

# May is a good month

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"Hail, bounteous May, that dost inspire mirth, and youth, and warm desire."  
So sang John Milton, that great English poet who, no doubt, was inspired to great lengths of rhyme by this wonderful month.

As one scholar says, May names for Maia, the Roman goddess of spring, is a 40-day month, also a beautiful month in which, according to University of Kentucky horticulturists, iris and candytuft reach their peak. It is a time when great peony flowers bend to the ground, when 100-of-the-valley scent the air, bleeding hearts sparkle in the lush green grass, and Virginia bluebells and myrtle transpire their beautiful hues of blue.

The horticulturists add that May is a time of revitalization, a month that causes one to dream; a period when nature's output exceeds gardening input. But, put aside your nostalgic mood for a time, for there are many things to do. There are insects to kill, shrubs to prune, weeds to pull, lawns to feed with fertilizer, and Maypoles to dance around. May is also a fine time to catch a mess of bass, crappie, and bluegills.

Entomologists say bagworm feeding starts in May. Eggs overwinter in the bags, hatch, and the larvae begin feeding and making cases of silk on portions of leaves and twigs which they carry with them. It is at this active stage that sprays of sevin or malathion should be applied. Those that are not killed by the spray attach the cases to twigs and pupate. Females which are wingless, legless, and wormlike, usually never leave the bag. Males emerge as moths and fly to female bags to mate. The eggs are laid in the bag. Overwintering bags or cases should be picked off and destroyed.

Some other jobs to do in May are as follows:  
Start planting gladiolus bulbs about May 1. Plant at weekly intervals in order to have a longer flowering period.  
Prune back Deutzia, Spirea, Forsythia, and Lilacs after bloom. Take out about one-fifth of the old stems at ground level.  
Where mulches have been used, add nitrogen fertilizer. Mulches tie up nitrogen which must be replaced if the mulched plant is to do well.

Deadbed peonies for exhibition-sized blooms. Prick mums, stake tall-growing plants like delphinium, and cut old blooms as they fade.  
From the very earliest times, May has been a month of outdoor activities and festivities. In ancient Rome it fell within the period which was sacred to Flora, goddess of flowers, and flower-decked parades and processions were common, especially on May 1, or "May Day" was celebrated as a pole wreathed in Hawthorn blossoms. The Hawthorn is

the flower of the month and its special charm is the emerald.  
May to the month when everything of the young. It is a good month.

NOTICE TO DELINQUENT 1978 TAXPAYERS  
The following 1978 tax bills upon which there is real estate will be offered for sale at the front door of the courthouse at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 14, 1979. This tax bill claims a subject to the addition of 10 per cent penalty, the cost of advertising, \$1.00 Sheriff's fee, and a distraintment fee of 5 per cent of the tax penalty. The purchaser of a delinquent tax bill will be issued a certificate of delinquency, which becomes a lien upon the real estate described on the page of this tax bill. The date of delinquency is subject to 12 per cent interest per annum from the date of issuance. An advertisement compliance with section 144.007 R.S.

NAME	REAL ESTATE	AMOUNT
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Oliver and Hazel Berry		20.80
Frank Bosley		18.30
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Lena Clark		53.20
William E. Clark and Addie Dodge		506.00
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J. T. Edwards		125.84
James E. Faulkner		62.90
Ernie S. and Lora G. Fuller		308.40
Mary F. and Jerry R. Goble		11.40
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Cora P. Rankin		17.20
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Stammer Stone		114.40
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John Walker, Est.		8.80
John Washington, Est.		22.20
W. Wilcox		85.24
Anthony W. and Dixie Wilcoxson		172.44
Arvonne Williams		13.20
Caravagh Willoughby		3.20
Thomas H. Wilson, Est.		20.20
Nancy Wray		114.44
Raymond and Anna Yarell		20.20
Leonard Young		14.40

**Don't touch!**  
The bright color of ladybugs, beetles, and some other insects suspended in reminds birds that they are unpleasant eating.



Mrs. Lloyd Mealer (center) was guest speaker at the 34th annual meeting of the Nicholas County Homemakers. Shown with Mrs. Mealer are Mrs. Kash Grimes (left), NCH president and Mrs. Willmer Halcorn, county vice-president. — Mercury photo.



Officers of the Nicholas County Homemakers for the coming year are, from left, Mrs. Lavina McFarland, outgoing treasurer; Mrs. Willmer Halcorn, outgoing vice-president; Mrs. William Hardin, secretary (completing the term of the late Mrs. Carl Hughes); Mrs. Kash Grimes, president and Mrs. George Hankin Carter, incoming vice-president. Not present when the picture was made was Lucy Fleet Allison, incoming treasurer. — Photo by Brenda Phillips.

## Lit Class goes to Shakertown

On March 23, 1979, the Kentucky Lit class journeyed to Shakertown, Ky. Mrs. Catherine Canapp and Mrs. Brenda Anderson accompanied the class.  
Although the weather wasn't the best, we saw many interesting things. The Shakers made everything they needed except for glass, blue dye, and insects for red dye. They grew everything they ate. They introduced many new types of seeds and sheep. They made \$50,000 a year from the brooms they made. They made \$10,000 from their silk. They had imported silkworms to make their own silk. They also made \$4,500 a year from the many different types of seeds.  
We dined at the Central House where they used to serve travelers and themselves. The food was delicious and was served Shaker style.  
If you are interested in Kentucky history, Shakertown is a good place to begin learning.  
Mrs. Canapp, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. McMillan and the Nicholas County Board of Education for allowing us to go.

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Demand

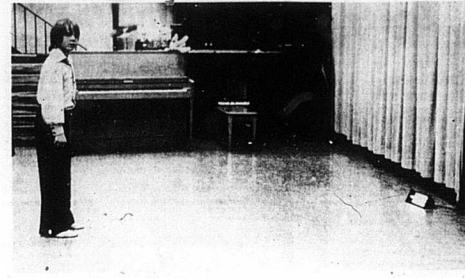
KU's average annual residential use has almost doubled in the last 10 years and has risen more than 40 times since 1927, when the average customer used an estimated 240 kilowatt hours (kwh) per year. By 1968, this average use was 5,051 kwh and had reached 9,948 kwh by the end of 1978.

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**KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY**



Waiting in the wings at the 4-H Talent Show last week was Greg Fryman, who gave an exhibition of disco dancing. After his performance Greg said he did it better in rehearsal but the crowd appreciated his efforts. — Photo by Jeff Kerr.

## Beware of erasable pens!

Consumers should beware of offers of free ink pens with merchandise purchases or using other people's pens to sign legal documents.  
That advice comes from Bob Flashman, Extension specialist in family resource management with the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture.  
The reason for the warning is that a new pen called "Eraser Male" is being marketed by the Paper Mate company. The pen's ink can be erased several days after it is used, depending on the paper, according to Flashman. He notes that a warning on the pen's package warns consumers not to erase checks or other legal documents with the pen.  
"Unfortunately, in a matter of months people will be reading in the newspaper about consumers ordering merchandise from an unscrupulous door-to-door con artist offering a free pen with the merchandise," says the specialist. Or, he adds, they may free their own pen with which the purchaser writes a check.  
If the pen is an Eraser Male, Flashman says the con artist will later erase the amount the purchaser wrote on the check, substituting a higher amount.  
"By the time the consumer finds out, the con artist will be in some other state with the purchaser's money," he says.

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