

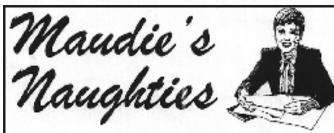
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Something Under The Bed

Jerry goes to a psychiatrist. "Doc," he says, "Every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it I'm going crazy!"

Just put yourself in my hands for one year," says the shrink. "Come to me three times a week, and I'll cure your fears."

Six months later the doctor meets Jerry on the street. Why didn't you ever come to see me again?" asks the psychiatrist.

"\$100 a visit? A bartender cured me for \$10. He told me to cut the legs off the bed! Ain't nobody under there now!!!"

Needing Directions

Junior and Howard are hanging around downtown when they are approached by a man who asks, "Gentlemen, can you tell me where the post office is?"

Howard answers, "Sure, just go straight down the street a couple of blocks and turn to your right."

The man thanks them kindly and then adds, "I'm the new pastor in town, and I'd like for you to come to church on Sunday. I'll show you how to get to Heaven."

Junior replies with a chuckle, "Awww, come on, now; you didn't even know the way to the post office!"

Medical Diagnosis

Two students are chatting in the hallway at medical school when they notice an elderly professor walking down the hallway toward them. He is walking slowly with his legs spread apart and stiff-legged. As he gets closer to them, the students discuss a possible diagnosis for his condition. The professor notices they have taken an interest in him and decides to see what they have come up with. One student says, "I'm sure it's Peltry Syndrome which causes people to walk just like that." The other student says, "You surely must have Zovitzki Syndrome which makes one walk slowly with legs apart just like we learned in class."

April 6, 2018

This Week at the State Capitol

stitution requires of them as final approval was given to a nent home in a timely manner. It would also require more state budget that will guide more than \$22 billion worth of case reviews for each child in foster care, create a "putative spending over the next two years.

that received much attention when they were unveiled in the governor's original budget plan. Rather, lawmakers approved a tax measure on the same day they approved the budget that raises revenue to stave off many of the proposed cuts.

In passing the budget plan, lawmakers emphasized that it fully funds the state's main public pension systems at the levels recommended by actuarial analysis.

The budget includes 6.25 percent baseline cuts for most state agencies, although some agencies are spared. Agencies that will avoid cuts include the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Kentucky State Police, and local school-based Kentucky Family Resource and Youth Services Centers.

For K-12 education, the budget plan, known as House Bill200, would boost base per-pupil funding for K-12 education to a record level of \$4,000 per student in each fiscal year. It would also increase school transportation funding to \$127.8 million in each year of the budget cycle. It would also provide more than \$10 million next fiscal year to help 31 school districts replace lost revenues following a drop in the assessment on unmined coal, among other provisions.

HB 200 also includes more than \$60 million in new revenue to help implement proposed adoption and foster care reforms, including more than \$23 million for placement of foster children with relatives, and tens of millions of dollars to hire more social workers and increase social worker salaries.

Additional funds for spending on social workers and that would add \$10 million to hire 94 additional Youth Workers for the Department of Juvenile Justice and around

This week, lawmakers fulfilled a main duty the state con- care are reunified with family or placed in another permafather registry" so that a child's possible (but not verified) The budget plan does not include all of the program cuts biological father can be notified of the child's prospective adoption, and allow the state to seek termination of parental rights for new mothers who won't seek drug treatment after giving birth to a drug-addicted baby.

Abstinence education. Senate Bill 71 would require the abstinence education be included when schools offer any human sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases curriculum.

Alcohol. House Bill 400 would allow direct shipment of alcoholic beverages to people's homes. The legislation would allow visitors at bourbon distilleries to ship limited amounts of spirits home as well as join bourbon of the month clubs. HB 400 would also permit vineyards to ship specific amounts of wine out of state. Another provision would allow liquor stores to ship a limited amount of spirits purchased from their shops. In addition, it would also require the shippers of the spirits to verify the delivery is made to someone at least 21 years old living in a "wet" area.

Lawmakers have now returned to their homes districts for a ten-day "veto recess." This is the period of time in which lawmakers wait until the end of the time period in which the governor can cast vetoes on legislation that has recently passed. This waiting period ensures that lawmakers have a chance to consider overriding any vetoes before officially adjourning the 2018 session. The session's final days are scheduled to be held on April 13 and 14.

