Lawmaker's roundup

Redistricting data nearly assembled

Real nitty-gritty is begin soon

Matching precincts to census data by city blocks in the state's urban areas should be finished by mid-August and that's when the subcommittee on redistricting's real work will begin.

Rep. Lloyd Clapp, D-Wingo, co-chairman of the subcommittee, said the committee will meet with legislators involved in particular redistricting plans to consider their suggestions. Due to population shifts, Louisville is expected to lose one House seat while Lexington may gain representation. Work on the rural areas will be less complicated, Clapp said, because population in those areas has remained relatively stable.

Recent rumblings from the governor's office have alluded to a special session for reapportionment, but Clapp said he thinks such a session "would be a waste of money. You have problems with redistricting, and a special session is not going to cure those problems," he said.

The subcommittee hopes to submit redistricting plans to the Interim Joint Committee on State Government by the end of October.

Future of synfuel plants questioned

Municipal utilities in "gray" area

No Kentucky synfuels projects have been shelved yet, according to Ron Sanders from the state Department of Energy.

In a meeting of the subcommittee on energy production, marketing and utilization, Sanders said that although the Reagan administration has withdrawn some federal funds from the projects, they have encouraged the experimental industry to seek private funding while relying on indirect support from favorably written regulations.

The subcommittee also announced plans for a public hearing on a Vanceburg municipal utility construction project.

The City of Vanceburg has constructed a power plant ort the Ohio River near the Greenup Lock and Dam. Its federal permit allows the utility to build transmission lines through Greenup County to Vanceburg. But local residents affected by the transmission lines say the 138,000 volt line will run along roads and through front yards, and generally hinder the use of long stretches of valuable flatland, besides complicating road improvements.

A greater problem reflected by the Vanceburg situation is the absence of a state authority to regulate municipal utilities.

Bill to register boarding homes short full committee votes

A bill that would require boarding homes to register with local or regional health departments fell short of the votes needed for approval.

The bill had been recommended unanimously by the subcommittee on long term care, but the Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare's 11-4 vote was two votes shy of the necessary number to pre-file the legislation for the 1982 General Assembly.

As proposed by the subcommittee, the bill requires the registration of homes with local or regional health departments, the payment of a $25 annual fee and inspections by health officers for safe and sanitary conditions.

Solar proposals to be topic of public hearing

Proposed legislation on tax incentives and solar easement will be the major issues discussed in a public hearing on solar utilization to be held Aug. 14 at the State Capitol.

The tax bill provides a $3,000 ceiling and the credit could be carried over for up to three years. Installations would be certified by the Department of Energy before the credit could be claimed.

The amount of credit allowed to special categories of taxpayers such as corporations, lease-holders or developers was set at $3,000 with each corporation considered a taxpayer. Under this provision, corporations could make several solar improvements to a variety of buildings yet only receive one credit.

State Energy Secretary William Sturgill recommended the bill be retroactive to Jan. 1981, ensuring those who have accumulated solar-related bills over a lengthy period of time be reimbursed.

The Special Solar Energy Advisory Committee has also drafted legislation allowing solar owners the right to obtain an easement to permanent direct sunlight. The subcommittee on institutional barriers and incentives identified this as a potential problem area if technology becomes more common in Kentucky.

The committee also. approved a recommendation for a low-cost loan program for moderate-to-low-income citizens and encouraged the use of public buildings for demonstrating solar applications.

An alternative-energy trust fund was endorsed by the subcommittee on research, development, education and information. As proposed, the trust fund would contain $250,000 the first year and $500,000 the second year, to be used for both loan and grant programs relating to development of alternative energy sources.

The bill also provides for a solar development advisory council to be appointed by the governor.

Rep. Bill Weinberg, D-Hindman, chairman of the special committee, is encouraging interested groups and individuals to participate in the August public hearing. Those who wish to speak should contact: Dee Swain, Legislative Research Commission, Capitol Building, Frankfort, Ky. 40601; or call 502-564-8100.

