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Maudie's Naughties



Like I Did In Texas

A cowboy rides into town and stops at a saloon for a drink where the locals have a habit of picking on strangers. When he finishes his drink, he finds his horse is gone. He goes back into the bar, handily flips his gun in the air, catches it above his head without even looking and fires a shot into the ceiling and says "I'm gonna' finish my drink and if my horse is not back outside by then, I'm going to do what I did in Texas."

Some of the locals shift restlessly as he has another drink. Then, he walks outside, and, sure enough, his horse is back. He saddles up and starts to ride out.

The bartender comes out and says, "Say partner, before you go . . . what did you do in Texas?"

The cowboy turns back and says "I had to walk home."

Becoming A Monk

Bro. Cletus decides he's going to enter the monastery. One of the monks tells him, "We welcome you here, but this is a silent monastery, and you may not speak until we direct you to do so." Bro. Cletus stays in the monastery five years before the monk comes to him and tells him he can speak two words.

"Hard bed!"

"I'm sorry to hear that," says the monk. "We'll get you a better bed." After another five years pass, the monk comes to him again and tells he may speak two words.

"Cold food!"

The monk assures Cletus that the food will be better in the future. After 15 years have passed, the monk comes to Cletus and tells him he may speak another two words.

"I quit!"

"It's just as well," replies the monk. "You've done nothing but gripe and complain since you've been here anyway."

Needs Money Badly

An Eastern Kentucky boy needs \$100 really badly; so, he prays and prays for weeks, but nothing happens. Finally, out of desperation, he writes to God requesting the \$100. Workers in the dead letter office find the letter amusing; so, they forward to the White House. The president also finds the letter amusing, and, admiring the spunk of the little boy, instructs his staff to send the boy a \$5 bill.

The little boy is delighted with the \$5 bill but sits down and writes a thank you to God, saying, "I really appreciate the money, but next time, don't send it through Washington, D.C. The Feds kept \$95 of it for taxes."

Guilt and Depression

Trixie is having a bad week, so she takes her troubles to a psychiatrist. "Doc, you must help me," she pleads. "It's gotten so that every time a man takes me out, I wind up in bed with him. And then afterward I feel guilty and depressed all the next day long."

"I see," nods the psychiatrist. "And you want me to strengthen your will power?"

"Heck, NO!" exclaims Trixie. "I want you to fix it so I don't feel guilty and depressed afterward."

Lame Golf Joke

A golf club walks into a Richmond bar and asks the barman for a pint of beer. The barman refuses to serve him.

"Why not," asks the golf club.

"You'll be driving later," replies the bartender

Where Am I?

A woman in a hot air balloon realizes she is lost. She lowers her altitude and spots Junior and Howard Green fishing along the Kentucky River near the mouth of Millers Creek.

She shouts to them, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

"You're in a hot air balloon," replies Junior. "And you're about 30 feet off the ground."

"You must be an idiot," says the woman.

"Oh, yeah," replies Junior. "Well, at least I know where I am, and my friend Howard and I were happily fishing until you came floating by."

The Sky Is Falling

One day the first grade teacher is reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She comes to the part of the story where Chicken Little tries to warn the farmer. She reads, ". . . and so Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling!" The teacher pauses, then asks the class, "And what do you think that farmer said?"

One little girl raises her hand and says, "My dad would have said: 'Holy crap! A talking chicken!'"

March 19-23, 2018

This Week at the State Capitol

FRANKFORT – There are always surprises in legislative sessions. But one safe assumption when a state budget must be approved is that Kentucky Senate and House members will form a committee late in the session to iron out differences between each chamber's preferred state spending plan.

That's what happened this week as Senate and House members created a conference committee in the hopes of reaching an agreement on Kentucky's next two-year budget before a legislative recess that's scheduled to start on March 29.

