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Maudie's Naughties



Bear Clawed

Two city slickers show up at the hospital with extensive wounds obviously caused by a bear. "What happened?" asks the emergency room doctor.

"We heard that bear bells were good to have when you're out in bear country," answers one of the men. "We just didn't know how hard it was getting bells on a bear."

"That was your first mistake," says the doctor.

"Nope," replies the other man. "That was our second. Our first mistake was thinking that bear was asleep."

Twins Town

An out of state visitor is amazed to see several pairs of twins around town. At the dollar store, he even sees one woman with three pairs of twins following her around. Unable to contain his curiosity, he says, "Goodness! Do you get twins every time?"

"Heck, no," She replies. "Most of the time we don't get anything at all."

Paying Debts

Bob and Dave are walking in downtown Lexington when a mugger assaults them with a gun and announces, "This is a stick-up. Get into that alley and then give me all your money."

As they're walking down the alley Bob fishes out his wallet and removes a few of the bills. He hands them to Dave and whispers, "Here you go, man."

Dave takes the money and looks at Bob with a puzzled expression, so Bob explains, "Don't you remember? That's the hundred bucks I owed you."

The Three Bears

It's a sunny morning in Big Forest and the Bear family is just waking up. Baby Bear goes downstairs and sits in his small chair at the table. He looks into his small bowl. It is empty!

"Who's been eating my porridge?!" he squeaks.

Daddy Bear arrives at the table and sits in his big chair. He looks into his big bowl. It is also empty!

"Who's been eating my porridge?!" he roars.

Mummy Bear puts her head through the serving hatch from the kitchen and screams, "Do I have to go through this routine every morning? - I haven't *made* your porridge yet!!"

Bear Identification

How to tell the species of bear you are looking at . . . Go over to him and kick him in the behind. Climb up a nearby tree.

If he climbs the tree and eats you, he's a black bear.

If he knocks the tree down and eats you, he's a grizzly.

Hicks and Cobbs

A man from Kentucky by the name of Hicks goes to New York and meets a girl who takes him to a party and is introducing him to some of her friends.

She says, "Mr. Hicks from Kentucky, I'd like you to meet Mr. Cobbs from New York."

The New York man says, "Do you know what we do with hicks here in New York?"

"No," replies Mr. Hicks. "But, I know what we do with cobs in Kentucky."

City Slickers

Bubba and Junior were out hunting deer last fall during an early snowfall. They notice a brand new, shiny SUV parked on the road and by the footprints they can tell a couple of city slickers are out hunting too.

A while later they meet the two guys dragging a dead deer toward their vehicle. Bubba tells them that the deer would drag easier if they pulled it by the head instead of the legs since the hair lies flatter that way. He and Junior continue on up the holler. About half an hour later Junior notices that the two city slickers are coming up behind them.

"You know it's a lot easier pulling this deer like you suggested," says one. "But since we traded ends it sure seems like we're getting further and further from the vehicle!"

More Slickers

A couple of city slickers came up Needmore Holler last week, looking for the bear that someone had spotted. They came to a fork in the road where a sign says, "Bear Left." So they turned around and went home.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE from Representative Bill Wesley

Legislators look at law enforcement retention issues, redistricting, federal child care funds

Last week provided a great deal of food for thought as several Interim Joint Committees (IJC) met to continue preparing for the 2022 Regular Session. Among the topics we are considering are hiring and retention issues facing our state and local law enforcement agencies, federal funding to help make quality child care more accessible, and the redistricting of judicial and legislative offices.

I always like to share a look back at the week, but I hope you will reach out for more information and feel free to watch the committee meetings on YouTube by searching "KY LRC Committee Meetings" or on Kentucky Educational Television (KET) at ket.org/legislature. KET does not cover all committee meetings, but the YouTube channel will have what KET does not.

IJC on Local Government: Committee members discussed ongoing hiring and retention challenges experienced by local police departments. Like many other sectors of our economy, there is a shortage in candidates looking to enter law enforcement. Members also heard from representatives of the Henderson Police Department about how that city has been tackling the problem. With simple incentives like frequently updating the tools and technology they depend on for their jobs and allowing deputies to take their squad car home, this department has seen a dramatic increase in deputies staying for more than the benchmark of three years. The committee also heard from the Association

of Chiefs of Police, and learned about Pre and Post COVID operations of the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training.

IJC on Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection: Members of the Interim Joint Committee on Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection met to discuss the impact COVID-19 is having on Kentucky's emergency medical services as well as the Kentucky State Police and other first responders. Though shutdowns during the pandemic slowed down daily life for almost everyone, emergency medical services (EMS), law enforcement, and firefighters saw an uptick in runs, calls, and crimes. Interestingly enough, EMS services used the crisis as an opportunity to create a pilot program to test the expansion of telemedicine. EMS responders used this to train for a more preventative type of treatment hoping to improve healthcare across the state. Board members stated that this was proven effective in cost savings as well. Kentucky State Police reported seeing a rise in all crimes except for arson, especially while folks began teleworking and staying home.

All groups attested to a need for more personal protective equipment and better pay to resolve the recruitment and retention issues within their departments. Out of nearly 800 fire departments in Kentucky, 80 percent are volunteer and the rest are paid.

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Letter to the Editor

Points Related to Area Tech. Center

Dear Editor,

I noticed the article on page 11 of the July 21, 2021 edition of the Estill County Tribune, titled "Estill County ATC Partners In Education Introduction." Mr. Billings spoke of all the grand things that the new Area Technology Center will do for Estill County and our region. As a 1965 graduate of John H. Patterson Cooperative High School I personally know of and approve of the benefits of vocational education. However, I only fear that we will be providing skills to students who will not be able to find quality jobs in our community and will leave after graduation. The population of Estill County has been decreasing for years now, as Estill County workers and their families relocate to find good-paying jobs in other counties and states. Until we can attract businesses to locate in our county, this migration of our skilled youth will continue.

Mr. Billings had this to say in his last sentence of the article, "Thanks to Superintendent Saylor, his board and staff for their hard work and diligence in making this a reality." I believe he failed to mention some very important folks who helped to make this ATC a reality-local property owners and taxpayers! Has everybody seeking credit for this new facility failed to remember the "nickel tax" that was imposed on the Estill County property owners a few years ago to help pay for the ATC, and get the ball rolling?

I also noticed in the same Estill Tribune edition that the Estill County School Board has received \$12.7 million in assistance through the American Rescue Plan. That is a generous sum that will be ripped from future taxpayers who probably are not even born yet. We need to remember that all this 'stimulus' and 'rescue' money, which totals in the trillions of dollars, will have to be paid back to America's creditors, plus interest. It is not free! All that money rolling off the printing presses without anything backing it up will cause inflation, which is already rearing its ugly head. The only money that governments have is what they take from taxpayers.

Jerry L. Eltzroth, Local property owner and retiree, living on a fixed income

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