Replay of revue dancers

The Town and Village School of Dance held their dance revue "Fame", June 4, 5 and 6 at the Fine Arts Building in Paris. Local students who performed were, first row left to right, Audra Sparks, Playboy Bunny; Nicole Smoot, Playboy Bunny; Julie Caswell, Rainbow Ballerina; second row, Sara Booth, King Tut; Nikki Smoot, King Tut; Paris Barnes, Old Woman in the Shoe; Andrea Gallerith, Playboy Bunny; third row, Alison Knapke, Gone With the Wind; Cami Clark, Can-Can; Heather Mathes, Gone With the Wind; fourth row, Angie Buckner, Can-Can, and Meg Conley, Can-Can. If you've seen a picture that resembles this, let's hope this one is better. — Mercury photo.

Hopkins outlines local savings under Reagan tax cut plans

Nicholas County will save over $5,800,000 if President Reagan's proposed three-year, 25 percent tax cut is fully accepted by the House of Representatives, according to Sixth District Rep. Larry J. Hopkins, R-Ky.

Hopkins, working in the Sixth District during the Congress' July recess, said Reagan's tax cuts would amount to an average of $1,734 for every Kentucky taxpayer over the next three years, if enacted.

"The actual reduction for Nicholas County would be $3,850,177," Hopkins said. "And this does not include business and corporate tax reductions which should give even greater tax relief to the area."

"As a whole, Kentucky taxpayers would get over $3 billion in tax relief from the personal and business tax cuts. I think this is the kind of tax relief Kentuckians and the rest of the country voted for when they elected Ronald Reagan president.

"It can give our economy the incentives it needs to get moving again. Workers will have more incentive to work and businesses will have more incentive to invest and provide jobs once they can begin working for themselves again, and not the Internal Revenue Service."

Hopkins said the figures were originally based on Reagan's 30 percent tax cut proposal, as calculated for Kentucky by the Office of Management and Budget. The figures were adjusted for the 25 percent cut with the assumption that Kentucky would have the same share of the cut as with a 30 percent reduction.

Hopkins said it was also assumed the

*See Hopkins outlines, page 7

Consumer Commission announces priorities

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced 12 hazard areas and five regulatory agencies which will occupy priority status in the focus of the Commission.

The following list shows the areas CPSC plans to concentrate on. The priority hazard areas are:

Aluminum Wiring. Citing a potentially serious fire hazard from aluminum wiring installed in homes between 1965 and 1973, the Commission has asked a Federal court to declare such wiring systems an imminent hazard and is seeking an order requiring 25 manufacturers of aluminum wiring and electrical devices to give public notice of the hazard and to repair or replace existing wiring systems.

Asbestos. The Commission, through a General Order, is gathering information from manufacturers and importers on asbestos in consumer products and is testing selected products for asbestos release. Inhalable asbestos fibers are associated with a risk of cancer.

Benzidine Congener Dyes. The CPSC staff is developing a draft proposed ban for benzidine, o-tolidine, and o-dianisidine dyes used in some consumer dye products and arts and crafts dyes. These dyes are associated with cancer. The Commission will also examine the use of these dyes in clothing and other textiles to determine whether action is necessary to reduce any hazardous use.

Chain Saws. The Commission is developing a mandatory consumer product safety standard for chain saws to reduce "kickback" injuries. Kickback is caused by the blade tip hitting an obstruction, which causes the saw to kick up and back, sometimes severely cutting the operator.

Coal and Wood Burning Stoves. The Commission has proposed a rule for such stoves that requires safe installation and maintenance information labeling that could help prevent fires. The staff is now evaluating comments on the proposal and the Commission will consider final action on the rule this year.

Cribs. The Commission has proposed an amendment to the crib regulations to reduce the risk of head entrapment in cutout designs of certain crib headboards and footboards.

Electric Blankets. The Commission is monitoring industry's voluntary efforts to upgrade the number and placement of thermostats in electric blankets and will perform test analyses. These efforts are designed to reduce fires from overheating.

Formaldehyde. The Commission has proposed a ban on urea formaldehyde foam (UFF) insulation to reduce the adverse health effects that include respiratory problems and possibly cancer. It also is examining consumer exposure to formaldehyde from other products such as plywood, particle board and textiles.

