

FOCUS

Bond's Broadcast

By Hank Bond

Friday night Nicholas County wrapped up its 1988 football season...

As part of the homecoming ceremonies, the Nicholas County All-Sports Booster Club sponsored a chili supper...

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Comment

Across this county - across Kentucky - and the world, November 8 becomes a day of decision.

It is far more important than simply an election day for president of the United States.

This election day may very well set the tone for the future of this country and most possibly the world.

It is not an easy decision - Picking the best man for president of the United States, who becomes the most powerful man in the world.

He controls the world's largest economy, the world's most powerful nation, and accordingly, one of the world's most influential countries.

There are certainly some shortcomings with the presidential selection in this country.

The population must, for the most part, make the voting decision on what it is possible to read, hear on radio and watch on television concerning a candidate for president.

It simply isn't possible for a presidential candidate to go door-to-door in this country, as would a candidate for city council, a county office or some state offices.

That, as some say, is too bad.

As a voter it is impossible to really have a chance to meet a big time office seeker. Because of the vastness of this country - even as large as some states - at best it takes a strong, well funded political machine to reach the majority of the vast population through indirect means.

None of this, however, precludes the need for every registered voter to cast a ballot this, and every, election day.

As the world spins at nearly 25,000 miles-an-hour around the sun, this hectic daily pace should be slowed to practice this American duty - and freedom.

In this country we have the ability to know who is running for office and what he or she stands for - before voting.

The general population can make a difference in selecting our governmental leaders, regardless of the office.

In many foreign countries, the population has no idea which candidate will lead the country, until after some military action or major political group has the ability to put one person or a small group in the country's biggest decision making positions.

November is not only the national election day - it is your day of responsible action as an American.

You must practice this right - no matter how you vote - to make America's system continue to work.

In Kentucky, there's a couple constitutional amendments on this year's ballot, and consideration of both sides is essential.

Allowing apathy to prevail simply because of lack of proper knowledge and understanding is inexcusable. The amendments are too important to your way of life to simply allow them to pass without proper consideration - and in the light of the personal freedom to cast a vote - voting in the November election.

Make your choices - and exercise your right.

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LETTERS

Continued from page 2

The broad farm deed has been used by mineral owners for decades in Eastern Kentucky to strip mine land with out compensation, to the approval of the surface owner.

By all other states have limited the abuse of the broad farm deed. Kentucky voters have a historic opportunity to limit the abuse of the broad farm deed by voting YES on Constitutional Amendment #2.

A YES vote will clearly state to us that we now own our land and our people above the mineral interests of the coal industry and other corporate mineral owners.

The unwarranted physical destruction of homes and property caused by the strip mining under the broad farm deed is shoudered primarily by the people and the land of Eastern Kentucky. Although the problem is regional it is concentrated only in the concentrated efforts of Kentuckians throughout the Commonwealth.

Power and fear are both tools. Sometimes we live in terror of what people think about. Who cares?

Let someone else fill in the blank - stick their neck out.

The loss of our dear friend Dudley Vaughn last week, again saddens our community. A man "who cared, always a smile on his face, a dedicated attitude of doing something for somebody."

The decision for or against a state operated lottery is very important. It's up to us to take charge. Do we just roll over because someone else wants us?

"We are the ultimate authority on ourselves. Our own lives and investment in the American way. Be sure to vote - be in charge - and show that you do care."

I love Nicholas County G.C. Myers Carlisle, KY

Letters from our readers

Editor: The First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

The ACLU tells us, the free exercise of religion is wrong in or in their letter, the ACLU threatening to sue and seek damages.

Isaac Colvin Harrodsburg, KY

Editor: I am for education in Kentucky, but I am going to vote No on Amendment #1 on November 8.

Constitutional Amendment #1 asks the question "Should Section 216 of the Constitution be amended to provide that the General Assembly may establish a Kentucky state lottery to be conducted in cooperation with other states and that any lottery so established shall be operated by or on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky?"

After reading this amendment carefully, I realized that the word education did not appear in the single line in the question. I'm being asked.

All of the information provided by the government about the lottery amendment gave the impression that the funds from a lottery would go for education, senior citizens, and the veterans of our state.

I was quite surprised to see that I had been misled.

When we vote on the lottery amendment, we are giving our refusal to give our government the authority to establish a lottery-period.

We, the voter, have no say in how lottery proceeds would be used in the state.

We, the voter, have no say in how we can keep a lottery from being another way for politicians to pay off their supporters.

In fact, the only say we do have is to say yes or no. I don't believe giving our state government this sort of power is a good idea.

I also don't think our state government should be in the business of promoting gambling, whether it's to the rich or the poor.

I don't believe that a lottery is in the best interests of the people of Kentucky, so I'm going to vote No on Amendment #1.

Linda G. Scott Carlisle, KY

rights were sold, the men drawing up these deeds were generally much more savvy than the landowners.

Buying only the mineral and surface was no accident by the landowner. The mineral owner avoided paying taxes on the land by leaving the surface in the hands of the landowner. So what at first might appear to be an act of generosity was really a wolf in sheep's clothing.

A fundamental element of contract law is the intention of the parties to the contract at the time the contract was signed. This element has gotten lost in the past thirty years of case law dealing with the competing interests of mineral and surface owners in this state.

The destruction we continue to permit in Eastern Kentucky says something about this state and what we are willing to allow to happen to people, their rights and the environment. Other states where surface mining is in vogue have acted to stem this power of the mineral owner.

The rights of the surface owner and the mineral owner are competing, not absolute, and it is time the citizens and the courts of this state recognize that.

Stephanie A. Midkiff Lexington, KY

Editor: Being a farmer, as election day nears, it seems even more apparent that George Bush be elected President.

The farming community has prepared under the Reagan-Bush administration.

Editor: Kentuckians have the opportunity to right a great injustice by voting "yes" on constitutional amendment #2 on November 8.

This is the broad farm deed amendment, designed to give surface owners say in what is to be done with their land when mining companies seek to get at those minerals.

Passage of the amendment would put us one step closer to returning some control to those parties that still retain title to the surface. Bear in mind that when the mineral

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