

Guest Editorial Organized Labor—the political opponent Karl Rove feared most

By Victor Kamber
President of Coalition Services at Carmen Group, Inc.

Pennsylvania is a blue state that divalve GOP campaigns of God, guns and gays occasionally turn red. When Al Gore ran for President against George W. Bush in 2000, Pennsylvania was pivotal. Labor operatives in the Keystone State assured their members, "Al Gore won't take away your guns, but George Bush will take away your unions."

Gore won Pennsylvania but as we all now know, the Supreme Court gave the election to George Bush who has done everything in his power to not to working people just what Labor in Pennsylvania said he would: "take away their unions."

In recent weeks, national attention has been focused on the firing of eight U.S. Attorneys who weren't "Bush-friendly" enough. But long before the politicizing of the Justice Department, White House political strategist Karl Rove set his sights on the real threat to a GOP "permanent majority"—organized labor.

From the day the Bush Administration took office, government agencies craved to do anything possible while under attack. It began with the appointment of Elaine Chao as Labor Secretary, something akin to naming Typhoid Mary to the Board of Health. A department created "to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States" became a haven for unfair employers. The department's motto was to "assist million workers of the right to overtime pay (she even advised employers how to exploit the new rules), train her department staffers funds and staff for workplace safety and repealed regulations to protect workers from repetitive motion injuries. The department continues to strongly oppose any increase in the minimum wage.

But it wasn't enough just to keep workers down. Even more important to Rove and to the NLRB was to stifle union organizing. That was accomplished by Bush appointees on the National Labor Relations Board who have manipulated the rules so that the NLRB has become a tool to penalize rather than protect workers seeking union membership. When Democrats sponsored legislation to allow workers to petition the NLRB for union by "card check," who was it in the Senate who stopped it in its tracks? Elaine Chao's husband, GOP minority leader Mitch McConnell. George Bush's winning ally who are Bush, Rove and the GOP Congress so willing to pull out all stops to deny unions the right to organize? Because unions have what the GOP can't buy, committed grassroots political activists who leaflet, phone bank and educate their members better than any other organization in America. It helps explain why union houses holds vote in record numbers.

It had to send a shiver through Republican ranks when AFL-CIO President John Sweeney promised Democratic presidential candidates at a Chicago debate last month that 2008 "will be our highest election effort ever." Just a week later, Rove announced he was retiring.

Fox News and other right-wing political pundits just what the Republicans need.

OPINION Bond's Broadcast

I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children.

"Both Carol and Beth say I have mellowed. It may be in part because I don't threaten to spank them or take their toys away any more."

Veloz Viewpoints

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

I just can't reiterate it enough, being a stay at home mom is awesome! I love all of the quality time I spend with the babies. I really feel like I am watching them grow. It is so good to have them do new things every day.

When I actually do go in there, and I catch their eye, it is great. Let the biggest "happy to see you grin" I just love. They move their arms and kick their feet. It is so great.

Talkin' From The Mountains

Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty thought the infrastructure of his state and the nation could somehow be miraculously maintained while taxes were cut and a costly war was fought. You won't be surprised to learn Pawlenty is a Republican.

Let's look at evidence of the damage Bush and the Republicans have caused with their policy that the nation can give tax breaks to the wealthy—even in time of war.

The Food and Drug Administration can no longer inspect or protect us from contaminated food or had drugs; the National Guard is unable to respond effectively to any national emergency.

Ronald Reagan started the theory that tax breaks for the wealthy help the economy. He preached that giving rich people all the tax breaks created new jobs for the mid-

every time I spoke to them and they would also talk to me.

Most say I am blithering anyone, so we were able to communicate quite well.

"I can see what is going on but I can't do much about it. And if I do try and do something about it, I get in trouble."

I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children.

I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children.

Let's look at evidence of the damage Bush and the Republicans have caused with their policy that the nation can give tax breaks to the wealthy—even in time of war.

The Food and Drug Administration can no longer inspect or protect us from contaminated food or had drugs; the National Guard is unable to respond effectively to any national emergency.

Ronald Reagan started the theory that tax breaks for the wealthy help the economy. He preached that giving rich people all the tax breaks created new jobs for the mid-

OPINION Fourth District Report

Putting Politics Aside

This week Congress returns to the Capitol in Washington. It was good to be home in Kentucky, but there is work to be done.

"I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children."

Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

It was a perfect example of the whole family cheering from the sidelines. Max caught up to this ball, he spun around, let the ball bounce once, and then gave it a mighty kick, clearing the heads of everyone nearby and completing a very well-placed pass.

OPINION Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

Lend A Helping Hand

Hospice of the Bluegrasses is offering Volunteer Training Friday, September 14 9 AM - 3 PM Nicholas County Health Dept.

To Register Contact Kelly Kendall at 800-756-6005 or 859-234-3781

OPINION Fourth District Report

Putting Politics Aside

This week Congress returns to the Capitol in Washington. It was good to be home in Kentucky, but there is work to be done.

"I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children."

Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

It was a perfect example of the whole family cheering from the sidelines. Max caught up to this ball, he spun around, let the ball bounce once, and then gave it a mighty kick, clearing the heads of everyone nearby and completing a very well-placed pass.

OPINION Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

Lend A Helping Hand

Hospice of the Bluegrasses is offering Volunteer Training Friday, September 14 9 AM - 3 PM Nicholas County Health Dept.

To Register Contact Kelly Kendall at 800-756-6005 or 859-234-3781

OPINION Fourth District Report

Putting Politics Aside

This week Congress returns to the Capitol in Washington. It was good to be home in Kentucky, but there is work to be done.

"I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children."

Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

It was a perfect example of the whole family cheering from the sidelines. Max caught up to this ball, he spun around, let the ball bounce once, and then gave it a mighty kick, clearing the heads of everyone nearby and completing a very well-placed pass.

OPINION Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

Lend A Helping Hand

Hospice of the Bluegrasses is offering Volunteer Training Friday, September 14 9 AM - 3 PM Nicholas County Health Dept.

To Register Contact Kelly Kendall at 800-756-6005 or 859-234-3781

OPINION Fourth District Report

Putting Politics Aside

This week Congress returns to the Capitol in Washington. It was good to be home in Kentucky, but there is work to be done.

"I don't know if it's because I am older—very old according to Michael—or if it is that I have mellowed, but watching my grandchildren do so much as I did when I was raising my children."

Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

It was a perfect example of the whole family cheering from the sidelines. Max caught up to this ball, he spun around, let the ball bounce once, and then gave it a mighty kick, clearing the heads of everyone nearby and completing a very well-placed pass.

OPINION Steve's Report

My youngest son, Max, plays soccer in a local youth league. Every Saturday morning, the whole family finds a spot along the sideline to watch his game.

Lend A Helping Hand

Hospice of the Bluegrasses is offering Volunteer Training Friday, September 14 9 AM - 3 PM Nicholas County Health Dept.

To Register Contact Kelly Kendall at 800-756-6005 or 859-234-3781

SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

SHELL FOOD MART
2750 Concrete Rd., Carlisle, KY 40311
825-550
289-5889
A Name You Can Depend On
Open 7 Days A Week - 24 Hours A Day

Money Orders Sold Here
We accept Food Stamps
Whitaker ATM in store for your convenience
We have cell and land phone cards
We also have Green Dot Cards
We have Cell Phones with 30 minutes (Pre-Pay) Only \$39.95
From Shell #9
Good Bless Our Troops

8 pk. 24 oz. bottles
Pepsi Products
\$3.29
18 pk. cans
Bud/Bud Light
\$11.99

SUBWAY
Order Your Subway Party Tray For Your Family Outings
#1 1/4 m. Hamburger Fries and Fountain Drink \$2.99
#2 1/4 m. Cheeseburger Fries and Fountain Drink \$3.39
#3 1/4 m. Bacon Cheeseburger Fries and Fountain Drink \$3.69
#3 Chicken Strips Fries and Fountain Drink \$3.99

IT'S A GREAT TIME TO BUY A KUBOTA!



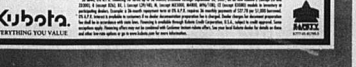
KUBOTA'S NEW GRAND L-40 SERIES; A DELUXE LINE OF TRACTORS DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED TO BE VERSATILE & USER FRIENDLY

- Kubota's 47CV diesel engines deliver power and high torque r.p.m., as well as low noise and vibration
- Advanced technology with versatility, productivity, durability and life.
- Three outstanding transmissions: Your choice of HST Plus (Hydrostatic Transmission), GST (Glide Shift Transmission) or PST (Fully Synchronized Main and Shuttle Transmission)

RTV900 M7040

\$0 DOWN, 0% A.P.R. FINANCING FOR UP TO 36* MONTHS ON ELIGIBLE MODELS

HAYDON EQUIPMENT, INC.
40 KENTUCKY HWY 392
CYNTHIANA, KY
859-234-4621



The Carlisle Mercury

The Carlisle Mercury (USPS 023-152) is published every Wednesday by The Carlisle Mercury, 117 Locust St, Carlisle, KY 40311. Periodicals Postage Rates are paid at Carlisle, KY 40311.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Carlisle Mercury, PO Box 272, Carlisle, KY 40311.

Member of Kentucky Press Association and the International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors

2007 SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$25.00 for one year in Nicholas County; \$30.00 elsewhere in Kentucky and \$35.00 elsewhere. Subscriptions include sales tax where applicable. All subscriptions require advance payment.

Hank Boyd
Publisher/Editor
Carlynn Bond
Creative Manager
Beth Wood
Office Manager
Charles Mattox
News Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
The Carlisle Mercury welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number for confirmation. Unpublished letters will not be published. Enclosures, if any, must be included. Please use the address below. We reserve the right to deny publication of letters and to edit for space and clarity.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Monday.
Editor, The Carlisle Mercury
P.O. Box 272
Carlisle, KY 40311

Letters may also be mailed to editor@carlislemercury.com. However, if you wish to send the article should call 239-6423 to confirm that the letter was received.

HOW TO REACH US
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 272, Carlisle, KY 40311
Phone: 259-6423 • Fax: 259-6406
Email: News Editor: editor@carlislemercury.com
Email for advertising: advertising@carlislemercury.com
Online at: www.carlislemercury.com

DEADLINES: Editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. Monday. Advertising copy with proof deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, advertising copy without proof, 10 a.m. Tuesday. Classified advertising deadline is 9 a.m. Tuesday.

PHOTO-ELECTRONIC ADVERTISING: Color, black and white digital photos can be accepted. Digital photos should be submitted in the form of a CD. All copyright notices will be accepted as they appear. Please do not include newspaper clippings unless you wish to be published. If you wish to be published in the newspaper, Electronic Advertising must be submitted in PDF format and can be emailed to the above address.

LEGAL ADVERTISING: From A-RJ, Deadline 5 p.m. Monday.
All submitted copy must be signed and include a daytime phone number.

*See page 14 of this magazine for details on how to use the financing program. The program is subject to credit review and approval. Terms, conditions and restrictions apply. © 2007 Kubota Tractor Corp. Kubota is a registered trademark of Kubota Tractor Corp. HST Plus, GST, PST, RTV900, M7040 are trademarks of Kubota Tractor Corp. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Kubota Tractor Corp. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. M-F 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Saturdays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Sundays 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.