

OPINION

Bluegrass Beacon

Beauty and the gambling beast
Beauty isn't the only thing in the eye of the beholder. So, too, is the impact that expanded gambling would have on Kentucky.

If I was still wearing my reporter's hat, I would be trying to arrange an interview with Mr. Beshear. Sadly, I expect the exchange would go something like this: Reporter: So, Mr. Beshear, what's your plan for solving Kentucky's education crisis? Steve Beshear: We need to increase funding. Gaming money would do that. R: But that's not a new idea. You promised new ideas. SB: Well, I mean expand gaming, which will raise \$600 million more a year. R: But that's not a new idea. Politicians have said that for years. What about ideas that don't require additional money, like holding schools accountable for how many of their students are improving academically and offering parents a choice of schools for their kids. SB: Uh... Uh... R: Surely, with a half-billion in additional gaming money coming in, taxpayers could expect tax cuts boosting our economy and giving Kentuckians more control of their earnings, couldn't they?

They? Which one would a Beshear administration cut first - the motor-vehicle tax? How about inheritance tax? Perhaps you could lead the charge against the hated Alternative Minimum Calculation? Which one will you tackle first, sir? SB: Next question, son. R: Your Web site suggests Kentuckians' lives can be improved primarily through expanded gambling. Yet the current budget is 25 percent larger than any spending plan offered during the Patton administration and contains a record level of debt. How much revenue is needed to adequately fund Frankfort's empire... Hey where'd he go? I guess the interview's over. By laying down a big bet on the prospects for expanded gaming, Beshear hands his opponent, incumbent Gov. Ernie Fletcher, a life-line. Fletcher gets the opportunity to simply rally against the hard-won gains that look across the Ohio River into Indiana. That is a new - and beautiful - idea Kentucky could adopt to fund badly needed roads and even bridges, at least in the eyes of this beholder. - Jim Waters is the director of policy and communications for the Bluegrass Institute, Kentucky's free-market think tank. You can reach him at jwaters@bipp.org. You can read previously published columns at www.bipp.org.

Steve's Report

As part of maturing process of becoming adults, youth pass through several years of passage. For many, the first tangible token of independence and freedom is the driver's license, especially for teenagers who are fortunate enough to have their own set of wheels. The senior year of high school is another meaningful milestone. Senior prom and graduation mark the end of an era. From the age of 17 to 18, kids get up every day and go to school. And then, suddenly, that part of their life is over. When the school experience comes to an end, our kids come face to face with their adulthood, whether they are ready for it or not. For me, turning 18 and voting for the first time was another big deal. Voting made me feel like an integral part of society. I have a vivid imagination. I remember listening to the hotly contested issues being debated at that time and picturing the decision coming down to a single deciding vote - mine! These daysdreams may not

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because we're heading off to college or because we're simply ready to strike out on our own. Either way requires a leap of faith. We are making a statement - and that is the driver's license, especially for teenagers who are fortunate enough to have their own set of wheels. The senior year of high school is another meaningful milestone. Senior prom and graduation mark the end of an era. From the age of 17 to 18, kids get up every day and go to school. And then, suddenly, that part of their life is over. When the school experience comes to an end, our kids come face to face with their adulthood, whether they are ready for it or not. For me, turning 18 and voting for the first time was another big deal. Voting made me feel like an integral part of society. I have a vivid imagination. I remember listening to the hotly contested issues being debated at that time and picturing the decision coming down to a single deciding vote - mine! These daysdreams may not

