

Bluegrass Beacon

'Calculating' candidates offer hard math on teacher salaries

The premise that Kentucky's teachers have reached a point where they deserve irrevocable membership in the Public Employees Union is a widely accepted fallacy that remains just as untrue as all the other myths such as popping your knuckles gives you arthritis and women drive worse than men.

So why do candidates in this year's unimaginative and uninspiring gubernatorial campaign keep telling voters Kentucky teachers don't get paid enough?

The answer reflects the calculating done by campaign directors: It's easy to say that and comes with no political risk. And it sure helps seal the deal for support from the undecided voter.

Can you imagine House Speaker Jody Richards gaining the endorsement of the union in Jefferson County - which he did this week after acknowledging that Kentucky's teachers rank among the highest compensated in the United States?

And the Steve Henry campaign - highly marketable as a marketing strategy - offers this grand idea: Expand state gaming (coddling gambling and use the take to pay teachers more. "Halliburton" shut the union leaders, who just woke up over in the Amen Corner.

"We would use the new revenues from gaming to support our teachers in 48 states (Massachusetts and New Hampshire are the Pal Watchers forum.

"Preach on, Brother" shouted the leaders in the Jefferson County Teachers Association.

And the cheap sang, Secretary of Education, who's brothers vying for the nomination also cast Kentucky's taxpayers and lawmakers as cheapskates when it

OPINION Bond's Broadcast

Some events of the past couple days have made me think back to 1969 and 1978-80 on the campus of Morehead State University when there were no students who filled the commons at the school to protest the Vietnam War.

It was a war then that was as distasteful then to many as the Iraq war is to many Americans today.

Organized, peaceful protest has been used all across this county for many causes.

Although in my time I have found that the peaceful goes out of it and things can really get filled with consequences.

I remember when Marilyn and I were in school we didn't take part in many protests, but on one occasion we went as mentioned and it was an amazing sight.

There was a Vietnam veteran, who had come back and enrolled in school, who tried to speak to the group. The more he tried to talk, the louder and disruptive he became.

Most of those attendance had never been anywhere in the world to any degree and this guy had been halfway around the world as far as they were concerned.

After a while the crowd had gotten so loud the many tried to speak into the microphone having no success.

The protesters were yelling baby killer at the man and truly it was getting way out of hand.

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OPINION Steve's Report

If you'll pardon the pun - humor is a funny thing. It's different for each person. Something that one person might find humorous might be downright offensive to another.

I used to work with a guy named Scott. He has one of those sharp minds that come across in his quiet, nearly shy manner.

Unfortunately, hardly any of us understood his humor. For example, one time we had just stepped into the crowded break room for a quick snack before heading back to work.

So sure losing a job is not something anyone really looks at as a pleasure. However, in a business society it is a business decision.

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty.

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OPINION Fourth District Report

Last week the Trustees of Social Security's Medicare issued their annual report on the fiscal health of these two important programs as well as projections about what these programs will likely cost American taxpayers in the future.

Current entitlement spending is growing at an unsustainable rate of 6 percent each year, more than twice the rate of inflation.

When I was about 16, I came home to find our living room filled with church ladies, busily stitching away on a quilt they were making as a gift for a newwedded couple.

My teenage pride required me to respond with some kind of snide comment. To win this one, I knew I would have to connect with my audience.

"OK, these are church ladies trying to buy a new dress," I thought. I walked over to the living room closet, grabbed the vacuum cleaner, and headed off to my room. Mom, I teenager.

Unfortunately, that wasn't the end of it. Every Sunday for weeks, those church ladies would jab me in the ribs with their elbows, ask how that creation project was coming along, and then waddle off, chortling to themselves. I thought I was never going to live that one down.

I guess that proves my point about humor. What some people find hilarious might not strike other people as funny.

Not, no funny at all... Unfortunately, that wasn't the end of it. Every Sunday for weeks, those church ladies would jab me in the ribs with their elbows, ask how that creation project was coming along, and then waddle off, chortling to themselves. I thought I was never going to live that one down.

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OPINION County Grocery & Beer

4449 Myers Rd - Carlisle, KY (859) 289-8399 DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS MEAT 2 SIDES \$4.65 Plus Tax

Convenience Items - Cold Cuts - Pop - Chips Beef - Wine - Burgers - Mon - Thurs, 6 am - 8 pm Fri - Sat, 6 am - 9 pm - Sunday 7 am - 8 pm

Notice to hereby give pursuant to KRS 365.625 that the following Settlements will be given until 12 Noon on the 23rd day of May, 2007 at which time the Nicholas District Court will hear said Settlements that are approved and recorded unless prior notice exceptions have been filed.

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OPINION Veloz Viewpoints

Greetings from Nevada! I hope you are all having a great week.

My babies are getting so big I can't believe that this Saturday they will be THREE MONTHS OLD!

These "pajama" babies were put together by the grace of God and I watched them being so tiny I couldn't believe it.

Ben and I can hardly remember them being that small but the pictures we have the video to prove it.

This Wednesday is my Grandpa's birthday. And since I know she reads my column, HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRANDMA!

Hopefully she got the new tape we put together for her party for her birthday. If not, we will at least have it when the time for her party comes on Saturday.

So, let me tell you about an event on the 10th of May. As I mentioned last week, it was the PJs Day in Las Vegas. Our event was wonderful!

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The Carlisle Mercury

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Talkin' From The Mountains

The Iraqi infrastructure is not working. Cheney and Rumsfeld's companies Bechtel and Halliburton and their subsidiaries were paid billions to rebuild Iraq and Baghdad still doesn't even have much electricity. Meantime, back home, the Gulf Coast area of our nation is still in shambles.

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