Opinion

Sure signs of spring

Ever so slowly but surely Spring is coming. We've turned the corner on February and are gaining on Easter, the last Sunday in March this year.

Speaking of Easter, that's also the long awaited opening day of Carnico Country Club's dining room, closed since just before Christmas. The Sunday buffet always draws one of the biggest crowds of the year, so the timing is right on the ball.

Marilyn Wilhoit, dining room manager the last two years has accepted another job in her hometown of Cynthiana, we understand, but will be around to assist the yet-to-be named new Major Domo during the early going.

Marilyn's friend and the club's superb cook **Frances King** is returning, along with one or more (Joyce Alexander for sure) of the dining room personnel, and that's good news especially for those of us who enjoy Frances' great desserts.

And speaking of sweet things, boxes of Girl Scout cookies arrived in town Friday, but delivered a little too late for distribution that day. Sales are off to a good start, to the delight of cookie chairman **Bobbie Reynolds**, troop leaders and the girls who drum up customers.

I have highgree. They are simply the best, freshest cookies in all the world. It's impossible not to indulge, unfortunately, but at least it's for a good cause.

•••

Here comes Halley, again

After a brief hiatus of hiding on the far side of the sun, Halley's Comet is back in the news these days. And, if anyone's still interested in its less than spectacular return, the best viewing of this once-every 76-years visitor is expected between March 10 and 21 and early to mid-April, we understand.

The comet will be visible low in the morning sky only slightly above the horizon in North America. Find a spot on a high hill, away from city light and there's a good chance the comet can be seen. Tomorrow through March 20, with no moon to interfere, the dark skies should help display the comet in all its glory.

As the days pass it will move slightly higher, eventually appearing about 10 degrees up at the first light of dawn. This month the comet will appear here about one and a half hours before sunrise which is scheduled for 7:07 on Friday and a minute or two later each day thereafter. It has been suggested that those really serious about seeing the phenomenon should arrive at their appointed location about two hours before sunrise, giving your eyes time to get adjusted to the dark.

If you have a pair of binoculars they will help you find the constellations Capricornus and the teapot of Sagittarius. The comet will be near Capricornus on Friday and then drift slowly each day towards Sagittarius. Supposedly the tail will grow longer each day, making for a marvelous sight.

All this is well and good if you are an early, early riser. Along with clear skies, a little warmer weather would be a big help. Might be a fun trip for scout troops...or for some of those hearty souls who braved the wind and cold to fish on Lake Carnico over the weekend.

Brrrrr!

•••

Fame is fleeting...

Results of the recently published Commonwealth of Kentucky Poll showed Gov. **Martha Layne Collins** won hands down in the category of 'What Well Known Person in Kentucky Do You Most Admire and Respect?'

Martha Layne, with 24.2 percent of the vote of those polled, easily outdistanced **John Y. Brown** with 8.0, **Happy Chandler** with 4.0, **Wendell Ford** 3.6, **Harvey Sloane** 2.3, **Mitch McConnell** 1.7, **Eddie Sutton** 1.7, **Denny Crum** 1.2 and **Adolph Rupp** 1.1. How's that? Upstarts Sutton and Crum outpolling the late Baron Rupp?

Guess it falls under the what-have-you-done-for-me-lately category. How quickly we forget.

•••

More on Mrs. Mansour

At least three more local residents have been "involved" in the **Annie Laurie Riley Mansour** ongoing remembrances. Mrs. **Maud Hardin** has written her about the time she recalls Annie Laurie leading her by hand from Christian Church Sunday School (where Mrs. Hardin taught the youngsters) to the Riley home on Locust Street to show her "my pretty new red velvet shoes" Annie Laurie was so proud of.

Mrs. **Alma Clinkenbeard** received a letter in reply to her initial epistle in which, among other things, Mrs. Clinkenbeard noted that there are a number of Lebanese people living in Carlisle. Annie Laurie's husband **Farris**, a teacher of foreign languages, was born in Maine of Lebanese parents. While on a tour of Europe before he died in 1976, Farris and Annie Laurie visited his parent's birthplace, a small village outside Beirut near Damascus.

Mrs. **Mansour** says, it also the birthplace of Simone Joseph's great, great, great grandfather. But that's another story which we'll get to at a later date, hopefully.

A timely suggestion

A friend who shall remain anonymous has suggested that now might be a good time to get a county zoning board formed there, in time to deal with enactment of any problems that may result from the unlimited number of "permits" expected to be available for Nicholas County.

