

“I See It”

(Cont. from A2)

businesses have been owned and operated by the same families for decades such as Cox Hardware.

Over the years, these owners have also developed a friendship with their customers. But when I go to any one of the Wal-Mart stores in the surrounding counties I never see any familiar employees because Wal-Mart goes through a pretty rapid job rate.

I don't know about the rest of you but I would rather have the “Mayberry Lifestyle” versus the modern lifestyle that currently exists in many other counties and states.

I enjoy living in a county where everybody knows everybody and if they don't know you, they at least know some of your family members. In many more populated areas, people have no idea who their

neighbors are and they all push their carts through the aisles at their local Wal-Mart without talking to anyone else.

I'm thankful for our “mom and pop” stores like Cox Hardware who have provided us with a Mayberry Lifestyle in Rockcastle County throughout the years. I'm also thankful for our other “mom and pop” stores who remain open in our county.

As far as I am concerned, these other counties can have their Wal-Mart because I would pick our “mom and pop” stores over them any day!

“Points East”

(Cont. from A2)

ain't fit to eat unless you have some lettuce and green onions scalded with bacon grease to go with them.

And we wonder why so many of us hillbillies die of strokes and heart attacks.

Keeter's late father-in-

law, Dock Mitchell, was another February gardener. But with Dock, the obsession was precise. There was no just before, just after or close as you could come to it. Peas had to be planted on February even if it fell on a Sunday.

Keeter swears that on at least two occasions when the ground was frozen too hard to till on Valentine's Day, he hauled Dock to the farm supply store where he bought a few bags of potting soil.

He then spread his seed on top of the frozen ground and covered them with a couple inches of his brought-on dirt.

My Uncle Stevie Craft planted peas in the fence row between his yard and the road going up Blair Branch. I've seen him use a red-hot fire-place poker to punch a few holes in frozen soil so he could drop in pea seed. Uncle Stevie, however, harbored no superstitions about February 14. His goal was to be the first one on the holler to claim that he'd planted his peas even if it was just a dozen hills or so.

When I was growing up, you did not buy pea seed. They had to be saved from year to year. What we call snow-peas today, were called salad peas. What we call Sugar Snaps today were called snap peas. You simply could not find them in the stores and nothing I could find to sell door to door had a tender hull. And nobody, at least on Blair Branch, believed that shelling out peas was worth the effort when you could buy Jolly Green Giant's, 12 cans for a dollar.

We thought canned shell peas were a big treat for special Sunday Dinners but I've heard my Mom say many a time, “I know they have to have a special machine because I wouldn't shell out that many peas by hand for fifty cents a can.”

Anyway, I have not planted my peas but I spoke

with Ralph King tonight. Ralph and I used to grow snow peas commercially. We both plan to have peas in or gardens this year and we'll probably have them in the ground before the end of April.

“Memories”

(Cont. from A2)

also the gas commonly added to water to make soda beverages.

Mr. Baker went on to explain that we had to be very careful not to touch the “dry ice” because of its extremely cold temperature – minus 109.3 degrees Fahrenheit. We watched as he used thick gloves to carefully handle the substance. He explained further that “If the ice comes in contact with your skin, it will cause severe skin damage through frostbite.”

One of the reasons that Mr. Baker brought the ice to our classroom was to demonstrate its acutely cold properties by freezing familiar items in order to see how they would react to the super-low temperatures. His first demonstration was to allow a ping pong ball to come in contact with the “dry ice.” Using the massive gloves, he placed the ball onto the surface of the ice and then immediately flung the ball against the blackboard. It exploded into a million pieces. You can only imagine the reaction of teenagers—we were awed and fascinated. I can still hear the shrill squealing coming from the girls. Mr. Baker then advised us, “Tomorrow each of you bring in something that you want to freeze using the dry ice.”

