

Points East

By:
Ike Adams

Man it's hard to get inspired to write about anything when the State Legislature is in Session. It doesn't do a bit of good to get angry because the clown corps we elect and send to Frankfort stand in line to sell our environment to a bunch of lying lobbyists. Of course, they'll all get enough money to buy a few cases of matches with their mugs printed on the cover that they can hand to us before the polls open again. At least we'll be able to start fires. We can still pile up all that garbage they burn it to do anything about and refuse.

Every cloud has a silver lining if you look hard enough doesn't it? Humor is out of the question in this space for the next few weeks because the best comedy act in the nation is going on around the clock in the State Capitol. I swear to you that one of the yokels introduced a bill making it against the law for the UK and UofL marching bands to "leave deposits" on the opponents football fields during the half time show.

What might happen, according to this astute example of the genius who write our laws, is that the hands could sneak and plant a variety of grass that would make their initials sprout up in the middle of the opponents' field. After much discussion and numerous amendments from the floor, the bill was passed. No wonder the lawmakers are whining about sixty days not being enough time to take care of business.

Where on earth is my ulcer medicine?

Actually, I probably ought to go to

the doctor and see if I can talk my way into a prescription for valium because that's what I'm going to need before this Legislative Session is over unless I can find a way to avoid hearing any news out of Frankfort.

Last week, one of the very few members of the Legislature that I thought had enough sense to get in out of the rain proclaimed on the front page of the Lexington paper that he was worried that putting a deposit on cans and bottles would run retailers out of the state.

He was not trying to be funny. If you don't believe that the bottling lobby can brain wash people, what better example do you need.

Nobody is going to go out of business if we hold the trash markers responsible for getting the mess they peddle picked up. It is patently stupid to even suggest that might happen. Not a single store is going out of business so stop that darn line of foolishness guys.

The so called bottle bill did make it out of committee however, and now we will at least get a chance to see how many of the total Legislative body are sold out to the beverage and grocery industry. Not that there is anything new about the Kentucky State Legislature being bought off by special interests.

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campaign coffers and a boat load of borderline legal freebies to hand out to the gang, you can rest assured that our lawmakers are going to be snugly snoozing in their pockets.

That's a crying shame but it is a fact. I wonder what would happen if the kids who would clean up Kentucky walked the capitol lawn with bushel baskets full of dollar bills instead of signs pleading that the government help them clean up the state. If we want to teach our kids how government really works in this state we should stop fooling ourselves about making a sensible case for their

cause and teach them how to get in on the bidding.

If the legislature wants to do a little education reform, let's throw away the civics book and write one that explains how government really works in this state. I'll be glad to work up the first draft.

Forget about all this Ten Commandments posturing. That's just pandering for public relations. Let's get straight to the heart of the matter and take up the Biblical tale about selling birthrights for a bowl of porridge. That's the one that ought to be framed and hung on the walls of classrooms throughout the state.

Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,

I'd like to express my concern with the law enforcement in Rockcastle County and ask if they possess integrity enough to perform the duty of protecting its citizens.

February 9th, my entire premises was searched for illegal substances, weapons, etc., while I was at the hospital with my husband, who was having surgery.

The warrant presented to my 20-year-old son who was visiting at the time, was not signed. I'm told Lorin Rockwell signed it. If the warrant was in fact signed, why did the officers try to contact Jeff Burdette to initiate the search? I'm told Barry Adams gave permission.

I understand probable cause, but does law enforcement always take the word of a 12-year-old who has been caught with drugs at school, before investigating the child's home? My husband was wrongly accused by our neighbor's child, and the child and his mother have apologized profusely for this. I'd hope enforcement integrity would allow for school and home investigation before terrorizing innocent citizens. Especially my children.

The officers had my 12-year-old son point out the weapons, which were loaded and hand them over, then had him replace them. Bill Mink says, "My officers said that did not happen." My son has never lied. Having a child handle loaded weapons denotes the epitome of stupid.

I have property damage and loss; but will I be reimbursed for this?

Maybe Karen King could reply to this.

And on a last note; to you officers who failed to search my kitchen cabinets, but did choose to play with my medical equipment: if you'd like to return to my home, I'd be glad to give you verbal instructions on the use of enema bottles and cervical caps. And, we can do all of this while we barbecue the meat you rhined from busting up my freezer.

Teresa Bombard
Broadhead, KY

Dear Editor,

Rockcastle County Senior Citizens would like to thank Woodmen of the World for sponsoring our Christmas party. We appreciate the Woodmen staff, Sandra Bullock, David Combs, Mike Phillips, Walter & Margie Malone, Jean Lowery, and Mary Ann McNew, for the enthusiasm and involvement. Thanks to Donald Bullock for his technical assistance.

A special thank you to Renfro Valley Folks, Inc. for sending Santa Claus to the party and to the following businesses whose donations helped to make this a fun-filled event for us: The Bank of Mt. Vernon, Cox Florist, Mt. Vernon Florist, Pam's Florist, Sparks Florist, Hart's 5410, Save-A-Lot, Food World, Marsha's Florist, Foodland of Broadhead, Walmart and Contours Express Fitness of Berea.

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EQIP accepting applications

NRCS announces the 2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) application ranking period is February 1st-28th, 2000. EQIP applications are accepted on a continuous basis, however, the cut off date for this period will be February 28. Under EQIP, USDA can provide cost-share assistance to land users for up to 75 percent of the costs of certain environmental protection practices such as grassed waterways, filter strips, manure management facilities, and wildlife habitat enhancement. USDA may also provide incentive payments to encourage producers to apply selected land man-

agement practices that are not currently in use on their land. In 2000, Kentucky has \$2,111,000 in financial assistance. The ten locally identified priority areas will use approximately 67% of the funds and 33% will be used for statewide natural resource concerns. David G. Sawyer, NRCS State Conservationist, stated, "Kentucky will prioritize applications addressing conservation buffers and animal waste concerns. Other practices of importance include water quality, soil erosion and wildlife habitats."

Please contact the local District Conservationist, Randall Templeman, at 256-2525 extension 3.

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