Several years ago when county zoning was proposed the measure attracted little interest. This time around it might have some support.

At noon Monday, our unofficial tabulations showed 17 persons had filed for beer licenses and 11 to sell package liquor. And more are expected.

Here Abouts

...with Emily A. Wolf

P.R.E.P. has another meaning

...Prompt Response Expounding Pap

You are at a meeting, sitting back comfortably in your seat, when the moderator asks for your commentary.

The subject is one with which you have only vaguely defined opinions, and everyone's looking at you, waiting for a rapier thrust of the intellect, a bolt of incisive logic. Or at least something that borders on the reasonable side.

At such a time, you can:

— Feign a faint, and exit on a bent shield.

— Climb awkwardly to your feet, beet red, and grope, lamely: "Uh, I haven't, heh-h, really read up on this subject. I'll have to pass."

— Stand up, cooly deliver a few suave declarations, and sit back down, your reputation for mental acuity unsullied. That is, if, sir, you are conversant with P.R.E.P., the rhetorical formula for delivering impromptu speeches that sound great.

Ruth Littlejohn says if you know P.R.E.P., you can rumble all night, baby.

P.R.E.P. says the woman responsible for the marketing of continuing education services at the Berks Campus of Penn State, is nothing more than P-point, R-reason, E-example, P-point.

P.R.E.P. is a fire escape for folks asked to make instant public talks that will not damage your P.R. or your reputation — if you got one of those things.

"P.R.E.P. works," Littlejohn said. "It really does. People think because I work for Penn State, I know everything. So I'm always being called on to speak. If it's a subject I'm not prepared to deal with, I use the formula."

Diligently applied, it's a great way to get off the hook, she claims.

"Using P.R.E.P., even if you are faced with a subject you know nothing about," Ruth says, "you can bring it around by remarking, 'Hmm, that is a subject of which I know nothing. However, permit me to express to you another subject of which I know nothing.'

Forthwith, the teacher explains, you launch into a topic with which you are familiar and dazzle your audience, a frequent political gambit which, in the electronic media, is referred to, wryly, as "must air."

Littlejohn, a former insurance training manager, challenged one person in the audience to propose a topic — any topic — and she would reply in P.R.E.P. ese.

"The Pledge," she was told.

Immediately, the P.R.E.P. wheels began to turn:

P-point — "I know nothing of football. But I do know that the Pledge has become quite a media event. He has captured the imagination of America.

R-reason — "He has captured America's imagination because he is big, he is glib, he moves well, and I think the video footage of Shuffle' helped do that.

E-example — "Look at the videotape he's done. The commercials he has done. As a matter of fact, I saw him on the Johnny Carson Show. That has made him a media event.

P-point — "My point is that we have taken a human being with a gap between his teeth, who weighs 300 pounds, and have made him a media event."

She went on: "Must you actually come to a conclusion at the end of P.R.E.P.? You can if you like," Ruth said. "The final point is reinforcement. It's the same as the closing point. When I open with a statement, or a pout, I am trying to defend it. So I give a reason and an example. Then, I repeat what the point is — and stop, unless there's a lot of time to fill. Really, P.R.E.P. is just a gift of gab which helps you look good on your feet."

Another means of P.R.E.P. would be Prompt Response Expounding Pap. Isn't it wonderful how education has turned B.S. into something respectable?

—RM—

A former friend of mine, who got his head caught in a Friday door and suffered considerable brain damage, is trying to enhance my reputation by telling people I remind him of W.C. Fields. Rumors like that start when you leave the bathroom window open and gargle with Wyoroot Listerine.

"If they ever refilm "The Bank Dick," I'm nominating you for the part," he snickered. And, if Tarzan is revived, I'm pushing him for Cheeta.

But I have to admit that could improve my image with bankers. Which is somewhere on the red side of the ledger between the slow and the no column. At the rate I'm going now, I could never approach Bill Fields' contribution to the banking business.

Fields' distrust of doctors, lawyers and banks was legend. He used every means he could to outwit them, at least in his own mind. In order to outfox bankers' cunning designs, he deposited small sums of money in banks scattered all over the world, even stepping off a transcontinental train to open an account while the engine was taking on water.

Some of these accounts were under his own name, but most of them were credited to Figley J. Whitesides or Dr. Otis Gudge or Larson E. Whipsnade, names he conjured up in the course of his travels. He was said to have over 700 bank accounts or safe deposit boxes in such far-flung cities as London, Paris, Sydney, Capetown and Morocco. It was speculated he lost at least $50,000 in the Berlin bombing.