Because of the time that has elapsed since 1961, I am unable to correctly identify which of my classmates brought in which items, but I do remember some of the objects that were part of the next day's demonstration. Although I cannot possibly recall all of the members of that class, I am fairly certain that the following students were enrolled: Charles Shivel, Marion Whitehouse, Sandy Murrell, James Cope, Wayne Ballinger, Lee Price, Dorcus Woodall, and Dwight McNew.

Some of the items that we brought to class reacted more violently – like the ping pong ball, while others were just solidly frozen masses. One of us brought a small carrot, and I remember it also broke into a zillion pieces when Mr. Baker hit it with a hammer. One member of the class wanted to see what would happen to a quarter, and Mr. Baker explained that it would just remain frozen for a while and then simply thaw out and return to its original state, which it indeed did.

Personally, I wanted to see what would happen to a Milky Way bar and to see if it was edible after being frozen. Mr. Baker hit one end of the candy bar with his hammer, and it flew all over the room. The other half was placed in the window to thaw. After it returned to room temperature, he suggested that I take a bite and tell the class what I discovered. Guess what? It tasted like a regular Milky Way bar. (A fellow former teacher

described the use of “dry ice” as being like “Halloween in the classroom.”)

The lesson throughout the demonstration was cool, and we returned to the lecture part of the class. Mr. Baker took the rest of the period to explain the chemical nature of the demonstration. One fact that I remember is called sublimation. Dry Ice morphs directly from a solid to a gas in normal room temperatures without going through a wet liquid stage – which is where it came by the name “dry ice.” I also remember that frozen carbon dioxide sublimates faster than regular

ice melts so it has to be kept in some type of cooler if it is to be kept for a while.

Of course, the most common use of dry ice at a high school was always to create the illusion of fog at a formal dance. It was not easy to get the adults permission to use it because it is so dangerous, but enough begging and pleading would usually do the trick.

So, there is your chemistry lesson for today. Now that wasn't so bad, was it? Don't ever lose sight of the fact that a good teacher is hard to find and often harder still to keep. Without question, Mr. Baker was a keeper.

Legislative Update...

By David Meade,
State Representative
Past the Halfway Point of
2013 Session, and Major
Issues Left to Address

The Kentucky General Assembly passed the halfway point of the 2013 Legislative Session this past week, yet several major issues are left to be resolved.

On Thursday the House State Government Committee heard testimony on Senate Bill 2, which deals with much needed reforms to our state and local government public pension systems. However the committee only discussed the proposal, and didn't vote to pass it out of committee.

Each day we wait to take action on our public pension system, which has an unfunded liability of more than \$33 billion and continues to grow, the deeper the hole we dig for our Commonwealth. In addition one of the other major issues Kentucky must address, comprehensive tax reform, won't be addressed during this session.

It is troubling that some continue to allow these problems to grow and fester in our Commonwealth because of a lack of leadership. We must stop this tactic of delay and deny, and we owe it to you as your representatives to address these issues immediately.

Despite the continued delay, we did get several bills passed over the week. The first bill to gain approval from both the House and Senate was House Bill 7, which authorizes the issuance of bonds to pay for construction and renovation projects at most of Kentucky's public universities. The one change to the

original bill was to ban the schools from raising tuition to pay for construction and renovation of the 11 authorized projects, which include a major renovation of Commonwealth Stadium at the University of Kentucky, and academic buildings and dorms at other colleges.

