



## Points East

By  
Ike Adams

As most of you know, especially if you live in Kentucky, our new automobile license tags were already being stamped out at the state prisons before your average Kentuckian knew what they were going to look like.

As one woman told me last week, "the colors clash so badly that I'd be ashamed to have on underwear of one color and underwear of the other at the same time. I can take study but this is sickening. You've got hot pink in the middle, blue on top, green on the bottom and this big yellow, smiley, Wal-Mart sticker thingy face in the middle. The Gov's girlfriend may have been kinky but she sure didn't have to stand. And he's obviously color blind."

She went on to say that if "Kentucky is that friendly," Kentucky-It's that friendly" is the new motto on our license tags and I swear (I'm not lying) then bright blue lace for the numbers and letters with a garter wrapped around the edge of the tag and printed on a white background seemed a bit more in line with the attitude of our fearless leaders in Frankfort.

Her solution was to buy one of the so-called vanity plates that cost an extra \$50.00 and she maintains that the new generic tag was deliberately made so ugly that everybody would go for the specialty plates promoting everything from nature preservation to fire departments to whatever college you attended or whatever branch of the service you may have enlisted, where you pulled duty etc. More than 130 possibilities exist to avoid the new tag if you want to shell out the extra dough.

My friend was trying to pick out one she really believed in but she thought that a reasonable alternative to the high priced vanity plates would be flying a pair of panties with a number on them off your radio antenna. And if you didn't have a radio antenna, you could buy one of those little flag-pole things that you fix to your trunk lid and fasten on a banner that lets you let everybody know you

are on your way to the UK game. You could also fly your license number off the same little pole and if you didn't like sexy underwear, you could always emblazon your number in big blue letters on the seat of a good clean pair of white Hanes or Fruit of the Looms and wouldn't that look nicer and more aesthetically pleasing than the new license tags?

So anyway, my birthday is in January and I know the law doesn't bother pulling you over in Kentucky until you are at least thirty days behind on renewing your license tags but by late February and I thought it would be a good idea to renew before the first of March. So I had Loretta pick me up today cause she works in Lancaster, the Garrard County Seat and I work in Madison and you have to buy your tags at the county seat where you live. And I was dreading taking off my plain old blue and whites and especially dreading the big smiley face thing on the back of my truck because I drive into several surrounding states and it's hard enough to get along with people in Tennessee and West Virginia already without having to defend your license plates.

So I came home tonight and there was my license plate lying on the kitchen table with the registration papers wrapped around it. 3179-JS in Royal Blue, stamped on a perfectly white background and the number 6000 stamped at the bottom and Kentucky on top. No hot pink with all shades of blue and green surrounding a smiley face. Nothing about how friendly we are. Just an updated version of my existing plate.

I almost cried. Maybe I did a little bit. I know I kissed the license plate. As it turns out, full-size pick-up owners didn't get their tags changed and we won't have to worry about flying panties of our radio antennas. Apparently the governor does not believe that we truck drivers are that friendly but I will keep waving and nodding my head at everybody I pass every day. They won't be changing the tags again for five years.

## Our Readers Write

Dear Editor,

Sometimes it seems like every group and organization is demanding equal rights. Well, I demand equal rights for smokers. They talk about rude smokers but I'm a polite smoker. There are rude doctors, rude sales people, rude waiters, and rude policemen. No one says doctor and people automatically associate the word doctor with the word rude. There are no rude smokers there are only rude people who happen to smoke!

There are many buildings where smoking is not permitted. At the work place, people who don't smoke often have really nice breakrooms while the smokers are standing outside in the weather. I think smokers should be given just as nice a breakroom as the non-smokers.

Smokers are having trouble finding restaurants that allow smoking. I love to relax, after a meal, with a cigarette and a cup of coffee, there are restaurants for non-smokers, but if we had a restaurant for smokers, the non-smokers would call it unconstitutional and discriminatory. They would insist on going to the smokers' restaurant and then they would demand that you turn it into a non-smoking restaurant. Non-smokers are totally out of control!

Total strangers walk up to me and tell me I should stop smoking. I know I should stop smoking but, the decision is mine and I'll think you to mind your own business. I don't walk up to you and criticize you. Why do you think you have the right to treat me that way?

