

The following editorials were broadcast during fourth quarter, 2015, addressing the topics listed. **Each ran on WDRB's 4 PM and 10 PM news on the date indicated, in addition to twice during the following day's WDRB in the Morning between 5 and 9 AM.**

Each (excluding guest editorials) also aired three times – between 5P and 11P, during commercial breaks - on the date indicated on WMYO.

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EDITORIALS WERE ONE MINUTE AND THIRTY SECONDS IN LENGTH.

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GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

The Other Party Isn't the Enemy (10/22/15)

During the first Democratic presidential debate, Hillary Clinton was asked, "Which enemy that you made during your political career are you most proud of?"

She replied, "Well, in addition to the NRA, the health insurance companies, the drug companies, and the Iranians, probably the Republicans."

And there's one of America's biggest problems.

I don't mean to dump exclusively on Ms. Clinton or the Democrats. I could easily find prominent Republicans who are equally proud of calling Democrats "the enemy." But this perverse view of politics as a war between enemies, rather than a process of compromise among people of differing philosophies is exactly what has our nation in such a depressing state right now.

In a speech following the debate, Democratic Senator Jim Webb said, "The other party is not the enemy; they are the opposition. In our democracy we are lucky to have an opposition, to have honest debate." And I couldn't agree more.

The demonizing of the "other party" -- solely because they *are* the other party -- has to stop. It's the reason our governing process has virtually ground to a halt and why the inmates seem to have taken over the asylum.

You can only fight to the death with enemies. But that's not governing. America's politicians of all stripes need to drop the war rhetoric and instead concentrate on working together to find solutions to our problems that we can all *live* with.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

POV | Ark tax credits -- the ultimate wasted spending

Matt Bevin's election last week as Kentucky's next governor signals lots of changes to come in Frankfort – especially with regard to issues of interest to fundamental Christians.

Bevin has already said he'll issue an executive order removing the names of county clerks from marriage licenses so they won't have to go on record as personally recognizing same-sex marriages approved by their offices. That seems relatively trivial, and as long as it keeps Kentucky from violating anyone's Constitutional rights, it's OK by me.

But Bevin's stated intent to give millions of dollars in state tax credits to benefit the Ark Encounter Theme Park currently under construction in Grant County needs to be re-thought.

The operators' plainly admitted plan to hire only Christians to work in the park once it's completed clearly defines the venture as a religious organization. But unlike religious organizations that do qualify for tax breaks, this one will be run as a for-profit business. That being the case, any government assistance for such a blatantly discriminatory operation would clearly be unconstitutional.

I like hearing that Governor-elect Bevin plans to cut wasteful government spending. But giving tax credits to the Ark Encounter would not only take millions out of government resources, but also inevitably invite a long and costly lawsuit that would almost surely go against Kentucky in the end. And that strikes me as the epitome of wasteful government spending.

Call and tell us what you think.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

Guest POV – Kentucky’s Agenda for 2016

With the 2015 elections behind us and the 2016 session of the General Assembly fast approaching, it’s time to address Kentucky’s biggest problem: Kentucky’s legislature has severely under-funded pensions for state workers 15 out of the last 22 years. The retirement system is funded at just 21 percent.

We have an inviolable contract with state employees that should be honored. Kentucky is also in a terrible fiscal situation where our credit rating was recently downgraded.

Lawmakers must pursue a combination of commonsense revenue options, budget and cost savings, as well as structural changes to the pension system in order to divert a more severe crisis.

Private sector employees are generally offered a 401K plan, often with a company match. This empowers employees to take charge of their own retirement while limiting the employer’s liabilities. Employees are free to take that money from job to job, building upon their careers. We must look to the 401k-style private sector reforms to improve the long-term solvency.

Expanded gaming could provide a \$400 million injection to state coffers. It should not be ignored, especially in these dire fiscal straits.

Additional pro-growth revenue and cost saving measures must also be considered, including Public-Private Partnerships, Local Investments for Transformation (LIFT) and review of underutilized tax breaks.

The Governor, legislators, the business community, and retirees must all come together.

I’m Sarah Davasher-Wisdom, with Greater Louisville Inc. And that’s my Point of View.