Did W.C. never took anyone into his confidence about his financial status and his bundle of bank books was never found after his death, so it is pretty certain a sizeable fortune is still stashed away in various banks under assumed names.

He insisted his unique deposit system not only insured him against conniving bankers, but he also made it difficult for income tax agents to keep in touch for the government's slice of the take. "Uncle Whiskers will strike down even a child and take away his marbles," he would glower.

I would use Fields' method of spreading my wealth around so thin the tax people wouldn't notice it, but by the time I can get my fingers on it, it's already spread so thin even I don't notice it.

"Maybe you ought to explain your stand on whiskey, before that rupture blood vessel on your nose gives other people a similar resemblance between you and that old boonehound," my wife suggested.

"Ah-ha, yes, my little chickadee, I'll tell them my stand on that golden elixir," I said.

"Now, if when you say whiskey, you mean the devil's brew, the poison of science, the bloody monster that defiles innocence, yea, literally takes the bread from the mouths of babes; if you mean the evil drink that topples Christian man and woman from the pinnacles of righteousness, gracious living into the bottomless pit of degradation and despair, shame and joylessness and hopelessness, then certainly I am against it with all my power.

"But, if when you say whiskey, you mean the oil of conversation, the philosophic wine, the stuff that is consumed when good fellows get together, that puts a song in their hearts and laughter on their lips and the warm glow of contentment in their eyes; if you mean Christmas cheer, if you mean the stimulating drink that puts the spring in an old gentleman's step on a frosty morning; if you mean the drink that enables a man to magnify his joy, and his happiness, and to forget, if only for a little while, life's great tragedies and heartbreaks and sorrows, if you mean that drink, the sale of which pours into our treasuries untold millions of dollars, which are used to provide tender care for our little crippled children, our blind, our deaf, our dumb, our pitiful aged and infirm, to build highways, hospitals and schools, then certainly I am in favor of it."

Doctors meeting at a regional medical convention heard a colleague recommend intake of a stiff shot of booze as an effective and quick stand-off for the chills. As Alexander Woolcott said, "I must get up and stand up."

Onward, upward.

Down Memory Lane

... from the Mercury files of bygone years

10 years ago

Thursday, March 11, 1976

Northside County High School Junior Varsity cheerleaders were named first place cheerleading winners during the 37th District Tournament last week. Competitors were Bourbon County, Paris and Harrison County. This is the first cheerleading trophy won at the high school. Members of the squad are Patty Fryman, Joanie Owings, Carla Curtsinger, Paula Foster, Ronda Goodman and Charlotte Wagoner with Joni Elder as sponsor.

Approximately 180 persons attended the hospital public forum March 2 held by the Johnson-Mathers Home Inc. board at the request of the Fiscal Court. The Court has been asked by the board to take the necessary steps in order that a new hospital and Primary Care Center can be built at the nursing home site. The estimated cost to build is $3.2 million. The figure includes $768,000 bonds, still outstanding on the nursing home. It also includes the furnishing of the new hospital and $400,000 to build the Primary Care Center.

Dr. S. Evans Brown, minister of the Carlisle Presbyterian Church for the past five and one-half years, has announced he will retire from the active ministry Sunday, March 21, after 43 years service.

Billy C. House has been elected an assistant vice-president of First National Bank, according to Andy Dudley, president. House, a staff member of the bank since June 1973, is currently responsible for commercial loan administration.

Franklin Vaughn was promoted to Assistant Cashier.

Tuesday, March 2, from manager of Southern States Carlisle Cooperative to Maryland Regional Feed Supervisor. Michael Phillips, Cynthiana, was appointed manager of Carlisle Southern States cooperative to replace Vaughn.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Joe Small Jr., a son, Bradley Wayne, Feb. 9 at Bourbon County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Everett Secrist, a son, Shawn Christopher, March 5 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Roger Potter, Ewing, a son, Mark Kenton, March 3 at Nicholas County Hospital.

DIED — Allie S. Shumate, 79, Paris, March 4. — Raymond Allen, 67, Erlanger, March 4 at Memorial Hospital, Covington. — Arthur Turney Scaggs, 82, Maysville, Feb. 29 at Daniel Boone Convalescent Home in Morehead.