House Wiring. The Commission is investigating household electrical systems — the cause of 10 percent of home fires — to determine the need for product standards or changes in existing standards and codes.

Indoor Air Pollution. The Commission is working with several other Federal agencies to determine the health and environmental effects of major indoor air pollutants, including carbon monoxide, formaldehyde, radon and nitrogen dioxide. The Commission will identify major sources of home pollution and develop information on acceptable levels. The national trend towards more energy-efficient homes increases the air pollutant problem.

Plastics Flammability. The Commission is developing small-scale test methods to evaluate the hazards of polyurethane foam in consumer products. Some products containing plastic appear to be unusually flammable or to produce unusually toxic gases when they burn.

Upholstered Furniture. The Commission staff has completed the testing phase of its evaluation of an industry voluntary program to produce upholstered furniture more resistant to cigarette ignition and is analyzing the results before presenting them to the Commissioners.

This fiscal year the Commission also is taking an indepth look at several regulatory efforts as follows:

Section 15b (Product Recalls). The Commission is exploring ways to improve the effectiveness of product recalls and is concentrating on removing major hazards from the market.

Injury Data. The staff is working to improve data collection and seeking out other useful sources of information on consumer product hazards.

Product Safety Standards. The Commission will evaluate existing CPSC standards, bans and other regulations to ensure their usefulness and to revoke any no longer necessary.

Consumer Outreach. The Directorate for Communications will continue to extend its information and education outreach efforts to minorities, low-income consumers, the elderly, and other special populations.

Voluntary Standards. The Commission will maintain its support and evaluation of voluntary standards as alternatives and supplements to mandatory regulations.

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Saltwell

By Mrs. Fred Hollar

Roger Riggs and Steve Snapp spent a few days the past week in Springfield, Ill. in interest of the Stanhill Company of Millersburg, where they are employed.

Mrs. Bobby Brady, Mrs. Lillian Beckett and Elizabeth Hill, Lexington, and David Earlywine visited Mrs. Millard Asbury at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Webb and Mike on Sunday.

Miss Melissa Ritchie spent the past week with her aunt, Mrs. Clearance Grey, and Mr. Grey and children Beth and Duane of Walton, Ky. Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Ritchie motored down on Thursday and accompanied their daughter home.

Mrs. Fritz Gaunce and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Price spent Saturday and Sunday with her aunt, Mrs. Dorothy Gaunce and family of Vanceburg. Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Price joined them on Sunday, honoring Mrs. Bobby Price's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan Mattox, Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, Donald Riggs and James Gaunce enjoyed a time of fellowship and prayer service at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Feeback, Carlisle, on Thursday night.

Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Stites, Norman, Ark., and Mrs. Terry Jolly and children, Carlisle, were Tuesday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Withrow and Mike.

Mr. and Mrs. David Eubank, Carlisle, were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Eubank, Cynthiana, and were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Spears Collins.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cain, Claysville, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Larry Woosley and children, Carlisle.

Harold Mattox and Kay Mahoney and Russel Ryan, Lexington, Layne and Gary Hollar were Tuesday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Ellington, London, and Miss Leslie Ann Riggs, Lexington, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Riggs.

Bob Kenney, Covington, spent Friday and Saturday with Gladys Kenney and accompanied Jason and Greg Kenney home after a week's visit here.

Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Sheffield, Wilmore, and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar spent Sunday with Mrs. Hasel Snapp.

Mrs. Chris Day and children visited Mrs. Bobby Brady on Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Stanley W. Caswell, Carlisle, was a Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Gaunce. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Gaunce, Lexington, Mrs. Naomi Gaunce and Mrs. Julian Gaunce were also afternoon visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brulkner and Mrs. Michael Mattox and baby son Jeremy visited Mrs. Mildred Green in Carlisle during the week.

Mrs. Allen Flora and children Jonathan, Stephanie and Christie were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. David Earlywine and Jeff, Millersburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Blakeman of Lexington entertained Martha and Daley Kennedy Monday night in honor of Martha Kennedy's birthday.

