pinion



Other **Viewpoints**

Ford began an era just a century ago

With the current flood of doubt, fear and bad news involving American business, industry and the nation's economy, it is enlightening to recall a tremendously positive milestone, now a century old, in the category of benefits for American con-

It was an event that changed the world for the better and a far cry from the depressing reports we get from corporate of-

On Oct. 1, 1908, the Ford Motor Co. introduced the Model T. It is generally regarded as the first affordable automobile, and the car that industry experts say "put America on wheels."

That first Model T, produced for the 1909 model year, was assembled by hand and sold for \$850. Demand was so astronomical that the firm devised an assembly line process, another Henry Ford innovation. Ford was able to turn out a Model T every 10 seconds. ...

Along with all his other great achievements, Henry Ford was the first manufacturer to pay his workers the unheard-of wage of \$5 a day. Time after time, he and his Detroit-area operation made major contributions that went well beyond putting America on wheels.

Think of the impact on the American economy. For example, the estimated revenue in 2006 for the nation's automotive repair and maintenance businesses was almost \$88 billion. The U.S. auto industry's annual payroll even in less notable times still tops \$48 billion. ... Lawrence had its hills and dales and even the best available

motor cars sometimes could not negotiate Mount Oread, the site of Kansas University. Further, whoever picked the KU "hill" for the university could not have envisioned the incredible problem of parking as enrollment grew.

There is a message here if we will stop reflecting on presentday gloom and doom and consider some alternatives. Just as Henry Ford and his people managed to reinvent our outlook on life and the ways to deal with it to our advantage, so do we have the brains, the background, desire and wherewithal to meet and defeat the massive challenges now before us.

The Lawrence Journal-World, via The Associated Press

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Service turns out to be it's own reward

Let me tell you a secret. I have discovered lately that giving is refreshing. Most people find refreshment in music, movies, food, shopping. But I believe I have unlocked the key to the state of tranquility and replenishment of

This last Tuesday, my college cancelled classes so students could devote their day to serving the community and sharing the Gospel with people we were serving. It was called Day of Outreach. While many rejoiced over the cancellation of 8 a.m. classes, there were the few of us who just saw it as an opportunity to reach out to those who are neglected, overworked and forgotten.

Though I've done this sort of thing in the past, I always get nervous about what I'm going to do and the people I'm going to meet. I'm a people-pleaser, so the job I'm assigned must be done efficiently and to perfection, and the people I meet have to love me.

I'm pretty good at cleaning, so that morning, another girl and I headed off down the street to clean a woman's apartment. The three of us divided up the work, and within only an hour, the apartment was clean - to the woman's standards anyway. Her gratitude surpassed what I felt was needed, yet I couldn't help but feel satisfied.

"I swear time 'as folded on itself right be-

The two of us headed back to campus to



 A Moment with Michelle

clock at 10:04 a.m. Is that it?, I said to myself. Sometime during the washing of dishes and scrubbing the counter top, something inside of me had been set ablaze. Even though I was operating on only five hours of sleep (far too little, in my opinion), I was wishing that my day of service did not have to end yet.

The air was beginning to dampen and soon water droplets were falling from the sky, sprinkling the sidewalk. The girl who was with me began to laugh.

"It has never *not* rained on a Day of Outreach," she said. I smiled with a determination not to allow any amount of rain drench my sunny spirit. It's just liquid sunshine, I told

We handed our evaluation form and in return, they gave us directions. We were headed to Shepherd's Door, a women's rescue mis-

Once there, we joined a large group of fellow fore my eyes!" she declared numerous times. college students, rakes and shovels in hand, and received instructions on how to turn a On the way back, I remember looking at the fence and I killed spiders. The supervisor told campus.

us that spiders were a big problem there, and to be careful of not walking right into a web.

I took my job seriously, making sure that each web was destroyed and every quartersized spider was dead without question. We labored for two hours, and too soon it was time to go back to the campus for lunch. I felt an ache knowing that our job was not finished and humbled by how they appreciated our uncompleted task.

Admittedly, we were thankful to depart as

compost (various decaying organic substances) that was being turned over began to fill the air. As much as I love to serve, I had to remember that giving isn't always glamorous. Still, my spirit was sunny as the sun peeked

through the clouds above. I then remembered a quote I read a couple days before: "Ask not how little, but how much can love give?" Love is the key factor to giving. If love is

absent, it can't really be called giving. And once we realize that life isn't about us, it is easier to love.

I don't know the people I served on Day of Outreach, but whether it's believable or not, I do love them. I don't think serving would have been as refreshing if I didn't.

So, I say give, give, give and there lies the key to refreshment.

Michelle Myers, a Colby native, is a student at Multnomah University in Portland, Ore. tell the Outreach committee that our job was leaf-covered lot into a play haven for children. majoring in Bible and journalism. She enjoys Some raked, others worked on the outlining the 32 Starbucks found within five miles of her

Democrats let GOP label them

Labeling your opponent is just as important

as defining yourself in the world of politics. If you can plant a negative image of your opponent in the minds of the public, you are probably going to win the election.

Republican strategists are masters at manipulating the public, turning perception management into a fine art. They use words like welfare, big government, socialist, liberal, secularist, environmentalist and elitist to characterize the Democratic Party. All of these terms have stuck to Democrats like Superglue. Republicans can use at least one of these terms to describe almost all policies backed by Dem-

If Democrats criticize the influence the religious right has over the Republican Party, conservatives can accuse them of being elitists who are hostile to religion and out of touch with Middle America. If they try to make coal companies pay for their pollution, Republicans can warn Americans that Democrats are being influenced by radical environmentalists. The labels Republicans have shackled Democrats with have left them incapable of implementing many of the policies that they feel most passionate about.

It is tough position for liberals to be in. They either have show some backbone and support the policies they believe in — and brace themselves for the Republican's clever response — or they can support a safer, watered-down version of their policies that won't stir up any

I personally think its time for the Democrats to stand for something again. The party



Andy Heintz

 Wildcat Ramblings

of Truman has looked tongue-tied and wimpy for too long. No one is ever going to back a party that lets its competition define who it is. Democrats need to tell the American people what they stand for.

The Democrats need to support policies that help family farmers, they need to give more unemployment benefits to the middle class, they need to support a reasonable War on Drugs, they need to support paid leave for mothers, they need to denounce free trade policies that only help special interests and they need to come up with a way to save Social Security so our elderly will not have to worry about paying their bills every month.

They also to need stop treating Americans like 5-year-olds and tell us the truth about our foreign policy history. And the truth is that while the our government has brought freedom to more people then any country in history, it also has supported policies that have led to years of misery, terror and repression for people in countries like Honduras, Haiti, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guyana, Laos, the Phillipines, Vietnam, Cambodia, the Dominican Republic, Iran and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Democrats need to embrace our brave troops who are fighting for us overseas while coming clean about past American policies that did not live up to American ideals. They need to do this despite the fact that they will be smeared as American haters by some conservatives for questioning the morality of past policies. We as a people need to understand why some people overseas distrust our government.

This country needs a change. The Democrats have the policies that can change our country for the better. They just have to be gutsy enough to stand by their beliefs — even if it means risking key votes.

They should heed the words of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who said "The only thing to fear is fear itself."

Andy Heintz, a K-State journalism graduate, is sports reporter for the Colby Free Press. He says he loves K-State athletics and fishing, sports and opinion writing.

Senior appreciated effort by Boy Scouts

Thanks to the Boy Scouts and their leader. The flag raising (at Colby Care Center) was so well planned that the ceremony was quite impressive.

Frances Zoberst Colby

Mallard **Fillmore**

Bruce Tinsley



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