Refugees are Too Big a Risk (11/24/15)

There's been a lot of discussion about whether or not to allow Syrian refugees into our country after the terrorist murders in Paris earlier this month. President Obama, of course, is pretending that we can screen all these refugees and guarantee that no terrorists will sneak in with them.

But I tend to agree with Marco Rubio.

(Sound bite - Rubio: "You allow 10,000 people in. 9,999 of them are innocent people fleeing oppression and one of them is a well-trained ISIS fighter. You've got a huge problem on your hands.")

I'm sorry to profile Syrians, but let's be honest. They have a very bad reputation right now. This refugee infusion is a modern day Trojan Horse. If we welcome the horse into our borders, the Isis terrorists could come pouring out. Did we seriously learn nothing from history?

Yes, we are a country of immigrants. Good people from many countries came to the United States to find a better life, not to destroy us. They didn't have an extremist faction that wanted to gain access to slaughter innocent Americans. Perhaps if the refugees' only option was to return to Syria and take their country back from ISIS, they would.

We cannot be the solution to every problem in the world. We have a boatload of self-inflicted problems of our own to deal with.

Call us and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb, and that's my Point of View.

No Guns for Terrorists (12/8/15)

In his national address Sunday night, President Obama urged Americans not to give in to fear as we deal with the ongoing threat of terrorism. That's reasonable advice, but I don't think Americans have become as fear-filled as Obama seems to think. We've simply become more vigilant in light of new realities and understand that caution is the prudent course of action.

The speech also lacked anything new about how the Administration plans to address the threat of terrorism in the future. This is what Americans are most concerned with, and if there really was no fresh information to share, what was the point of taking up all that time?

However, there's one thing President Obama and I agree on completely: Suspected terrorists on the "No-Fly" list should definitely be on a "No-Guns" list as well. But Republicans continue to fight the President even on *this* common sense notion.

We have too many politicians who unconditionally support either the Republican or the Democrat party platform, and too few who actually think for themselves. Both parties have good ideas. Neither party is right or wrong all the time. Honestly, how could we not support the idea of trying to prohibit people on the "No Fly" list from owning a gun? A little less blind party loyalty and a little more common sense might be useful here.

Call and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

New Road Fee a Good Idea – (12/10/15)

Republican state senator Joe Bowen of Owensboro plans to introduce a bill in the upcoming state legislative session that would create an annual \$100 “fair-share” fee for Kentucky drivers of electric cars, and I think it’s a fine idea.

Given the relatively small number of electric cars currently on the road, it may not have a huge impact at first. But as that number steadily grows over the coming years, *not* instituting such a fee would be a disaster for the state’s infrastructure.

Why? Because our roads are currently built and maintained by money in the state’s road fund, which comes from gasoline taxes paid by drivers every time they fill up at the pump.

Obviously, drivers of electric cars don’t buy gasoline, so they pay none of those taxes. But since their vehicles still put the same amount of wear and tear on our roads as their more carbon-based brethren, they shouldn’t be exempted from paying their fair share to maintain them.

Given that the state’s Legislative Research Commission estimates that Kentucky loses about \$147 annually in state and federal gas tax revenue for each electric car in use, a hundred bucks would still be a relative bargain. And instituting such a fee now – when it would be painless for the vast majority – would sure beat waiting until it becomes a bigger issue.

I’m Bill Lamb and that’s my Point of View.

Louisville's Legislative Agenda (12/22/15)

When Kentucky's 2016 General Assembly meets early next year, they'll be presented with a wish list of items Mayor Greg Fischer would like to see passed that would directly benefit the city of Louisville.

There will, of course, be requests for money to fund a number of local projects. But Fischer's top three priorities involve simple requests to let Louisville conduct its business as it sees fit without interference from state government.

Number one will again be passage of a constitutional amendment allowing local governments to increase their sales tax by one percent to fund special projects. Such an increase would only go into effect if we, the voters, choose to approve it. And we could choose not to.

Also on Fischer's list is a request to change state law to allow the use of 12-hour shifts for Louisville Metro Police Department officers, as well as an expansion of the city's power to better deal with vacant and abandoned properties.

These priorities have three things in common:

They don't ask for a penny from state government.

