

Getting Generous

Bambi and Mitzie are walking down the street in Lexington when a beggar approaches them asking for spare change.

Bambi adamantly rejects the man in disgust. Mitzi, on the other hand, whips out her cash, pulls out a couple of dollar bills and gladly hands them over to the beggar with a smile. The beggar thanks her kindly and moves on.

Bambi is outraged by her friend's act of generosity. "What on earth did you do that for?" she shouts. "You know he's just going to use it on booze!!!"

Mitzi replies, "What? And we weren't?" **Can You Hear That?**

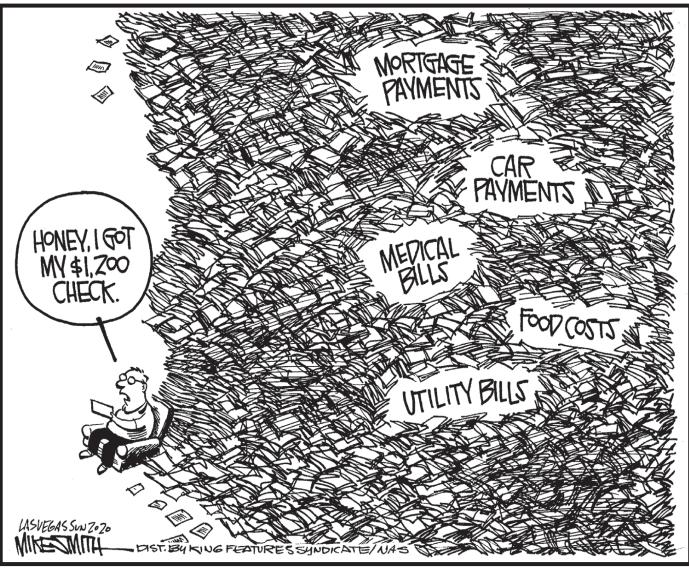
A man in a mental hospital sits with his ear to the wall and listens, all day long. Different doctors watch him do this day after day. Finally one doctor decides he's going to find out what the guy is listening to. So, he puts his ear up to the wall and listens. He hears nothing. He turns to the patient and says, "I don't hear anything."

"Yeah, I know," says the guy. "It's been like that for months!"

Let It Be!

A man walks into work on Monday with two black eyes. His boss asks what happened.

The man says, "I was sitting behind a big woman at church. When we stood up to sing hymns, I



This Week at the State Capitol - March 30 - April 3, 2020 Kentuckians tested for COVID-19 continues to grow

of Kentuckians who have tested positive for COVID- envisioned when lawmakers approved a major school 19 has grown from zero to 770 (955 on Sunday), the safety bill last year. It also provides the full actuarialstock market has suffered record-setting plunges and recommended level of funding for state public penunemployment numbers have skyrocketed.

In this environment, no one yet knows the toll the pandemic will ultimately take on the economy.

Lawmakers acknowledged as much on Wednesday as they approved an austere state budget. Although state budgets typically outline spending for a twoyear cycle, the plan produced this week covers only one year. Lawmakers said they were reluctant to make revenue projections too far into the future at a time of so much uncertainty.

In passing a one-year spending plan, they set the stage for a return to budget-making in next-year's legislative session, if they aren't called into a special session before then, to make any needed revisions to the spending plan for the upcoming fiscal year while also cal year.

Lawmakers reset their sights from what was widely envisioned earlier this year when earlier drafts of the well as pay raises for teachers and state employees. free message line at 1-800-372-7181. Those plans have been deferred. The budget is now based on the most pessimistic projections the state's budget forecasters provided in December, though even those projections are expected to fall short of accounting for the toll the pandemic is taking. The \$11.3 billion spending plan approved on Wednesday keeps steady the basic per-pupil funding

FRANKFORT -- Over the past month the number for Kentucky schools and supports safety measures sion systems.

The budget is programmed to end the fiscal year with \$303 million in the state's Rainy Day Fund, though lawmakers acknowledge that fund will likely be used as a "shock absorber" if revenue estimates aren't met as full effect of the economic downturn is realized.

On the same day the budget was passed, lawmakers approved a revenue package that includes a new tax on vaping products that is expected to generate \$25 million over the next two years.

Lawmakers have now returned to their home districts for a veto recess, a period of time that gives them a chance to see whether the governor vetoes any legislation before his time to do so runs out. The General Assembly will reconvene on April 13 to consider overstarting from scratch on a budget for the following fis- riding any vetoes. Final adjournment for this year's legislative session is scheduled for April 15, the last day allowed by the state constitution.

To offer feedback to lawmakers on the issues conbudget proposal outlined increased school funding as fronting Kentucky, call the General Assembly's toll-

noticed that her dress was caught in her crack, so I pulled it out. She turns around and punches me square in the eve."

"Where did you get the other one?" the boss asks.

"I tried to push it back."

Guilty As Charged

A red-faced judge convenes court after a long lunch. The first case involves a man charged with public intoxication who claims it simply isn't true. "I'm as sober as you are, your honor," the man claims.

The judge replies, "Clerk, let the record show that the defendant indicates 'guilty.' He is sentenced to 30 days."

Three Pieces of Pie

Ma, Pa and Junior are sitting at the table eating. At the other end of the table sits a pan with two pieces of pie in it. After watching the plate a while, Junior says, "Pa, I can prove that there are three pieces of pie in that pan."

"Go ahead," says Pa, and continues eating.

"Well," says Junior, pointing, "This is one, and this is two. One and two make three!"

"You're a genius," says Pa. "Now let Ma have the first piece, and I'll take the second. Then you can have the one that is left."

Divorce Court

A judge is interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce, "What are the grounds for your divorce?"

She replies, "About four acres and a nice little

home in the middle of the property." "I mean," he continues, "What are your relations like?"

"I have an aunt and uncle living here in town, and so do my husband's parents."

He tries again, "Do you have a real grudge?"

"No," she replies, "We have a two-car carport and have never really needed one."

"Please," he asks, "Is there any infidelity in your marriage?'

"Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. But my husband and I don't necessarily like the music."

"Ma'am, does your husband ever beat you up?"

"Yes," she responds, "Most days he gets up earlier than I do."

Finally, in frustration, the judge asks, "Lady, why do you want a divorce?"

"Oh, I don't want a divorce," she replies. "It's my husband. He says he can't communicate with me."

Stickeler's Puzzle How many squares of any size are in the picture below? ©2020 King Features Syndicate

Stickeler's Answer on Page 11



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