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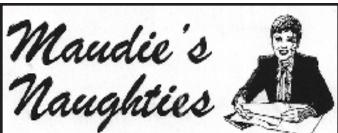
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Camping Trip

Trixie and Bambi are on a camping trip when they decide they need a little excitement.

"How far is it to town?" Trixie wants to know. "Six miles," replies Bambi.

"That's too far to walk," says Trixie.

"It's not so bad," says Bambi. "We can walk three miles each!"

New Suit for the Congressman

A new congressman decides he needs a new suit, so he goes to a tailor in downtown Washington D.C. where he gets measured. A week later he returns for his first fitting. He puts on the suit, and it looks really great, but when he reaches down to put his hands into the pockets, he notices that there are no pockets, so he mentions this to the tailor.

"I thought you said you were a congressman," replies the tailor. "Who ever heard of a politician with his hands in his own pockets?

Noisy Mate

Emmerline shows up at the doctor's office one day. "Doc, I've got a big problem," she says. "Whenever Bubba is romantic with me, he is very noisy. Sometimes he even comes out with these earsplitting yells."

"That's seems somewhat natural," says Doc. "I don't see what the problem is."

"The problem is . . ." she replies. "He keeps wak-



This Week at the State Capitol - March 15-19, 2021 Budged approved to guide spending for upcoming year

Assembly's 2021 session advanced this week as the to intervene when another officer is engaging in the Senate and House approved a budget to guide spending in the upcoming fiscal year.

The recent work on a one-year budget was unusual because lawmakers normally craft budgets that cover two-year cycles. But with the pandemic spreading at the time budget negotiations were occurring last year, lawmakers decided to limit themselves to making a one-year spending plan at that time so that they could return this year and handle next year's budget. The thinking was that the economic uncertainty caused by the pandemic would make it difficult to make revenue projections two years in advance.

The state spending plan lawmakers approved this week is largely a continuation budget, with some modifications. Steps to strengthen the budget's structural integrity are key features of the spending plan, according to its supporters. As part of this effort, lawmakers plan to add more money to the state's budget reserve trust fund – better known as the "rainy day" fund. By raising the rainy day fund's balance to \$958 million, the state would have a reserve to cover the cost of emergency operations for 29 days rather than the 10-14 days that could be covered by the current 29 and 30, and will consider whether or not to overreserve.

Lawmakers also took steps to ensure road funding goes toward road projects, as intended by the state constitution. Supporters of the measure say this will allow an extra \$58 million in funding to go into Kentucky's Road Fund instead of being siphoned off for other matters so that state will be in a better position

FRANKFORT -- The biggest issue of the General with a victim. The bill also would require an officer use of unlawful and unjustified excessive or deadly force. It would also set up a system for an officer's automatic decertification under certain circumstances and would prevent an officer from avoiding decertification by resigning before an internal investigation is complete.

> Broadband. House Bill 320 would expand broadband internet service to underserved areas with \$250 million for the broadband deployment fund. The bill would also reduce for barriers for electric cooperatives to offer the service.

> Vaccinations. Senate Bill 8 states that any child, emancipated minor, or adult would not be subject to mandatory vaccination if he or she or the parent or guardian submits a written sworn statement objecting to the immunization based on conscientiously held beliefs, religious beliefs or medical reasons.

> Lawmakers are now in the veto recess, the period of time in which they return to their home districts while waiting to see if the governor issues any vetoes. Once that time period runs out, lawmakers will return to the Capitol for the final two days of the session, March ride any vetoes.

> If you'd like to offer your feedback to lawmakers on the issues confronting Kentucky, please call the General Assembly's toll free Message Line at 800-372-7181.



ing me up!

Mom, What's Sex?

A little boy returning home from his first day at school said to his mother, "Mom, what's sex?" His mother, who believed in all the most modern educational theories, gave him a detailed explanation, covering all aspects of the tricky subject. When she had finished, the little lad produced an enrollment form which he had brought home from school and said, "Yes, but how am I going to get all that into this one little square?"

Late For Work

A secretary comes in late for work the third day in a row. The boss calls her into his office and says, "Now look Sharon, I know we had a wild fling for a while, but that's over. I expect you to conduct yourself like any other employee here. Who said you could come and go as you please around here?"

Sharon simply smiles and says, "My lawyer."

Top of the Tree

A young turkey is chatting with a bull. "I would love to be able to get to the top of that tree," sighs the turkey, "But I'm just not strong enough yet."

"Well, why don't you nibble on some of my droppings?" replies the bull. "They're packed with nutrients."

The turkey pecks at a lump of dung and finds that it actually gives him enough strength to reach the first branch of the tree. The next day, after eating some more dung, he reaches the second branch.

Finally after two weeks, there he is proudly perched at the top of the tree. Soon he is spotted by a farmer, who shoots the turkey out of the tree.

Moral of the story: BS might get you to the top, but it won't keep you there.

Pre-Wedding Advice

The night before her wedding, a bride-to-be shows up at Ma's house for advice. "Ma," She says, "I want you to teach me how to make my new husband happy."

Ma takes a deep breath and begins, "When two people love, honor, and respect each other, love can be a very beautiful thing"

"I know all about sex, Ma" the bride-to-be interrupts. "I just want you to teach me how to make a great lasagna."

to help transportation projects move forward.

The budget lawmakers approved also stopped an accounting maneuver that recorded the last payroll of a fiscal year in the upcoming year's ledgers. This caused state employees to be paid slightly late once a year. By ending that practice, lawmakers signaled that the state will make payroll payments in the year they are due.

Besides the budget, many other pieces of legislation were approved and sent to the governor's desk this week. Bills that received final passage by the General Assembly included measures on the following topics:

Diabetes. House Bill 95 is aimed at helping those with diabetes by capping cost-sharing requirements for prescription insulin at \$30 per 30-day supply in state-regulated health plans.

Crime. House Bill 126 would increase the threshold of felony theft to \$1,000. Under current law, stealing anything worth \$500 or more is a felony.

Commission on race and opportunity. Senate Bill 10 would create a Commission on Race and Access to Opportunity in the legislative branch. The commission would conduct studies and research on issues where disparities may exist in areas including educational equity, child welfare, health, economic opportunity, juvenile justice, and criminal justice.

Worker safety. House Bill 475 would prohibit the Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board or the secretary from adopting or enforcing any occupational safety and health administrative regulation that is more stringent than the corresponding federal provision.

Newborn safety. House Bill 155 would allow the use of a "newborn safety device" when a newborn is being anonymously surrendered by a parent at a participating staffed police station, fire station, or hospital. The device would allow a parent surrendering an infant to do so safely using a receptacle that would trigger an alarm once a newborn is placed inside so that medical care providers could immediately respond and provide care to the child.

Peace officers. Senate Bill 80 would strengthen the police decertification process by expanding the number of acts considered professional wrongdoing. Such acts would include unjustified use of excessive or deadly force and engaging in a sexual relationship



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