They've all been turned down in previous sessions.

And they involve things that aren't any of Frankfort's business in the first place.

What's good for Louisville is good for Kentucky, and it's time for our rural legislators to acknowledge that we know our own needs better than they do.

I hope they'll listen to Mayor Fischer this time.

Call with your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb, and that's my Point of View.

EDUCATION

They Were “Only Following Orders” (10/6/15)

By now, you’ve probably seen last month’s video footage of the two Texas high school football players who blatantly blindsided a referee with a vicious tackle from behind that was nowhere near the play in progress. The players were reportedly told to carry out the attack by an assistant coach because the ref missed some calls and made some racial slurs during the game – a charge he denies.

All that is bad enough. But what really upsets me about this incident is the number of people on social media who are insisting these players should be excused of any responsibility for their actions because they were only following their coach’s orders. Are they kidding?

Sure, the coach should be held accountable. But are these people *really* saying these kids are incapable of understanding basic right and wrong? They’re sixteen – not six. And this wasn’t just a little shove. It was a violent attack that caused a concussion and very well could have paralyzed the ref – or worse. Claiming they had no option to disobey a clearly criminal order is nonsense.

I believe there are plenty of teenagers with enough integrity to refuse to carry out an order that could result in serious injury or even death, even if it did come from an authority figure.

These two kids don’t deserve to have their lives ruined forever. But serious discipline for both is definitely well-deserved.

I’m Bill Lamb and that’s my Point of View.

Standing Up for Jurich – Capsule (10/29/15)

He's been the guiding force of one of the most successful athletic programs in the nation. And *this* is what he gets for his trouble? It's a lousy situation, and I'll be discussing it, coming up on Point of View.

Not Racism, But Bad Judgment (11/3/15)

Despite cries to the contrary, when University of Louisville President James Ramsey and his guests posed for a group photo wearing Mexican sombreros and fake mustaches for Halloween, I don't believe they had racial mockery in mind.

I don't think Australians would (or should) have been offended if they'd all been dressed as Crocodile Dundee. Or Norwegians if they'd all been dressed as vikings. Or Scottish people if they'd chosen kilts as their costume.

I think Dr. Ramsey and his party were just trying to have a little fun and had absolutely no intent to offend anyone.

But having said that, I have to turn around and ask:

What in the world could Dr. Ramsey have been thinking?????

I don't believe he meant to make fun of anyone, except possibly himself. But perception counts, and it's undeniable that many racial and national caricatures definitely *do* have harmful intent and effect. Add to that the current scandal in the basketball department that already has the University already under a million media microscopes, and it's clear this was a situation to be avoided by anyone who'd taken Public Relations 101.

I believe Hispanics who believe the photo is evidence of Dr. Ramsey's prejudices are misjudging the character of the man. But I don't believe those who are criticizing his judgment in having it taken in the first place are misjudging a thing.

Call and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

Guest POV – Achieving Real Diversity (11/6/15)

When speaking to the unfortunate situation involving UofL President Jim Ramsey and what some considered offensive Halloween costumes, my friend Bill Lamb got a few things right, others wrong, and ignored a few important points I'd like to highlight.

Bill rightfully argued that Dr. Ramsey showed poor judgment with the costumes, but "had absolutely no intent to offend anyone." I agree. I know Jim, he is not a racist, I don't feel he should be fired, and support all sincere efforts to make this right. Unfortunately, Bill is a bit dismissive when he opines that we live "in a world where half the people are just waiting to be offended about something."

The reality is that most people aren't sitting around playing "gotcha." Some folks have simply developed a very bad habit of engaging in inappropriate behavior and taking umbrage when it's brought to their attention. No individual or group has the right to decide what another group should find offensive. Maybe we should have enough respect to ask Native Americans if they're insulted by the Redskins nickname, blacks if blackface is acceptable, and Hispanics if stereotypical costumes are cool.

Importantly, this is another example that real diversity is needed in all spaces. Maybe majority group members should stop only hiring and hanging with self-loathing minorities with whom they are most comfortable and turn to ones who are confident enough in themselves to tell them the truth. It might save us all a lot of trouble.

I'm Ricky Jones and that's my Point of View.