If you'd like to share your thoughts with lawmakers about prosecutors is also included in the budget, with provisions any of the measures that have been approved this year, you can do so by calling the General Assembly's toll-free message line at 1-800-372-7181.



"Well, I guess all three of us were very wrong," replies the professor. "I thought I was just passing gas!"

Dumbest Kid In The World

A young boy walks into a country store where several loafers are hanging out. One loafer whispers to a customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while] prove it to you." He puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, Which do you want, son?"

The boy takes the quarters and walks away. "What did I tell you?" says the loafer. "That kid never learns!"

As the customer is leaving, he notices the young boy buying some candy with the two quarters and says to the boy, "Hey, Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?"

"Because the day I take the dollar, the game's over!"

When A Woman Wears Leather Clothing ...

A man's heart beats quicker, his throat gets dry, he goes weak in the knees and he begins to think irrationally. Ever wonder why? Because she smells like a new truck.

New Dentist

Esmerlda changes to a new dentist. "Open wide," he says; then, quickly adds, "You've got the largest mouth I've ever seen. You've got the largest mouth I've ever seen."

"Well," she snaps, "You didn't have to say it twice!"

"I didn't," he replies. "That was the echo."

Énemies To The West

A knight and his men return to their castle after a hard day of fighting. "How are we faring?" asks the king.

"Sire!" replies the knight, "I have been robbing and pillaging all day, burning the towns of your enemies to the west."

"What?" shrieks the king, "I don't have enemies to the west!"

"Oh!" says the knight, "Well, you do now."

Blind Dates

Two old geezers talk a young man they know into setting them up with a couple of women. The young man takes their money and rents a couple of rooms. Thinking they won't know the difference, he removes the light bulbs; then puts a mannequin in one room and an inflatable doll in the other. After returning from their "dates" the two men start talking.

"I think mine was dead," says the first guy. "She didn't move or anything."

"I think mine was a witch," says the other. "I nibbled on her neck and she passed gas and flew out the window."

\$6 million to hire more prosecutors.

The budget bill passed the House by a 59-36 vote and was approved by the Senate on a 25-13 vote.

Increased revenue that the budget depends on for some of its spending will be generated by the provisions found in House Bill 366, a tax reform measure that has been approved and sent to the governor. The measure, which includes a 50 cent tax increase on packs of cigarettes, would generate nearly a half of billion dollars in additional money for the state over the next two fiscal years.

Besides the cigarette tax, the plan would create a flat rate for personal and corporate income taxes in Kentucky while expanding the sales tax to certain services.

The personal income tax rate would be set at a flat five percent instead of the current brackets ranging from two percent to six percent, while the corporate income tax would also go to a flat rate of five percent instead of the current brackets ranging from four percent to six percent. The inventory tax would also be phased out over a four-year period.

The only itemized deductions allowed under HB 366 would be for Social Security income, mortgage income and charitable giving. It would disallow the deductions for such things as medical costs, taxes paid, interest expense on investments, and casualty and theft losses. It would also remove the \$10 state personal income tax credit.

Another provision would lower the pension income exclusion to \$31,110 from \$41,110.

The plan would also place a sales tax on some services associated with certain repairs, installation and maintenance related to personal property, such as a car. The sales tax would also be expanded to other selected services including landscaping services, janitorial services, veterinarian services for small animals, fitness and recreational sports centers, commercial laundries, golf courses and country clubs, dry cleaning, pet grooming, weight loss centers and campgrounds.

The tax measure was approved by the Senate on a 20-18 vote and by the House on a 51-44 vote.

While much attention was on the budget and tax reform measures approved this week, lawmakers also approved a number of other bills, including legislation on the following topics:

Road Plan. House Bill 202 will guide over \$2.4 billion in spending for Kentucky's bridges, repaving projects and other road needs throughout Kentucky over the next two fiscal years. The bill has been approved and delivered to the governor. Lawmakers have also approved House Joint Resolution 74, which identifies projects for in the last four years of the state's six-year Road Plan. Projects in this plan are prioritized but not yet funded.

Adoption and foster care. House Bill 1 would reform Kentucky's adoption and foster care system with the goal of ensuring that a child's time in foster care is limited and that children are returned to family whenever possible. The legislation would also expand the definition of blood relative for child placement and ensure that children in foster

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