

OPINION

Bluegrass Beacon



Why not let the taxpayers support their causes?

Whether you made, or missed, this year's tax filing deadline, most Kentucky taxpayers can relate to Mark Twain's observation: "The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin."

A lot of skin leaves Kentucky family budgets these days. According to the Tax Foundation:

Kentucky's 2005 individual income tax collections ranked 18th highest in the nation at \$999 per person.

Our state-local tax burden grew significantly in recent years, moving the commonwealth toward the top of that list - from 28th among states in 2005 to 26th in 2007.

The commonwealth's per-capita income of \$32,673 ranks lowest in the nation. Yet, taxpayers shell out \$3,568 per capita in state and local taxes - higher than residents in 30 other states.

Many in Congress, a body consisting mostly of wealthy individuals, have argued for higher taxes on income, on investments and on products like tobacco. If even half of those clamoring for higher taxes decided to voluntarily contribute more to the Treasury, it would be a huge boost to revenues without placing unwanted burdens on taxpayers who would rather take care of their families or keep their small businesses afloat.

I might need to reconsider my view of those crazy Californians.

Since education commissioner Jon Draud thinks the more than \$8 billion budgeted for public schools falls short, perhaps he could make an additional contribution from his \$220,000 salary to the state treasury.

Draud and his minions should do their part to solve the dilemma articulated by the commissioner in a recent press release in which he warned that the educational bureaucracy cannot be held accountable for failing to adequately educate students until tight-fisted taxpayers let go of their dough.

Heck, what if Draud's

buddies in the Legislature, including budget chairman Rep. Harry Moberly (who regularly raids taxpayer wallets) demonstrated their philanthropic spirit by making a "tax-me-more" donation.

If everyone in this government-dependent commonwealth who incessantly complains in Frankfort who supported tax increases during the recent legislative session, would start sending in extra bucks from their stash, the rest of us would no longer fear attacks on our revenues from a bloated government.

"Many in Congress, a body consisting mostly of wealthy individuals, have argued for higher taxes on income, on investments and on products like tobacco. If even half of those clamoring for higher taxes decided to voluntarily contribute more to the Treasury, it would be a huge boost to revenues without placing unwanted burdens on taxpayers who would rather take care of their families or keep their small businesses afloat."

Both declared it was true: John Fleming Hammond was born Oct. 9 1861. He died Nov. 22, 1932.

HEAVEN
Continued from Page 2

The moment that these words were said
The strange sounds died away.

The family then all went to bed
And slept 'til break of day.

The bones were heard no more.
The sounds were heaped no more.

And peace and harmony thus ensued
The old farm as before

An old man told me this strange tale,
but never did reveal
The grave that lay along the trail
In spite of my appeal!

An archaeologist of note
larged him this, to confide.
But no direction would he give.
The secret with him died

Note: John Fleming Hammond, a farmer at Cowan, told McGohan this strange tale, according to his own written words.

This guys been smoking a left-handed cigarette," you say. "That would never happen."

You're right about the second part. Only \$2.6 million of the billions sent to the U.S. Treasury in 2007 came via voluntary donations.

Most states that offer such options find few takers, or mean givers.

I hope Floyd tries again. Success would place big-spending politicians and bureaucrats in the unusual position of having to put up or shut up.

Meanwhile, if you feel sorry for education commissioners who never have enough money, assuage your con-

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OPINION

A Pinch of This and a Dash of That

By Jill Hutton
EFNEP Program Assistant
Nicholas County Extension Office

I hope everyone is enjoying this fabulous weather. I am glad to report that "Hutton Garden Report" is well underway. My Dad, an heir of the millinery grandmother, and niece planted some things Friday and then I was able to help my Dad out on Sunday to finish up what we needed to have planted at this time. One of the vegetables that were planted this weekend is our focus for this week - Kentucky onions.

Selection: Onions come in three types: yellow, white, and red. Choose an onion that is hard or firm, heavy for its size, with dry papery outer skin and no sprouts. They should also be free from blemishes and have small necks.

Storage: Onions can be stored in a well ventilated, cool, dry place for months. Do not store whole onions in the refrigerator. Onions should not be stored in plastic bags, due to the decreased air movement that can shorten shelf life.

Sautéed Onions and Apples

3 large yellow onions, sliced
2 tablespoons olive or canola oil
¼ cup brown sugar
6 large tart apples, cored, and sliced
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg

In a large saucpan over medium heat, sauté onions in oil until tender, stirring frequently to avoid scorching. Add the apples over the onions and sprinkle with remaining ingredients. Cover and simmer for about 10 minutes. Uncover and simmer until apples are tender. Yield: 12 (1/2 cup) servings.

Public Auction
Saturday April 26, 2008
10:00 a.m.