McGee Needs to Speak Up (11/12/15)

Given the various tales of exactly what happened – or didn't happen – during the “strippers and sex” escapades in U of L's basketball dorm alleged by Katina Powell, it's easy to confuse those who may have some real knowledge of the situation with the many more who are just guessing. Or lying.

But there's one guy who could bring clarity to the situation simplify by either confirming the accusations or dismissing them as complete fiction -- former U of L assistant coach Andre McGee.

But McGee, who's portrayed as the scandal's ringleader and money man, has so far remained maddeningly silent. Even though he's already resigned from his last job as a coach at UMKC -- and is unlikely to ever hold a job in college sports again unless he's cleared of these accusations - he's said nothing, other than to refer to “false allegations” in his resignation letter.

But McGee needs to understand this: If, as he says, these allegations *are* false, then only *he* can provide the proof that will confirm that. A lot of people are suffering as a result of this mess, and if he's withholding information that would clean it up, he's doing them a terrible disservice.

On the other hand, if it turns out he *was* involved in shady activities, he needs to man up and take his portion of the responsibility. But either way, continuing to hide in the shadows is just cowardly,

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

Terrorism Takes Many Forms (11/17/15)

Quite honestly, I don't know what to say about last week's acts of terrorism in Paris that hasn't already been said. I can only offer my encouragement to those who have suffered at the hands of such irrational madmen, and my hope that this kind of deadly hatred will someday be snuffed out.

But there's another kind of terrorism that our own community has been dealing with lately. And while it's nowhere near as horrifying, it's occurred in over a dozen area high schools and middle schools.

Since September, each of these schools has been locked down or put on high alert because of anonymous threats made against the safety of their building and their students. Of course, it's almost certain every one of these threats originated with a kid who just thought it would be funny to set panic into motion. But there's nothing funny about it.

Even though all these threats ultimately proved groundless, in each case, hundreds of people were seriously inconvenienced and our sense of security took another serious hit because yes, this stuff *does* really happen. Ask the students and parents of Columbine.

If any of the kids who did this happen to be yours, think about it – *you've* raised a terrorist. And I hope any of these jerks who are caught – along *with* their parents – are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Call and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

Busing – Let’s Pull the Plug (12/3/15)

Ah, busing.

This discredited and ineffectual strategy to achieve so-called “diversity” in Jefferson County schools is the gift that just keeps on giving.

We spend an insane amount of taxpayer money on vehicles, gasoline and tires that could have gone toward facility improvements, increased teacher salaries and other critical needs.

We disrupt our children’s home lives by not allowing them to attend their neighborhood schools with their friends and get home at a decent hour.

We prevent parents from becoming involved in their children’s schools because of impossible travel and time logistics.

We consign our kids to hours of unproductive, unfulfilling down time riding across the county each week in an undersupervised environment that practically begs them to get into mischief – or worse.

And now, we learn that school bus drivers are calling in sick and quitting in droves because of fights and other violence on their buses while the impotent school system does nothing to address their concerns.

Could someone please remind me again why this is such a good idea?

Let’s face it: While it was born of noble intentions, busing has proven itself to be a failed social experiment involving costs that far outweigh any hoped-for benefit. Our children should not be used as the means to some dubious end. Their education and welfare should be the end itself.

I’m Bill Lamb and that’s my Point of View.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Baxter Avenue Project Deserves a Fair Hearing (10/8/15)

In recent years, “dismal” would have described the architectural landscape at the northwest corner of Baxter and Broadway fairly well. And now that the Phoenix Hill Tavern has closed its doors for good, “lifeless” is another word that comes to mind.

The old Phoenix Hill complex has always visually lacking. And many of the homes along the Broadway are in serious disrepair.

Now comes word that a major developer has plans to replace those highly visible properties with a new development that would provide two to three hundred new apartments and street-level retail space.

So far, there are no blueprints, but we’re already hearing a few voices complaining about the “historical structures” that could be lost in the process, and that’s unfortunate.

First, “old” is not necessarily synonymous with “historic.” And second, the developers have already stated their belief that any project “needs to be congruous with the neighborhood” and their desire to work with the neighborhood in shaping the project. Sounds like they understand their responsibility, and I think they deserve the chance to make their case before assuming the worst.