20 years ago

Thursday, March 10, 1966

Mrs. Thomas Johnson of Carlisle, is among the 103 students on the "A" Honor Roll at Georgetown College for the fall semester of 1965-66, it is announced by registrar, Mrs. John DeMoisey. A student must earn a grade point standing of 3.5-4.0 to be placed on the "A" Honor Roll.

Meeting in regular session Thursday evening, March 3, the Nicholas County Board of Education discussed rescinding of motions or contracts, hired themselves an unbiased attorney on a unanimous vote, ordered the secretary to prepare bids for Title I program materials and unanimously deferred action on motion number 218 until the special meeting of March 22. The first order of business was the hiring of an attorney, John Swinford, of Harrison County at a salary of $150 per month.

A new section of U.S. 68 in Mason County and resurfacing of Ky. 32 in Fleming and Nicholas Counties will be advertised for construction Friday. The work, to be done this year, will cost about $650,000 for U.S. 68 and $220,000 for resurfacing of Ky. 32. The new section of U.S. 68 will extend from just north of Lees Creek to the south end of the bridge over the North Fork of the Licking River, a distance of 2.476 miles. Resurfacing of Ky. 32 will improve the main travel route between Flemingsburg and Carlisle.

Mrs. Charles Hopkins, Community Woman's Club member, Mrs. William Mathes, Junior Woman's Club member, Miss Jane Talbert, sponsored by Community Woman's Club, and Miss Elizabeth Ann Clay, sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club, will model their handmade costumes at the KFWC district contest at Morehead Saturday, March 12.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. William Earl Medley, a daughter, Mary Ann, Feb. 27 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Rondall George, a son, Darren Allen, March 5 at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. James Fryman, Millersburg, a son, Steven Allen, March 5 at Nicholas County Hospital.

DIED — William G. Hamm, 86, March 4 at Nicholas County Hospital. — Mrs. Louise Waugh, 54, wife of Clifton Waugh, March 5 at her grocery store on Wolf Mart. — Hardie R. Feebeck, 66, March 3. — Mrs. Lutie W. George, 76, March 4 at Harrison Nursing Home, Lexington. — Mrs. Ida Earlywine Robbins, Cranden, Wis., March 4. — Rev. S.H. Mann, 76, Sunday at Walton Methodist Church. — Mrs. Ethel Fisher Peratt, 76, Walnut Creek, Calif., widow of Charles O. Peratt, Feb. 24. — Mrs. Marie Swartz Buchanan, 76, McClure, Va., widow of Walter Glenn Buchanan, according to word received here Wednesday.

40 years ago

Thursday, March 14, 1946

The Carlisle Muldraw cagers closed their 1945-46 basketball campaign on March 1, losing 41-23 to North Middletown in the semi-finals of the district tournament. The Musketeers had gained the semi-final round the preceding night by downing Bourbon County High 43-38.

A fire of undetermined origin badly damaged the home of Dr. B.F. Reynolds on Sycamore Street here Tuesday morning. While the loss was covered by insurance, no estimate has been placed on the extent of damage. The blaze apparently started near the top of the building which had just been redecorated. Much of the roof was burned and the interior suffered from the effects of smoke and water.

The Scott-Kendall Sales Company of Carlisle just about rang the bell last week at a sale conducted in Bourbon County when 30 acres of land was sold to Mrs. Joe Lee O'Connell for $17,960. The total figure lacked just $40 of being $600 an acre.

Plans are being made for the construction of a dam on the Licking River near Falmouth which would forsake serious damage to farmlands in Nicholas and other counties, it was reportedly taken at Frankfort Monday night when the Kentucky House of Representatives by a vote of 56-23 passed a concurrent resolution to memorialize Congress to withdraw the plans.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Toy, Paris, a daughter, Saturday at Johnson Memorial Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Soper, a son, Harold Clark, Sunday at Paris. — To Mr. and Mrs. Arcy Hunter, a daughter, March 2 at Bethesda Hospital, Cincinnati. — To Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Ratliff, Bourbon, a son, Eugene Jr., Feb. 25.

MARRIED — Miss Rose Cord Mitchell and W.M. Wulff, March 3 at the residence of the Rev. Paul Reagor at Carlisle, Calif.

