persecution reminiscent of the catcath days of Ancient Rome.

A very fine line must be maintained between the individual's freedom of expression and the next fellow's freedom of choice. The intelligent person makes up his own mind. He does not need the ACLU to decide for him.

Observance of Christmas is a part of our national heritage and should remain so. People come to the Nativist scenes of their own free will, and unless a time ever comes when they are dragged away at bayonet point, most of us would prefer that the ACLU find something else to muddle into.

Watch for More Christmas Parade Photos in Next Week's Carlisle Mercury + Plus +

The Carlisle Mercury and Carlisle Drug

Present Your 1988 Christmas Coloring Contest



Bring your entries or mail them to: The Carlisle Mercury, 234 N. Locust St., P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, Kentucky 40311

Age Categories & Prizes: Ages 3 - 5: Doctor Kit for boy & Nurse Kit for girl; Ages 6 - 8: Doll for girl & Husky; Hitchup 4 x 4 for boy; Ages 9 - 10: am/fm Radio for boy and Pink Headphone Radio for girl. Decision of judges final.

No Purchase Necessary. Deadline to Enter: December 19, 1988. 2 p.m.

Here's What To Do! Contest Rules ★ Read Carefully. 1. The contest is divided into three age divisions: 3-5 years of age; 6-8 years old; 9-10 years of age. 2. All pictures must be submitted with the complete official entry blank and cut out of newspaper. 3. Entries must be mailed or brought to The Carlisle Mercury by Monday, December 19. Address entries to: Coloring Contest, The Carlisle Mercury, 234 North Locust Street, P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, KY 40311-0272. Entries received after 5 p.m., December 19, will be disqualified. 4. Entries will be judged on the basis of originality and neatness for the child's age group category. 5. The winners will be called and names announced in this newspaper on December 22.

ENTRY BLANK. Please Print. NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP, AGE, PHONE.