If we’re lucky, neighborhood leaders will give this project an honest assessment before taking a knee-jerk obstructionist stance. This is a key parcel of land in this city, and I’d hate for us to scare off yet another developer before determining if what we’re preserving is really worth saving in the first place.

I’m Bill Lamb and that’s my Point of View.

The Preservationists are Only Preserving Gridlock (10/27/15)

Last week, a group called Neighborhood Planning and Preservation said it intends to appeal the ruling by the Metro Landmarks Commission that the Louisville Water Company building doesn't qualify for landmark status. We *thought* that ruling had finally cleared the way for the building to be removed to make way for the new Omni Hotel, but apparently, these folks aren't done getting in the way.

The group took pains to point out that the law gives it 90 days to file its appeal, and I'm sure they won't be in a hurry. With these people, regardless of the inevitable outcome, the name of the game is delay, delay, delay in the presumed hope that -- ultimately -- everyone on the opposite side dies and they win by default.

Look, I don't want to preach doom and gloom, but there's got to be some limit to how long the Omni people will indulge the whims of these obstructionists before they get sick of the whole thing and decide Louisville isn't worth the trouble. And that would be a massive blow to Louisville's entire economy.

This is a case of a very tiny tail being allowed to wag a very large dog, and it would be funny if it weren't so sad. Louisville needs to exercise every legal option it has to dispense with this issue as quickly as possible and finally get this project moving.

Call and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

Guest POV – Where Opportunity Knox (11/9/15)

Who are our Veterans? We thank them for their service but do we really understand who they are, what they have been through, and, more importantly, what they mean to our country? Employers often consider hiring Veterans the “right” thing to do, but soon learn it’s the “smart” thing to do.

Veterans are truly some of the best our nation has to offer – responsible, educated, skilled, and committed. For employers, this is certainly of value. The true hidden quality that is difficult to match is that the military grows leaders and is the best in the world of turning individuals into leaders. No matter what level, all military members leave uniformed service well before they are ready to truly retire. And they are there for the taking. Our region has a unique opportunity to tap into this highly skilled Veteran talent like nowhere else in the nation because of our proximity to Fort Knox and we should leverage that to meet our workforce needs.

While numerous employers throughout the country have made the commitment to hire Veterans, there is no geographic region that has taken on this challengeuntil now.

Last year, our 26-county region launched Where Opportunity Knox, a unique initiative with the goal to connect 10,000 transitioning Veterans and/or military spouses to jobs and the Greater Louisville Region by the end of 2017.

To learn more about hiring opportunities for Veterans or to join our more than 130 participating employers, visit WhereOpportunityKnox.com.

I’m Rob Givens, and that’s my Point of View.

(Rob Givens, Former Air Force Brigadier General and Where Opportunity Knox Advisory Board Member)

Guest POV - Vote “YES” on Oldham County Alcohol Sales (12/14/15)

Oldham County Voters have the opportunity on December 29 to cast a historic vote. Please vote “YES” to allow the sale of packaged alcoholic beverages. On December 5, 1933 Prohibition ended in the United States; 82 years later we have the chance to make the sale of packaged alcoholic beverages available to consumers in Oldham County.

A “YES” vote will create business development, it supports and expands the restaurant industry, it creates a new source of revenue, and it improves our quality of life.

One year after allowing alcohol sales, Danville, Kentucky welcomed three new restaurants, six new package liquor stores, and a high end whisky bar, which resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in new revenue, a 9% increase in tourism dollars, and an increase in retail sales due to more customers shopping in their community. Corbin, Kentucky increased city revenue by \$596,000 the year after expanding alcohol sales and experienced an influx of new retail businesses. With the new revenue they were able to hire three new police officers and they did not experience any increase in alcohol related arrests.

A few interesting facts for your consideration:

- Dry counties have MORE alcohol related crashes than wet counties.
- Going “WET” does not mean more DUIs.
- Expanding the sale of alcohol in Oldham County DOES NOT expand the consumption of alcohol in Oldham County.
- Alcohol Sales “DOES” create economic growth and jobs.

Please Vote “YES” on December 29!

I’m Scott Whitehouse and that’s my Point of View.