While many parts of the two chambers' budgets are in agreement with each other, there are notable differences in each chamber's spending priorities. Among the questions conference committee members are confronting are:

- How much should the budget depend on possible new revenue sources? The House plan made spending decisions based on the possibility of new revenue sources, most notably a proposed 50 cents per pack increase in the cigarette tax and a 25 cent per dose tax increase on prescription opioids at the distribution level. The Senate plan is not based on any tax increases.

- How should increases in funding for public pension systems be prioritized? Compared to the House plan, the Senate plan directs a larger percentage of its pension funding to the least-funded systems -- the state employee's system and the police system -- than to the teachers' retirement system, which would still be funded at levels required by statute.

- Where should spending cuts be made? The Senate plan restored some, but not all, of the cuts to state agencies, including universities, that were proposed in the governor's original budget proposal. The House plan included less spending cuts and would have spared most university funding.

These are just several among a range of complex budget issues that lawmakers will work on resolving in the days ahead. Their goal is to agree upon a budget early enough that they'll still have a chance to override vetoes, if the governor casts any, before the session ends.

While work on the budget continued this week, a number of other bills advanced, including measures on the following topics:

Finance Education. House Bill 132 would require a financial literacy course as a graduation requirement for Kentucky high schools. Kentucky is currently ranked 48th in financial literacy. The bill received final passage this week

in the House with an 88-3 vote and has been sent to the governor to be signed into law.

Opioid Overdose. House Bill 428 would require those who overdose on heroin or other opioid drugs in Kentucky's largest population areas to be detained by first responders and taken to a hospital. Passing the House with a 92-3 vote, HB 428 now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

Law Enforcement. Under House Bill 68, law enforcement officials who encounter traumatic events while on the job would get mental health and wellness support, funded by donations, grants and money from the state Department of Criminal Justice Training budget. HB 68 has received final passage with a 38-0 vote and heads to the governor for his signature.

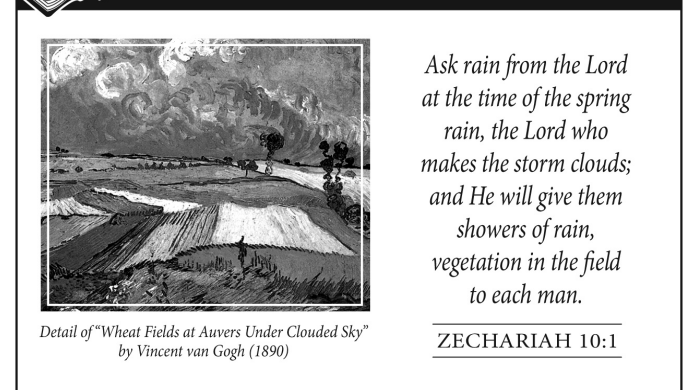
Gun Violence. Senate Bill 210 would increase penalties imposed on convicted felons for possession of a firearm during the commission of certain crimes. With an 18-0 vote in a House Committee meeting, SB 210 now goes to the full House for consideration.

Revenge Porn. House Bill 71 would make it a crime to post sexually explicit images of someone online without that person's consent. Penalties for posting such an image would be a misdemeanor for a first offense or a Class D felony for each subsequent offense. HB 71 received final passage in the House today on a vote of 90-2. It now goes to the governor to be signed into law.

Road Plan. House Bill 202 is a \$2.5 billion Biennial Highway Construction Plan that would focus on the safety and maintenance of Kentucky's bridges. The measure passed the Senate this week with changes made and now go back to the state House for consideration of those changes.

If you'd like to offer your feedback on the issues under consideration at the State Capitol, you can share a message with state lawmakers by calling the General Assembly's toll-free message line at 1-800-372-7181.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Detail of "Wheat Fields at Auvers Under Clouded Sky" by Vincent van Gogh (1890)

Ask rain from the Lord at the time of the spring rain, the Lord who makes the storm clouds; and He will give them showers of rain, vegetation in the field to each man.

ZECHARIAH 10:1

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