Location: 1544 Sunset Rd, Hillsboro, KY in Fleming Co. Ky. From Flemingsburg, take HWY 32 east to HWY 111, go west 7 (7) miles to Hillsboro, KY, turn west onto hwy 158 and go 1 1/2 mile to sale site. Auction signs posted.

193 acres ±
Tract 1: Consists of 124 acres ± of prime farmland with highway road frontage on highway 158 (Sunset Rd). This property has two barns-one livestock barn that has recently built and one tobacco barn with equipment shed. City water is available. Also has livestock ponds and good pasture and hay fields. Good fence and well maintained property.

Tract 2: Consists of 67 +/- acres of farmland, level to rolling. City water and road frontage. Property is well fenced with ponds, hay and pasture ground.

NOTE: Tracts 1 & 2 will be offered individually. Then combined for the highest bid price.

Real Estate Terms: 10% of purchase price day of sale, balance due at closing on or before 30 days of auction date.

For inspection prior to auction, contact Chuck Marshall 606-782-0374 or 606-845-5010

Tractors & Farm Equipment
JD 5303 low hrs one owner, JD 336 3 pl baler, Ford 309 corn planter, 10 ft wheel disc, JD 660 hay rake widely, IH 23 plows, 3 pt fertilizer spreader, Briton cultivation, Danuser post hole digger, NH 477 haybale, NI com picker-one row, 30 ft com & hay elevator, 3 pt subsoiler, 3 pt cutter-6 ft grain tedder & gears, (4) flatbed wagons, 300 gal. fuel tank, pickup racks, corn sprayer, 3 pt boom pole, hyd. press, wheelbarrow, aluminum extension ladder, iron kettle, (10) 12 ft coral panels, 2-wheel trailer, cattle trough, few misc items.

Truck
1995 Ford F-250 4x4 pickup

Personal Property Terms: Cash or good check day of sale

Seller: **Silas Hicks**
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Sannie Overly grew up on her family's Millersburg farm. She earned a scholarship and an engineering degree from the University of Kentucky. She went on to earn a law degree. She and her husband Mike made the decision to move back to Bourbon County to raise their family. Sannie understands that hard work will bring real results.

Earlier this year Sannie Overly won the Democratic nomination and was elected State Representative in the Special Election. During her first legislative session she was widely recognized as a quick study of the process and as an effective legislator. She has also demonstrated that she is an honest leader and a hard working legislator who is working for change that really matters.

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The Wedco District Health Department is accepting applications for the following positions:

1) Full time Nurse Supervisor I for the Scott County Clinic.
Minimum starting salary: \$23.56 – 30.06/hour; salary negotiable with experience. Benefits and travel reimbursement available.
Minimum Education, Training, and Experience Requirements: Must have RN license in Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Education or Public Health may substitute for two years experience

2) Partial Year Local Health Nurse II for the school nurse position in Harrison County.
This position would cover Westside and Southside Elementary. Normally this position would be in work status only when school is in session.
Minimum starting salary: \$17.98 – 18.61/hour; salary negotiable with experience. Benefits and travel reimbursement available.
Minimum Education, Training, and Experience Requirements: Must have RN license in Kentucky or compact state and one year Registered Nurse experience. BSN or Master's Degree in Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Education or Public Health may substitute for the one year required experience.

3) Part time 100 hours Clinical Nutritionist to work in the Wedco District Health Department, which includes Harrison, Nicholas and Scott counties and Bourbon County for Home Health. This position involves one on one client involvement in the clinic or home setting, and community health education programs. This position does require almost daily travel.
Starting salary: \$16.30-20.54/hour; salary negotiable with experience. Benefits and travel reimbursement.

Qualifications for this position are: Bachelors degree from an accredited college or university and be a licensed registered dietitian (L.D.) by the Kentucky State Board of Licensure and Certification as provided in KRS 310.021 or be a Clinical Nutritionist (C.N.) certified by the Kentucky State Board of Licensure and Certification as provided in KRS 310.031.

Further details, Applications and Job Descriptions are available at the Wedco District Administrative Office, 302 Oldville Avenue, Cynthiana, Kentucky 41031 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday. Resumes cannot be submitted in lieu of an application. **Transcripts and professional license must accompany application.** For more information please contact Lenora at 859-234-8750. Drug testing, criminal records check and interviews are a part of Wedco's selection process. Completed application materials must be received at the Wedco Administrative Office in Cynthiana, by May 1, 2008, at close of business (4:30 p.m.). Faxed or emailed applications are not acceptable.

The Wedco District Health Department does not discriminate because of age, race, color, national origin, gender or disability. We are an "equal opportunity employer" and comply with all applicable State and Federal employment regulations