



Rep. Arnold tours strip-mining sites

FRUITLAND, Ky.—Members of the state legislature's Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources traveled through mountainous eastern Kentucky June 2 viewing strip-mining sites in the Fruitland area. One of the commitments in Rep. Adrian Arnold (D) of Mt. Sterling, Nicholas county's state representative. The committee is studying the various aspects of strip-mining and reviewing reclamation procedures to determine if legislation is adequate to regulate this type of coal mining. The committee inspected 11 strip-mine sites on a tour which was designed to give the legislators a look at the mining and land reclamation techniques being used in eastern Kentucky. Several of the mine sites visited by the committee were examples of reclamation which had not been handled properly and resulted in erosion and landslides. These sites were suggested to the legislators by eastern Kentucky environmental groups and the Department for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection.

The committee also visited areas where reclamation had been done properly and the land was considered suitable for home building. Rep. Arnold was impressed by some of the reclamation efforts he saw.

"The committee saw some good and some bad reclamation," said Rep. Arnold. "The better coal operators here are doing a good job of reclamation. With the type of terrain they have, they are doing the best job they can."

Arnold thinks if the state legislature is going to enact any new law dealing with strip mining, they will have to wait until the federal strip mining bill is enacted. That bill is being studied by a conference committee where differences between the U.S. Senate version and the House of Representatives version of the bill will be worked out. President Jimmy Carter has said he will sign the legislation.

"The Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee will look at the federal strip mine legislation when it is enacted," Arnold said. "If there are any improvements we can make in that law on a state level, we will try to make them."

State Fair winners

These 44 sewing students will model their handwork in the State Fashion Revue held during the Kentucky State Fair in Louisville in August. They were state winners in the local 4-11 Style Revue held at the elementary school Saturday night. They are: Jewel Shreve, special occasion; Charlene Darrell,

evening dress—Mercury pattern; Evelyn Street, pattern; Sandy Caswell, evening; Kim Simms, evening dress; Kim Simms, underwear, and evening; "Miss Nicholas County" as overall senior winner, ages 12-15; Mary Elizabeth Dake, stitching; Jani Colina Cappel, sportswear; and Beulah Dampier, evening dress—Mercury pattern.

'Foster Story' opens season this week

BARDSTOWN.—"The Stephen Foster Story" opened its 18th season June 11 with new performers in the show's lead roles, says Bert Ballard, general manager of the outdoor musical. Playing "Stephen Foster" will be Michael Ballam, a Utah-born tenor with extensive opera and musical comedy experience. Opposite Ballam in the role of "Harriet" will be Louisville resident Gail Hart.

Ballam is a graduate of Utah State University and received his doctorate from Indiana University this past December. At 10 he performed in numerous opera roles and worked as an instructor of voice.

He has been a guest soloist with the Evansville, Ind., Philharmonic Orchestra, the Milwaukee, Wis. Youth Symphony, and the Utah State University Symphony Band. While traveling with America's Youth in Concert, he performed throughout Europe.

Ms. Hart holds bachelors and masters degrees from the University of South Florida and has studied at the University of Louisville, Hanover College, Hanover, Ind., and the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Performances of "The Stephen Foster Story" begin June 11 and continue nightly, except Mondays, through Sept. 4 at 8:30 p.m. EDT. A Saturday matinee is performed at 2 p.m. in an indoor, air-conditioned theater that is also used for night performances in case of rain. Reservations for "The Stephen Foster Story" and information about nearby attractions are available by writing P.O. Box D, Bardstown, Ky. 40004 or by calling 502-348-5971.

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