HEALTH &
PUBLIC SAFETY

The Gun Issue Has Two Sides (10/13/15)

Of all the things that bother me about America's never ending gun debate, one of the most troublesome is that so many people think it's an either-or, all-or-nothing issue. These are the ones who view it as a decision that either everyone – without exception – should have complete, unfettered access to any sort of firearm whatsoever, or that all guns are bad and the fewer in existence, the better we'll all be.

And, of course, both positions are completely wrong-headed.

I believe there *are* legitimate uses for guns. Hunting would be one of them. And yes, I believe possessing firearms for self-defense is also a legitimate right. I do neither, but I can't justify forcing my view on others.

BUT -- I also believe a national policy including reasonable regulation of the transfer of guns, prohibition of certain types of guns and effective screening of potential gun owners to prevent them from falling into the wrong hands is equally legitimate. And I don't think I'm alone.

There's a reasonable middle ground on the subject that too few people seem to recognize, and that has to change. "Gun control" isn't synonymous with "outlawing guns," nor should it be. And the sooner those involved in the debate -- on both sides -- realize that, the sooner we may achieve some actual progress on the issue.

Call and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

LAW
ENFORCEMENT

“No Gun” Policy Shouldn’t Apply to Police (12/17/15)

Last week, a number of off-duty Louisville police officers were barred from entering a concert at the Louisville Palace because the guns they were carrying violated the Palace’s “No Firearms” policy. The problem is, LMPD has a policy that requires them to be armed *at all times* – even when they’re off-duty. No exceptions.

I have absolutely no problem with the Palace imposing a handgun ban at their events – for civilians. As I’ve often said, I see no reason why private businesses – or government agencies, for that matter – shouldn’t be able to keep firearms off their premises, as long as the ban isn’t enforced in a discriminatory way.

But these are police officers, who I’m confident can be trusted to be as responsible with their guns when off-duty as they are while in uniform. And besides, as Police Chief Steve Conrad said, “We would think most businesses would welcome armed and well trained police officers, on or off-duty, to help out should there be a problem.”

And as for the reasonable concern regarding alcohol consumption at such a venue while armed, LMPD regulations are extremely stringent, forbidding any measurable level of intoxication that would interfere with an officer’s ability to carry out his or her duty.

Our police officers work hard and deserve to enjoy the same off-duty activities as the rest of us, and I encourage the Palace to rethink its policy.

I’m Bill Lamb and that’s my Point of View.

RACE RELATIONS

Ali's Greatest Role (12/15/15)

In the days following 9/11 -- while practically every religious organization in the world made strong statements condemning this vicious attack -- I was concerned that there didn't seem to be much of an outcry from the Muslim world.

Several years later, in Turkey, I met a Muslim gentleman who explained that the likely reason no such prominent statement was made was that unlike most religions, Islam has no one pre-eminent living figurehead -- no Pope, as it were -- and that made it hard for them to speak with a unified voice.

I let that sit until last week, when I read the eloquent statement issued by Muhammad Ali in which he said, "I am a Muslim and there is nothing Islamic about killing innocent people...true Muslims know that the ruthless violence of so called Islamic Jihadists goes against the very tenets of our religion."

And then it hit me. Who better to *be* that voice -- to galvanize the world's many peace-loving Muslims by condemning the extremists who have hijacked their religion for their own purposes?

My respect for Muhammad Ali has always been great, but it's only increased since last week. I'm proud to know he calls Louisville home, and I not only appreciate what he did with this statement, but I'd love to see him continue in this peacemaker's role. *That* would truly be "the Greatest."

Call and share your thoughts.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

MEDIA

Modern Media Faces a Trust Problem (10/15/15)

A Gallup Poll released just last month found that only four in ten Americans now have a “great deal” or even “a fair amount” of trust and confidence in the mass media to report the news fully. Put another way, a majority of Americans now have little or no trust in the mass media.

That’s troubling to those of us in the news business, but not very surprising. With the proliferation of cable news channels and websites specifically devoted to pushing exclusively conservative or liberal views -- and many news operations cutting corners wherever they can -- it’s only natural that people would take whatever they hear or read with a grain of salt these days.