Another problem is taxes on cigarettes. If they want to build a new courthouse or sports arena, they put a tax on cigarettes to pay for it. After the building is completed, they don't take the tax off cigarettes. To add insult to injury, after smokers have paid for the facility, they aren't allowed to smoke in them.

These are only some of the reasons I demand equal rights for smokers!!  
Diana Secrist  
Mt. Vernon

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank the following businesses, community leaders, parents and individuals for their support on Project Graduation 2003. We greatly appreciate each and everyone for helping to make this a huge success.

Adams Feed & Supply, Appalachian Medical Equipment, B&H Tool Works, B&K Grocery, B&M Liquidators, Britton Chevrolet-Olds, Broadhead Christian Church, Broadhead Lion's Club, Mark's Hardware, Jeffrey T. Burdette Law Office, Carter's Market, Kenton KY Carpenter, Jennifer Chadwell, DMD, Citi-

zenis Bank, Clifford Collins, Clinax Christian Church, D&S Computers, Dairy Mart of Broadhead, David's Tire Center, Danny Dooley, Dowell & Martin Funeral Home, Dr. Kim Cornelius, Ford Brothers, Hayes Furniture, Hilltop Market Produce, Hogg Enterprises, Inc., Homestead Cafeteria, J&D Cabinets, J&L, Inc., Kentucky Utilities, KWIK Mart, Livingston Homecoming, Livingston Market, Lumber King, McKinney's Tire, Mt. Vernon Car Wash, Mt. Vernon Drug, Mt. Vernon Automotive (NAPA), Mt. Vernon Plumbing, Mt. Vernon Scrap, J.C. Newland Construction, Owens Funeral Home, Preston Parrett, Perry's Body Shop, Roberts' Barber Shop, Rockcastle Health & Rehabilitation Center, IGA (Shoptree) of Broadhead, Sipple & Sipple Chiropractics, Sparks Flowers & More, Sylvia's Hair Salon, Taylor's Produce, Tobacco Barn, Tokico, Town & Country Chevron, Town & Country Motors, Young's Pharmacy, Kentucky Depot, A&D Market, S&M Lumber Company, Hall's Print Shop, Snyder Market, Tobacco Shed, Alan Sanitation, Tolle Gallery, Sand Gap Holiness Church, Morning View Holiness Church, Wal-Mart (London), Brookhaven Christian Books, Joseph Howard, Handcrafted Furniture.

If we accidentally left someone out, please feel free to call us and let us correct the error.

Project Graduation 2003

Dear Editor,

G.O.P. Right Wing  
The right wing of the Republican party are all clamoring for war. Rush Limbaugh, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell and President Bush.

I hope Americans take note. The politicians that are clamoring for war have always stayed out of harm's way. They've never been involved in any military action. If they want America involved in a senseless war with Iraq, they should form their own military brigade. Have the pigmen name for such a group, "The Yellowbellies from the far right!"

Bush says he hates Saddam because "he tried to kill my dad." Before we send our young men and women over there for a war with Iraq, we should have much stronger reasons that the President's personal feelings.

John E. Bray  
2432 Pinwood Lane  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

## Babies Get Plugged Tear Ducts

Presented by: Dr. George W. Griffith.

Babies often have tear ducts that are not completely developed when they are born. When the tear ducts do not drain, the infant will have tears welling up in his eyes and running down his cheeks all the time. After naps the eye may be a little watery looking.



it by six months of age.

If massage does not work, the ophthalmologist may try irrigating the duct. A saline solution is injected into the duct and this usually washes out the debris and perforates the remaining membranes. This can often be done in the office.

Conservative treatment is preferable unless the obstruction is discovered at a later age, when it may be wise to probe the duct fairly quickly unless there is a good response to massage. Probing the tear duct should be considered if it is still plugged at six months of age.

Probing the duct is usually done in the operating room using anesthesia. It is quite successful in younger children, so if massaging regularly does not solve the problem after a few months, it is appropriate to see an ophthalmologist for an expert opinion on whether this minor surgery should be done.

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