

Kim's Comments
 Kim Hamilton
 News Editor

NO SALE!

During holiday, no popping at local businesses

You would think that on a holiday such as Independence Day, business owners and managers, even home office personnel of large corporations would be compelled to hold special promotions or sales to attract the wandering, touring customer.

Hey, I have an idea, they could at least open their doors for business!

But no, they apparently would rather lose those potential sales.

In this a new concept - retailers taking holidays off? Excuse me, but unless the nature of the human being has changed, on holidays, people go out looking for things to do. They're looking for entertainment and they just might spend some money - at your place, if you're open.

If your store is open and closed at 6 p.m., I won't criticize you so harshly, but those are still not the best hours on the planet, especially on a recreational-time holiday like the Fourth.

Most stores around here don't stay open late enough in the first place.

There seem to be several businesses in Morehead who act as though they don't feel the need to cater to customers.

Why, they'll just close, thank you.

Hats off to Kroger, Boomerang's, Cutters and all the other retailers for being open for business, and having a sense of what consumers do on holidays.

On Wednesday, July 4, around 7 p.m., I went to Kroger Center to shop for groceries.

Knowing that I had a couple hours, I was hoping to go to a couple other stores there to browse. But they were all closed.

I stopped my urge to shop right there.

Kroger Center was a retail ghost town except for its anchor store and the two locally-owned businesses.

Hello, there was a fireworks shop getting ready to happen and people were arriving a couple hours early. I bet they would have spent some spare time in a store or two, as opposed to sitting and staring at each other.

I know it rained, and some club and civic organization vendors were knocked out of putting up outdoor stands for the day, and I can understand that. But to close entire stores, owned by larger



Commentary
Following the rules of the road

When the redneck young man in the new pickup screamed at me and called me grandpa, my first reaction was the one I frequent salute to generations now to convey just the right amount of proper respect in an situation.

It was communication across the ages.

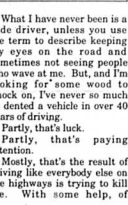
He must have been late for something, and was angry because I wasn't cut in front of the on-coming traffic to complete a left turn in the middle of Morehead.

I was going back to work after lunch, and was not the least bit frantic.

The young man's impatience and what I reckon is called "road rage" these days caught me a little off guard, and about all I could do was signal him that I'd heard and understood.

Calling me "Grandpa" is not a major insult. There are 6 grandchildren. I've been a grandchild since 1988.

Head of the Hammer
 Barry Barker
 Guest Columnist



What I have never been in a rude driver, unless you use the term to describe keeping my eyes on the road and sometimes not seeing people who wave at me. But, and I'm looking for some wood to knock on, I've never so much as denied a vehicle in over 40 years of driving.

Partly, that's luck. Partly, that's the result of driving like everybody else on the highways is trying to kill me. With some help, of

course, from some really early teen cow pasture training in how to handle a car in a skid, slide, or spin. Morning dew makes for a decent training course.

That was followed by gravel roads, where every move can become a rock-slinging skid, where any driver who survived learned to handle his vehicle.

Those old instincts still come in handy, as in a recent near head-on crash on the Mountain Parkway. There was a car coming, in the correct lane, one coming at about 70 in my lane, a car close behind and a guard rail to the right. Old reflexes and a new Impala's sporty suspension saved us, and after I slowed down to shiver and get sick the driver from behind pulled up beside us, looked over, and flipped a respectful salute.

Mostly, that's the result of driving like everybody else on the highways is trying to kill me. With some help, of

This salute was for staying alive, for somehow escaping near-certain mayhem, and maybe also for not turning around and chasing the offender down for a deserved thrashing.

At the time, I was trembling too much to think about anything else.

I still have an occasional nightmare.

Grandpa can still drive, and he still has good reflexes, but there's nothing fun about a close call on the highway.

Avoiding the problems and emergency situations is still a much better approach than relying on skill and luck, which many young drivers do.

Which I once did, to some degree.

No more. A retrained young blood can yell and scream all he wants. I'll still drive by the rules.

Partly, that's luck. Partly, that's the result of driving like everybody else on the highways is trying to kill me. With some help, of

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Kentucky Afield: Resident goose season; record fish

Restoration efforts to establish resident Canada geese have paid off tremendously in Kentucky. The resident Canada goose population is slightly over 30,000 birds in Kentucky.

The excellent health of the Canada goose flock prompted the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) to establish a new resident goose season for 2001. This first-ever season opens on Saturday, Sept. 8 and closes on Wednesday, Sept. 12. This season is open statewide with the exception of the West-central and Northeast Canada goose zones. The bag limit is two resident Canada geese daily and the possession limit is four Canada geese.

"We're not at our objective yet," said KDFWR wildlife director Roy Grimes, "but some areas have more geese than others and we are having some degradation problems." He explained those areas that are closed to the resident geese are the Northeast and West-central Canada goose zones, have fewer numbers of geese. The management goal is to expand the flock in those areas.

The September time frame was chosen as to not interfere with migrant geese who arrive in Kentucky later in the fall.

"Federal rules mandate that we have the season before Sept. 15," Grimes explained. He said Kentucky's resident geese are called residents because they are born in Kentucky, but they are migrants to winter farther south when the water freezes.

Resident Canada geese inhabit all types of water bodies in the state. They are found around larger creeks and rivers, small and large reservoirs and farm ponds. Strategies to pursue these resident Canada geese are much different than the traditional winter time methods used for migrating Canada geese.

A hunter needs to locate the resident geese they plan to hunt ahead of time. "Set up to intercept these resident geese as they leave their roosting areas to feed or when they return from feeding to roost. Farms with several ponds may provide excellent jump shooting opportunities."

Make sure to secure permission to hunt private lands before hunting. A hunting license, state

waterfowl permit and a federal waterfowl stamp are required to hunt the resident Canada goose season. For more information, contact the KDFWR at 1-800-858-1549.

New state record fish New state records have been established for the blue sucker, goldfish (mooey) and the most recent, the skipjack herring.

Howard Hillard of Livermore was fishing a curly tailed jig below lock and dam #2 on the lower Green River on April 28. A fish hit that was 23 and 1/2 inches long. After a fight, Hillard landed a 4 pound 15 ounce blue sucker that is the new state record for the species. This fish surpassed Lanny Owens' a pound 8 ounce record set in 1995.

Mark Smith was fishing pool five of the Kentucky River in Woodford County on April 21 when a fish struck his Mister Wobbly Eyes jig tipped with a wax worm. The unusual catch turned out to be the new state record goldfish (mooey). The fish was 18 inches long and weighed 2 pounds and 84 cents. This fish surpassed Chris Hoekins 1.92 pound record also taken from the Kentucky River on

August 20, 1999. Greg Cary was casting a Yo-Zuri minnow lure on the Cumberland River below Wolf Creek Dam on May 19. He landed a 19 and one quarter inch skipjack herring that weighed 2 pounds and 13 ounces. His catch broke previous record of 2 pounds 4 23-25 of the 2001 Kentucky Sport Fishing and Boating State record fish, consult page 4, 23-25 of the 2001 Kentucky Sport Fishing and Boating Guide.

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