In 2015, trust is only given to those news sources that earn it – by consistently delivering accurate information, without bias, around the clock, 365 days a year. And that’s the way it should be. We’ll only gain our viewers’ respect to the extent that we show the same level of respect toward them.

At WDRB, we long ago challenged ourselves to become the most trusted news source in the Louisville market, and we think we’ve progressed a long way toward that goal. But believe me when I say we’ll never take your trust for granted. Because, apparently, 60% of the population still needs some convincing. And we want to be the difference-maker.

I’m Bill Lamb and that’s my Point of View.

Guest Editorial – Show Both Sides (10/23/15)

WDRB ran two contradictory news pieces last week.

During the first, Bill Lamb in his “Point of View” discussed the fact that 60% of the people don’t trust the media, and how WDRB strives to be fair and balanced, and a trusted news source.

The second was a news story about how Republicans in the Town of Clarksville are losing political signs. While candidates from both parties, including myself as a Democrat, have lost signs, WDRB failed to mention that. To make matters worse, WDRB filmed the story in front of Republican headquarters. Buried at the end of the story was a statement from the police chief about the problem being reported by both parties. As a result of this one-sided reporting, the story was nothing more than a political commercial at best and WDRB ends up looking like the outlets Mr. Lamb want to differ the station from.

If Mr. Lamb really wants to set WDRB apart from other media outlets that the public does not trust, his case would be better if the station had reported this story in a politically neutral way, and by talking to candidates from *both* parties who lost signs. Instead, the station aired this as a strictly partisan problem suffered by Republicans.

While Mr. Lamb tried in his “Point of View” to present WDRB as different from other news outlets, the station behaved in the exact manner on this issue that creates public distrust for the media.

I’m Bob McEwen and that’s my Point of View.

The Bluegrass Poll: The Poorest Predictor (11/5/15)

Late last week, the year's final Bluegrass Poll showed Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jack Conway leading Republican Matt Bevin by five percentage points. But Tuesday night, Bevin beat Conway by almost nine percentage points.

The Poll's prognostication was just as bad last year when it showed Allison Grimes in a dead heat against Senator Mitch McConnell, only to be shamefully discredited when McConnell trounced Grimes by more than fifteen percentage points.

Are these just examples of ineptitude or something worse?

One of the major forces behind the Bluegrass Poll is the Courier-Journal - a newspaper with a long-standing liberal bias. Polls can be made to provide the results you want through the use of leading questions and bad sampling. Given its wild inaccuracy of late, I have to wonder if the Bluegrass Poll hasn't become more intent on influencing the outcome of elections than on providing accurate information.

If so, it's not working anymore. The Bluegrass Poll has finally been outed as a consistently untrustworthy source of information, and maybe even the C-J has figured that out. They've announced they're firing the company that's been doing the polling for them.

But I think the damage is already done. The problem is the C-J, not their hirelings. And any future attempt by them to present the Bluegrass Poll as relevant, unbiased information will be a terrible disservice to the community.

I'm Bill Lamb and that's my Point of View.

GENERAL PUBLIC
SERVICE

POV | A Youthful Example to Follow

The young man's name is Jonathan Neal. In many ways, he's similar to any other 16-year-old. But this Central High School student is more than just another kid in the neighborhood.

A couple of weeks ago, Jonathan became Louisville's first winner of the Jefferson Award - an award presented by WDRB to recognize people in our community who exhibit positive change and selfless public service.

He received this honor because of his dedication to making Louisville a better and safer place to live, in part by starting a group earlier this year called "All Lives Matter," which right now has about 20 volunteers and is slowly growing.

Following last year's highly-publicized outbreak of violence in and around Waterfront Park, urban teenagers in general -- and black urban teenagers in particular -- were roundly denounced by many area citizens. But Jonathan's mission to better his community after those events proves that some of our most solid citizens can be found among those very teens.

He says his message is, "Always follow your dreams. You don't have to live up to the stigma society has set for you." That's a message more of our sons and daughters need to hear, and WDRB is proud to help Jonathan spread the word.

If you know someone you believe is worthy of being our next Jefferson Award recipient, let us know.

[Click HERE to nominate someone for a Jefferson Award.](#)

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