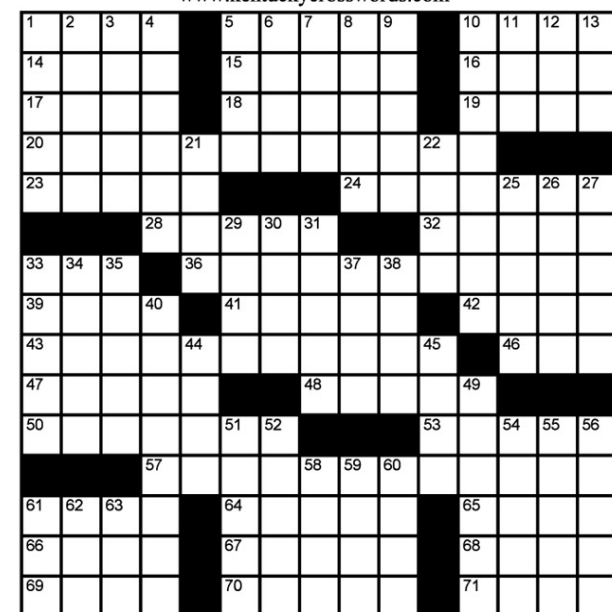
Another bill that gained approval this past week is one that will be beneficial to Kentucky's agricultural industry. House Bill 273, sponsored by Representative Bart Rowland of Tompkinsville and a host of House Republicans and Democrats, would allow the operation of mini-trucks on Kentucky's public highways. The proposal treats mini-trucks the same as ATV's, and would allow farmers to drive on roadways for short distances to transport supplies from one farm to another.

With two weeks to go, bills dealing with human trafficking, allowing farmers to grow industrial hemp in Kentucky, and now restricting in the House remain to be addressed. It appears the end of the 2013 session may only be the beginning to addressing these and other major issues mentioned before the close of this year.

I welcome your comments and concerns for the upcoming session. I can be reached through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181, or you can contact me via e-mail at david.meade@lrc.ky.gov. You can keep track of legislation for the 2013 session through the Kentucky Legislature Home Page at www.lrc.ky.gov.

Kentucky Crossword # 574

www.kentuckycrosswords.com



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ACROSS

- Order request
- Stoppers
- Easy gait
- Start over
- French wine region
- Planets and such
- State openly
- Fixed the squeak
- Knott Co. area, or enthrone
- John Fee founded it in 1855
- Fishhook line
- Fern Michaels' Kentucky Rich, Kentucky Heat and Kentucky Sunrise, e.g.
- Enriches
- Womens' rights leader Abzug
- Sugar amt.
- 1977 Triple Crown winner
- Terminal info
- Popular potato
- Math ratio
- Harlan County lake
- Conclusion
- Left in a hurry
- Psychoanalysis founder
- Mary Reinle Begley might
- Some stadium features
- Night Comes to the Cumberlands author
- Peach or beech
- Garlicky mayonnaise

DOWN

- Kaffiyeh wearers
- Number of states that border Kentucky
- Hold dear
- Stanton, KY is this county's seat
- Gator's cousin
- Buckeye's home
- Restaurant freebie
- Prepared to propose
- Passover meal
- Kentucky, country music singer Patty
- Mine find
- KET's network
- E KY clock setting
- Regrettably
- Wisecrack
- Former ML shortstop, Kentuckian, ___ Beard
- Bandleader Miller
- Swerved off course
- Bride part
- June honorees
- Assistant personnel

33. Adagio and allegro

- Spot
- Jenny Wiley and General Butler, for two
- Norse thunder god
- Old stories
- Former Kentucky Chief Justice Robert F.
- Creative spark
- Spiral-horned antelope
- Kentucky Pee Wee Reese for one
- Hamper
- Courtroom event
- Dolphins' home
- Kentucky, artist Wilson
- List of candidates
- It has its ups and downs
- Congee
- Television
- Major KY power producer
- Gas station abbr.
- Before, in verse

SOLUTION TO KY573





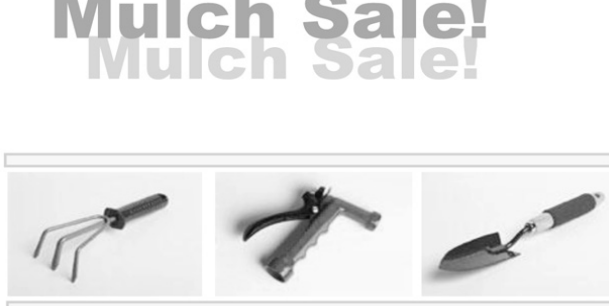
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