# **Outdoor Truths**

## By GARY MILLER gary@outdoortruths.org

Unlike some other types of hunting, pursuing the turkey is very enjoyable doing with a partner; especially if one is doing the calling and the other is doing the shooting. Most people who have hunted turkey for a period of time will tell you they enjoy calling in a bird as much as shooting one. Not only do you get to share in a successful shot but the caller gets a sense of pride in knowing that if it weren't for his calling the shot would've never been made. Most of the time, shooting a turkey is less about a hunter's skill and more about the caller's mastery of the tools of the trade. I don't consider myself an expert caller, but I figure if I can fool a gobbler I have at least accomplished somewhat of an ability to use a call. I

may never win a national calling championship but I can enjoy a deep fried turkey breast. Now don't get me wrong, I'm sure I've missed my share of opportunities because I'm no expert, but I'm not going to stay home because I'm not as good as the next guy. I really wish I were a better caller. I've bought videos and cds, just trying to hear and replicate the sounds, but it seems many other hunters just have a greater predisposition for quality calling, than I do. I'm just glad I've not let my lack of calling ability detour me from the turkey woods.

These thoughts remind me of another type of calling that I enjoy, and that's calling hunters to a closer walk with God. I admit that when I listen to other "callers," sometimes I get discouraged because I'm just not as good as they are. I've wished that God had made me like the guy on an old commercial about a

financial group – E.F Hutton. The ditty goes, "When E.F. Hutton speaks, everyone listens." But God has not gifted me in that way. He made me who I am gifted in some ways, lacking in others. He made you the same way. You now have a choice and it's the same choice I had in hunting turkey; either to stay home because of my lack of ability, or continue to do what I love to do, the best I can. Again, you know what I chose.

Has something or someone told you that you are unable, ungifted, or unqualified? Do you consider yourself a novice in the midst of experts? Are you letting the shadow of someone else's greatness hide your own light? Remember, it's just a ploy to keep you at home so that you never enjoy the successes that God has in store, for just you.

# Legislature continued from page 5



21st DISTRICT Rep. Bart Rowland, R-Tompkinsville, presented Senate Bill 114 to the House of Representatives on March 15. The measure increases the required minimum tort liability coverage for motor vehicle insurance arising out of property damage to \$25,000. The bill passed the House and now heads to the Governor to be signed into law. Photo courtesy of House Majority Communications.

the plans be approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

There are currently about 100 nuclear reactors across 30 U.S. states.

Senate Bill 11 has been delivered to the governor's office to be signed into law.

Other bills sent to the governor's office this week include the following:

•Senate Bill 89 would make treatment to help Kentuckians quit smoking or stop using other tobacco products more easily accessed under health insurance plans or Medicaid.

•House Bill 38 would ban registered sex offenders from public playgrounds unless they have written permission from the local governing body.

• House Bill 410, known as the REAL ID Bill, would create a voluntary travel ID-an enhanced driver's license - that could be used to board airplanes and enter certain federal facilities, including certain military facilities, as of Jan. 1, 2019. The legislation is aimed at creating a form of state-issued identification that meets federal anti-terrorism standards. The bill also spells out rules for the issuance of a "standard" driver's license, permit or state personal ID card.

· House Bill 314 would tighten the reporting of toxicology screenings by requiring certain hospitals to report positive drug screenings to the state's Cabinet for Health and Family Services. The measure is part of an ongoing effort to fight prescription drug abuse in Kentucky.

The General Assembly's 2017 session is now in its veto recess, the period of time in which lawmakers return to their home districts and give time for the governor to consider casting vetoes. Lawmakers are scheduled to return to the Capitol on March 29 and 30 for the final days of the 2017 legislative session.

Till then, legislators are interested in getting feedback on the issues confronting our state. If you'd like to share your thoughts and ideas with state lawmakers, please call the General Assembly's toll-free message line at (800) 372-7181.

# Battlefields continued from page 2

# <u>jim@windstream.net</u>

Volunteers will pick up trash along roads and trails, work on the fence around the main parking lot, and clean restrooms. A historical speaker will give a short lecture on the Battle of Wildcat Mountain. Light food and drinks will be provided.

# Columbus-Belmont State Park, Columbus, 9:00 a.m.

Contact: Michael Lynch at <u>cindy.lynch@ky.gov</u> Volunteers will plant flowers, work on trails and fences, clear limbs and pick up trash. Lunch will be provided. (Note: This Park Day site is holding its event on Saturday, April 29, 2017.)