DIED — Michael Wilson Wetherington, 72, Sunday at Carlisle. — Mrs. Mary Nettie Arnold Hamilton, 76, wife of Marcus L. Thomas, Friday at home in Owingsville. — Forrest Daltell, 78, Thursday at his home on Mulberry Street. — Mrs. Gertrude Maher Ryan, 38, wife of Joe Ryan, Sunday at home in Bourbon County. — Edgar F. Wilson, 78, Friday at home. — Mrs. Lee Arvens — Rosencrans Ritchie, Sunday in Cincinnati. — Mrs. Artie Small Fuller, 79, widow of James A. Fuller, Tuesday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A.J. Butler of Headquarters.

50 years ago

Thursday, March 12, 1936

M.C. Shearer has submitted his resignation to the Carlisle City School Board as athletic coach and teacher in the Carlisle High School, effective April 1. Mr. Shearer will leave the first of the month to attend school for several months, after which he will return to Carlisle where he plans to enter business.

One of the most successful basketball tournaments ever held in Carlisle closed Saturday night, with the crowning of the Paris Greyhounds as the winners of the 6th District Tournament and with Ruddles Mills as the runner-up. These two teams will represent this district in the 12th Regional Tournament in Paris March 12, 13 and 14.

Fifteen people participated Monday night in the first of a series of amateur programs to be given at the city school during the month of March. They are a six-piece band from Mt. Sterling, Norma Jean Hughes, Pauline Stone, Duncan Wood Murray, Albert Sweazy, Will George Scapp, Pauline Wilson, Opal McElfresh, Ruth and Lucille Smoot, Charles Hamm and Hoascall Borders.

Joe Frank Conley, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Conley, left last week for Washington to take a federal position. Mr. Conley has been associated with his father in the practice of law since his graduation from the University of Kentucky last year.

Fire believed to have been caused by sparks from a chimney set fire to the roof of the residence of Jesse Osterman on the Upper Jacktown Pike Sunday morning about 7 o'clock and about one-fourth of the roof was burned before the blaze was extinguished. Neighbors, with buckets of water, aided Mr. Ockerman in putting out the blaze.

Plans are being made for the construction of a dam on the Licking River near Falmouth which would forsake serious damage to farmlands in Nicholas and other counties, it was reportedly taken at Frankfort Monday night when the Kentucky House of Representatives by a vote of 56-23 passed a concurrent resolution to memorialize Congress to withdraw the plans.

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Letters

68th renewal

To The Carlisle Mercury:

You will find a check for the Mercury for one year. I have had the paper in my home since 1918 and it is the only way that I ever do hear anything about my friends, and I did leave my home state in 1924.

Thank you,
W. Jesse Dorton
Box 134
Cedarville, Oh 45314

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They made House calls

Four Nicholas County students served as pages in the House of Representatives Feb. 2 in Frankfort, at the invitation of Rep. Adrion Arnold. Shown with Sen. Ed Ford, left, are Jennifer Hardin, daughter of Paul and Charlotte Hardin; Derek Zachory, son of David and Lisa Zachory; Cynthia Fryman, daughter of Doug and Nida Fryman; Arnold, and Allen Hardin, son of the Paul Hardins. — Photo submitted

Ford's Footnotes

Next superintendent is now up to voters

by Senator Ed Ford

Kentuckians will have an opportunity to decide if the Superintendent of Public Instruction should be an appointed office.

A senate bill previously passed by our body cleared the House last week and will be on the ballot in November as a change in our Constitution. The majority of the legislature believes that this change would take some of the politics out of education and remove the potential for conflict between future Governors and the Chief Educator of our State.

Budgets, transient merchants and security guards were also among the myriad issues put under the legislative microscope in the Senate last week.

We approved budgets for the legislative and judicial branches of state government by identical 34 to 1 tallies.

AS PASSED, the budget for the judicial branch calls for salary increases for district judges and the implementations of a juvenile code to govern the way children are handled in our state court system. We also authorized adding two new district judgeships.

The judiciary's budget for the next two fiscal years would be some $147 million. The legislative budget, on the other hand, calls for spending nearly $34.8 million over two years.

The legislative budget contains money for the next regular session of the General Assembly in 1988, as well as funds to cover the costs of next year's organizational session.

The legislative budget we passed also contains some items that should help hold down the cost of operating the Legislature. For instance, we included language that would limit the number of temporary employees hired to perform many duties that are required when the General Assembly is in session. Our budget calls for 10 percent fewer employees to be hired in 1988 than are working during this session.

WE ALSO placed a cap on the number of permanent employees who work year-round for the Legislative Research Commission, and we called for limits on the travel of legislators and staff at taxpayers' expense.

Those two budgets are now being considered by the House of Representatives.

