

Tuition taking larger part of family income

Recent national news stories paint a bleak picture of the affordability of a college education. A recent study by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education revealed that college tuition is taking a larger share of family income, outpacing financial aid and state support. In 1980, tuition averaged 13 percent of income for lower income families; today it costs 25 percent - nearly double. Even worse, a major cut in the federal student loan program has been proposed, making it even more difficult for families to afford college.

In Kentucky, however, we are working to buck this national trend. In fact, today's state programs enable nearly every Kentucky family to afford a college education for their children.

If you are a regular reader of this column, you know that Kentucky's Affordable Prepaid Tuition (KAPT) makes it easier for families to afford a college education, by guaranteeing the cost of tomorrow's tuition at today's lower

It's Your Money



Jonathan Miller
State Treasurer

prices, all with a completely tax-free investment. The program has been an outstanding success; in our first six months, more than 4200 children across the state were enrolled in KAPT. But you may not know about several other terrific programs that make college more affordable for Kentuckians. That's why this month we are launching a new web site - www.collegeKY.com - a one-stop shopping source for Kentucky families to learn about programs that can help them fund a college education. At www.collegeKY.com, you can find out more about:

- KAPT - Find out when enrollment periods will resume, and how you can

sign up newborns all year long.

The Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust (KESPT), which can also help families save for college tax-free. With KESPT, the method, schedule, and amount of contributions are determined by the account owner, and the Trust offers competitive savings rates. KESPT is administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA), on whose board I serve.

The Kentucky Education Excellence Scholarship (KEES), which provides college scholarships to Kentucky students based on their high school grades. Under Governor Patton's leadership, the General Assembly recently assured that most of the profits of the Kentucky Lottery would support higher education through KEES and need-based programs. As a Lottery Board member, I am working to assure the highest possible return to these vital

programs.

• Need-based grant and loan programs, administered by KHEAA and the Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation ("The Student Loan People"), provide lower- to middle-income families a variety of options for affording higher education.

All Kentucky parents and grandparents should use www.collegeKY.com as a valuable resource. This is true no matter how young your children are - indeed, the earlier you begin to plan for your children's education, the better prepared you will be when the time arrives to start paying tuition.

This month, I will be joined by legislators and education leaders on a bus tour across the state to promote the new website. I hope you will join us when we come to your community. If not, I hope you will find www.collegeKY.com as a helpful resource in guaranteeing your children a brighter future.

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ON THE RECORD

continued from 7

Equicredit Corp. of KY vs. David Reynolds et al, motion hour, sustained order.

Shelter Insurance Companies vs. Kathy Mitchell, motion hour, sustained default judgment.

First Union Home Equity Bank, N.A. vs. Donald Sexton et al, oral hearing passed.

Vicky Gail Busseff vs. Shawn M. Busseff, domestic, hearing June 5, order to be submitted.

Deanna J. McCarty vs. Douglas W. McCarty, domestic, final hearing June 5, order to be submitted.

Rachel R. Morris vs. Darrin K. Morris, domestic, final hearing held, final decree.

Gladys L. Scott vs. Chester Scott, motion hour, agreed order.

Ronald Biddle,

arraignment, probation violation, defendant to continue on probation.

Jeffrey Dunn, pretrial conference, R.S.P., pretrial conference June 5.

Jeremy Dunn, pretrial conference, R.S.P., pretrial conference June 5.

Larry H. Earlywine, show cause hearing, bench warrant.

Gene Russell Turney, pretrial conference, 2 counts of criminal possession forged instrument, sustained order to be submitted.

Sandy Willoughby, pretrial conference, R.S.P., pretrial conference June 5.

Robert Allen Lyons vs. Melanie Ann Lyons, domestic, continued, agreed order.

Amber Hogg Schanding vs. David Bradley Schanding, domestic violence, agree order to be submitted.

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed bids will be received by the Department of Highways in the Division of Contract Procurement and/or the Auditorium located on the 11th Floor of the State Office Building, Frankfort, Kentucky until 10:00 A.M. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME on the 31st DAY OF MAY, 2002, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read for the improvement of:

CSBR 02 2000046
NICHOLAS COUNTY
Asphalt Surface on Various Roads. (See proposal for additional information)

Bid proposals for all projects will be available at the Division of Contract Procurement until 2:00 P.M. Daylight Savings Time, preceding the day of the letting of Friday, May 31, 2002. Bid proposals for all projects will be available at a cost of \$10 each and remittance payable to the State Treasurer of Kentucky must accompany request for proposals (NON-REFUNDABLE). BID PROPOSALS ARE ISSUED TO PRE-QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS.

Specimen proposals for all projects will be available to all interested parties at a cost of \$10 each (NON-REFUNDABLE). Specimen proposals cannot be used for building.

Fighting to Protect Our Children

As Senator, RJ recently sponsored legislation to strengthen Kentucky's laws against child abuse and neglect.



The Pucketts: Our aim is to protect children and others who can't protect themselves." Mrs. Puckett said.

As State Representative, he sponsored "Bryan's Law," named after 11-month-old Bryan Edward Puckett of Winchester, Kentucky, who died in July 1999 from the heat when left locked in a vehicle by his babysitter.

Prior to this new legislation, "the ordinances were just open to interpretation, and there was nothing

that actually addressed this situation," says Palmer. After their only child's death, Michelle and William Puckett were bewildered to learn that their babysitter had only been charged with second-degree manslaughter and criminal abuse. They contacted Representative Palmer and together they set out to change the law.

Bryan's Law fills the void by making it a felony when a child under 8-years-old, the elderly, or a physically or mentally challenged adult dies from being left unattended in a vehicle.

Palmer: "I'd be happy if no one is ever prosecuted under Bryan's Law. The sole purpose of this bill is to protect our children."

Your opinions are very important to me and I would like to hear from you regarding the legislative matters before us in Frankfort. If you have questions or if I can be of assistance to you, please contact me at 1-800-372-7181 in Frankfort or at my home 859-737-2945.

Re-Elect R.J. Palmer on May 28th...

and send this dynamic homegrown leader back to the Kentucky Senate.

RJ Palmer
Senator, 28th District

Bath, Bourbon, Clark, Harrison, Montgomery & Nicholas Counties

www.rjpalmer.net

Paid for by Palmer for Senate Campaign Fund, Thomas Lynch, CPA, Treasurer

Read 'Ron's Rants' on page 4!

See 37th district tourney brackets on page 2!

NICHOLAS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS: "The Right Kind of House"

Mrs. Sadie Grimes will only sell her family's home to the right kind of buyer. Mr. Waterbury will buy the right kind of house at any price. This haunting tale of greed and murder recounts what occurs when these two people finally meet.

Show time: May 10, 7:00 pm

Admission: \$1.00 adults
50¢ students
Children 5 and under FREE