Fort Boone Civil War Battle Site, Frankfort, 9:00 a.m. Contact: Chuck Bogart at <a href="mailto:com">cmabogart@aol.com</a> Volunteers will assist with historic programs, clea ing brush, trail maintenance and trash removal. Drinks will be provided.

Activities include clearing brush, minor trail maintenance, trash pickup, landscaping and tidying outdoor areas. Lunch will be provided.

## Hart County Historical Society Battle for the Bridge Civil War Preserve, Munfordville, 9:00 a.m.

Contact: Macy McDowell at hartmuseum@scrtc. com

Volunteers will help with weeding around walkways, tidying inside Woodson House and Summer Kitchen and painting at Summer Kitchen. There will be self-guided tours of the battlefield trails and fort, and light food and drinks will be provided.

#### James A. Ramage Civil War Museum, Fort Wright, 9:00 a.m.

reinbrink at kreinbrinkjmo@

## Middle Creek National Battlefield, Prestonsburg, 10:00 a.m.

Contact: Frank Fitzpatrick at <a href="mailto:fdfitz@gmail.com">fdfitz@gmail.com</a> Clean up the battlefield and grounds by landscaping, maintaining trails, repairing fences, removing trash and clearing brush. Lunch will be provided.

Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site, Perryville, 8:00 a.m.

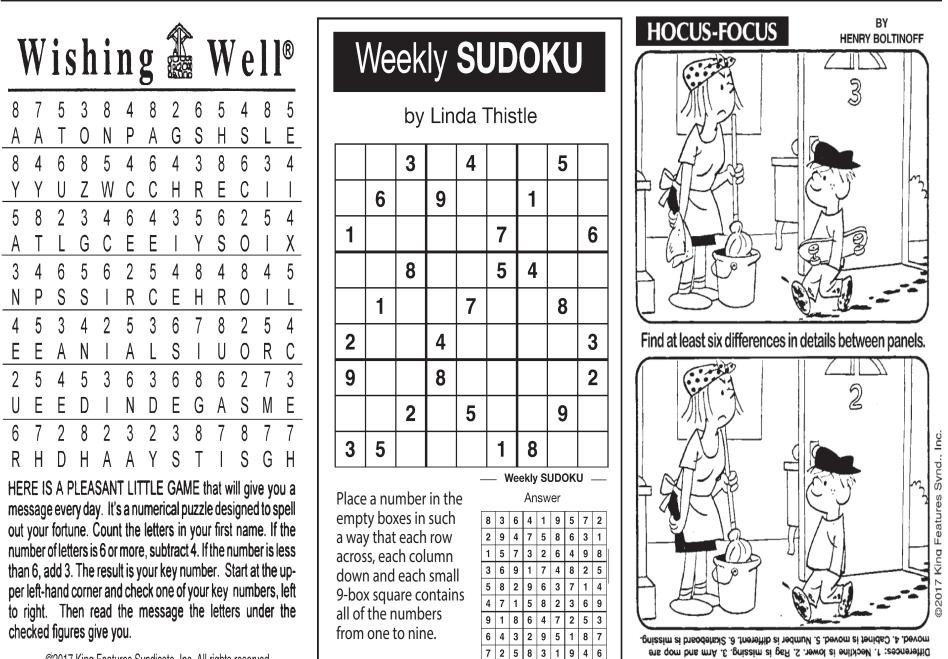
Contact: Joni House at joan.house@ky.gov Volunteers will clear brush, clean up trails and remove trash, followed by lunch and a free museum visit.

The Civil War Trust is the premier nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation of America's hallowed battlegrounds. Although primarily focused on the protection of Civil War battlefields through its Campaign 1776 initiative, the Trust also seeks to save the battlefields connected to the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. To date, the Trust has preserved nearly 45,000 acres of battlefield land in 23 states, including 2,476 acres in Kentucky. Learn more at Civilwar.org.

Fort Duffield Park and Historic Site, West Point, 10:00 a.m. Contact: Connie Morris at fortduffield@twc.com

Contact: 4 gmail.com

Volunteers will work on landscaping, trail maintenance, planting, picking up sticks and interior cleanup. Light food and drinks will be provided for volunteers.



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