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GENERAL NEWS

UPDATE Continued from Page 4
Globe's Rating System, and LEED energy saving programs
Creation of an education loan forgiveness for the production of biofuel, biomass, ethanol, and cellulose.
Creation of the Kentucky Renewable Energy Fund in cooperation with the Kentucky Science and Technology Council.
Charging public universities with the responsibility of collaborating on a recommendation to the General Assembly a strategy for the creation of a Center for Renewable Energy and Environmental Stewardship.
Using sales tax incentives similar to those already in use by the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet to be mastered for individual companies include an income tax credit, incentives

designed to encourage employment of Kentucky workers, and severance tax incentives for new production used specifically at the facility. All of the incentives are subject to "claw-back" provisions.
Makings tax credits available to existing businesses willing to retrofit their facilities in a way that maintains baseline production levels while reducing energy consumption by 15 percent.
We know we have to change the way we think about energy consumption and production and the effect those things have on Kentucky and its environment.
I believe that House Bill 1 begins to address those realities with innovative incentives, energy efficiency, environmental provisions, new educational programs, and agricultural opportunities.

REVIEW Continued from Page 5
on the right path.
We'll return to Frankfort in January for our next session, but I always welcome your comments and suggestions. Feel free to contact me in Frankfort through the Legislative Message Line at 1-800-372-7181, or e-mail me at rjpalmer@ky.gov. You can also find my contact information at http://www.ky.gov/legis/legcom/legcom.htm.
Kyeson and I were joined by Senator Rep. Palmer, representatives Clark, Bourbon, Harrison, Nicholas, Montgomery and Bath counties.
We think this bill puts us

Labor Day Antiques Auction
Monday, September 3 10:00 am.
Mattox Auction Center 3740 Maysville Road, Carlisle, KY

Another outstanding collection for your pleasure!
Inspection: Sunday, September 21 10 to 5 p.m.
Visit our website at www.mattoxrealstate.com for additional information.

Real estate listings: 145 N. Broadway \$85,000, 2631 Dixie Highway \$115,000, 312 Kennedy Heights \$100,000, 627 Southgrass Road \$120,000, 101 McCracken St. \$42,000, 145 N. Broadway \$85,000, 2631 Dixie Highway \$115,000, 312 Kennedy Heights \$100,000, 627 Southgrass Road \$120,000, 101 McCracken St. \$42,000, 213 W. Mulberry \$67,000.

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TALKIN' Continued from Page 4
Bush told us the invasion and occupation would last a number of weeks. It has now lasted longer than World War II. It's time to start withdrawing our troops.
Do indeed call your Congressmen as those radical television commercials urge. Tell them that the American people speak in the last election. We want our troops phased out of Iraq. Tell them they can spend

MEMORIES Continued from Page 3
McDonald of Carlisle, is recovering from a painful injury that occurred Tuesday morning when the bicycle he was riding collided with a car at the intersection of Jennings Corner in Headquarters. McDonald was rushed to the Bourbon County Hospital where a double fracture to the left leg, Walt Dancy's 'Davy Crockett and the River Boys' starring Fess Parker and Buddy Ebsen is now playing at the Bourbon Drive-In Theatre. Mr. and Mrs. William E. Fryman of Carlisle, announced the birth of a son, Steven Eric, born Aug. 21, "Inland in the Sun" starring James Mason and Joan Fontaine showing in an emporium and color at the Lyric Theatre in Carlisle. Van Camp's pork and beans are two cans for 29 cents at Neal's Square Deal Grocery.

The Annual Mann - Minton - Davis Reunion will be Sept. 9th at the Fleming-Mason Gazebo Shelter in Flemingsburg
Family and Friends are welcome
Potluck Lunch will be at Noon

NOTICE OF HEARING
NICHOLAS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
The Nicholas County Board of Education will have a public hearing in the Nicholas County Board of Education meeting room on Wednesday, September 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. to hear public comments regarding a proposed building fund tax levy of 5.8 cents (i.e. 58 Cents per \$1000 of property valuation) as authorized by the General Assembly in the 2006-08 Biennial Budget.

Further Notice is hereby given: A special meeting of the Nicholas County Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, September 5, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of setting tax levy for 2007-08 school year for real estate, tangible, motor vehicle, and utility taxes.

The General Assembly has required publication of this advertisement and the information contained herein.
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