Last week, we approved a bill that had originated in the House requiring transient merchants to obtain permits—and in some cases, post bonds.

In the past, an itinerant peddler could set up "shop" on the corner of an abandoned lot, sell his furniture or crafts, then pack up and leave. If the bill becomes law, those merchants would have to obtain a permit from the county clerk, and in cases where goods offered for sale cost more than $1,500, a surety bond must be posted. We hope that this bill will put a crimp in the style of "fly-by-night" operators who too often plague our communities.

WE ALSO approved a bill that would require most security agencies to be licensed. Security guards have been largely unregulated in Kentucky, and this bill would set up a board to establish regulations for the industry.

It's hard to believe there are only a few more weeks left in this legislative session. Just a few days remain in which to file new bills in the Senate. Our workload is increasing dramatically and we will be spending hours each day climbing the mountain of bills that has been placed before us.

I would welcome hearing from you on the issues facing us as we head down the session's home stretch. I can be reached by calling Frankfort toll-free at 1-800-372-7181.

Lawmakers reach 'Landmark' decision

by Rep. Adrian Arnold

This week marks the end of the 35th legislative day, leaving a possible 25 days left in the 1986 General Assembly calendar. Next Wednesday is the final day to file House bills.

At this point in the session, we pause to consider what bills have been filed and which ones will more than likely see legislative action.

Also, as budget hearings draw to a close, legislators can anticipate a look at the final version of the state budget that will most likely be coming for a vote soon.

Landmark legislation that, I believe, reaffirms legislative commitment to education reform in the state was passed by House members this week. Senate Bill 10 would allow the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be appointed by the Governor rather than the current elected method. The state board of education would also be appointed for staggered terms. The measure is an attempt to remove political maneuvering from the interworkings of education. This legislation is a creditable milestone for the children of Kentucky in the struggle to achieve educational improvements.

The House of Representatives also approved a measure that would earmark $70 million of surplus state funds for low-interest loans through banks and other lenders to farmers and small businesses.

The bill would require the money to be split between agriculture and small business and lent for one year. Equal amounts would be made available in the seven congressional districts.

The maximum loan would be $50,000 and the lending limit would be one year. The state would make money available to a bank or other lenders at four percent below market rate. The lender would add one and a half percentage points to cover its costs, plus a closing fee of 0.75 percent to be paid to the State Treasury.

House members also approved a bill that would set a 4 p.m. filing deadline on the final day for filing as a primary election candidate. This would be an odd no specific hour, but the secretary of state's office has traditionally stayed open until midnight on the last day.

Agriculture bills

House bill 144 would give the Agriculture Commission rather than the Board of Agriculture the power to appoint the state veterinarian.

House bill 401 would increase the half-cent check-off per bushel of soybeans to one cent, subject to referendum.

The controversial lottery issue won the high stakes this week when members of the House State Government Committee approved a measure that would place before state voters the proposal to amend the Kentucky Constitution to allow a state lottery. Similar bills have appeared in past sessions but public sentiment plus the fact many surrounding states have already legalized the lottery has made the issue even more heated this session.

The lottery could generate $123 million a year in profits after prizes and administrative costs are paid.

If you plan to visit the General Assembly while it is in session, please contact me so that I can make arrangements for your visit to be as informative and interesting as possible. I can obtain passes for the gallery so that you can observe an actual session of the House of Representatives. To contact me, write to: Kentucky House of Representatives, Legislative Offices, Capitol Annex, Frankfort, Ky. 40601, or call the toll-free legislative message line provided by the General Assembly. That number is 1-800-372-7181.

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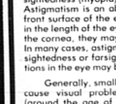

What Is Astigmatism?

Astigmatism is not at all the same as nearsightedness (myopia) or farsightedness (hyperopia). Astigmatism is an abnormality in the shape of the front surface of the eye rather than an abnormality in the length of the eyeball. Many rays of light leave the cornea, they may focus unevenly on the retina. In many cases, astigmatism is accompanied by nearsightedness or farsightedness. Astigmatic imperfections in the eye may be inherited.

Generally, small amounts of astigmatism do not cause visual problems until the pre-teen years (around the age of 12). It may not interfere with visual clarity, but may produce headaches, fatigue and/or squinting. When a moderate or high degree of astigmatism exists, the patient will usually experience blurred or distorted vision.

Astigmatism is corrected by properly prescribed glasses. In some cases, contact lenses can also comfortably correct astigmatism.

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