Martha and Daley Kennedy were in Lexington Sunday to meet Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kennedy, who returned from three weeks' vacation in Northern Ireland.

Irrigation of corn paid in '80

Irrigation increased corn yields an average of 43 bushels per acre and boosted net profit by $18.50 per acre in tests conducted last summer by the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture at its research and education center near Princeton, Ky.

This was the first year for the irrigation feasibility study on corn. Dr. Don Shurley, Extension farm management specialist, said that the tests are continuing, and that annual analyses will be made over the long-term to assess the agronomic potential and economic feasibility for irrigation in western Kentucky.

"Although corn yields were increased by irrigation last year, results were below expectations," Shurley said. "Even with sufficient moisture, yields were held down — probably from heat stress on the crop."

Irrigation increased production costs by about $133 per acre. The added costs included cash expenses such as for additional fertilizer, seed, fuel and labor plus overhead expenses on the irrigation system of depreciation, interest and insurance.

Despite lower corn yields than expected on the irrigated land, net returns were higher because of the favorable corn price of $3.50 per bushel, according to the farm management specialist.

Costs and returns vary from one farm to another because of differences in fertilizer rates, plant population, corn hybrid planted, and soil type. Shurley said that management is the key to results obtained from irrigating corn — such things as quantity of water applied and proper timing of application.

For Kentucky farmers considering irrigation, Shurley said their biggest challenge is in determining the potential payoff from the practice. "After a drought such as occurred last year, the decision to irrigate seems like an easy one to make," he said. "But in normal moisture years the benefits are more difficult to visualize."

One school of thought says that the farmer benefits from irrigation even in years when moisture is normal and when the irrigation system is used very little. The reasoning is that a reliable source of water for the crop enables the farmer to shoot for top yields.

So far, this year looks like a normal moisture year. There was an abundance of water last spring, and subsoil moisture will be adequate for some time. "If rains continue to come periodically this summer, 1981 could be a year which will test the theory that irrigation pays even in a good growing season," said Shurley.

* * *

About 500 languages were spoken among the North American Indians when Columbus first showed up.

Ky. averages 30 quakes per year

Did you know Kentucky has approximately 30 earthquakes per year? Did you know this state had one of the most violent earthquakes in recorded history? Do you know what to do in the event of an earthquake?

Kentuckians have been very aware of floods and tornadoes because of their frequency in the past years, but last July's earthquake centered near Maysville caused $5 million damage and was only moderate in intensity.

The most seismically active region in North America is the New Madrid zone, of which Western Kentucky is a part.

Several earthquake experts are scheduled to participate in a seminar tomorrow at Ky. Dam Village. State officials from the disaster and emergency services division will talk about preparedness for tremors, recovery and the problems an earthquake presents to local communities and counties.

Kentucky does have a number of tremors each year. The major series of earthquakes that struck the Mississippi Valley in the winter of 1811 and 1812 sent 1,874 separate tremors strong enough to be felt in the Louisville area and created the 23,000-acre Reelfoot Lake in Northwestern Tennessee.

Knowing what to do in the event of an earthquake should be handled in two phases, the shaking and after the shaking. During the shaking: don't panic. The motion is frightening, but unless it shakes something down on top of you, it is harmless. If it catches you indoors, stay indoors and take cover under a desk, table or in doorways and against inside walls. Stay away from glass.

If a quake catches you outside, move away from buildings and utility wires. If you are in a car, stop and stay in the vehicle until the shaking stops.

After the shaking: check your utilities, but do not turn them on because the water, gas or electrical conduits may be cracked. If you smell gas, open windows and shut off the main valve, then leave the building and do not re-enter it until a utility official says it is safe.

Turn on your radio to get the latest emergency bulletins. Don't go sightseeing, and stay off the telephone except for emergency messages. Stay out of damaged buildings because aftershocks can shake them down.

Aside from structural damage and collapse, earthquakes are known to cause compound disasters such as fires from broken gas lines or floods due to broken dams. These problems will be addressed in the seminar.

Lightning kills about twice as many people as do tornadoes.

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