

Notes to Consider...

Arts & Leisure: The Shooting Sports,
Special Report: Rep. Goforth's HB 30 Would Bring
The KRS Into Line With Our Constitution
By G.S. Morris — 7 January 2019



State Rep. Robert Goforth's House Bill 30 would expand the state's recognition of the concealed carry of deadly weapons (CCDW) by Kentuckians with standard carry permits. Currently, active/retired state judges/justices; Commonwealth's attorneys and assistant Commonwealth's attorneys; county attorneys and assistant county attorneys; and law enforcement personnel need only avoid federally prohibited property and jails while protecting themselves and their families via their CCDW permits.

Rep. Goforth's proposed bill would extend to all other permit holders similar broad ability to most effectively protect themselves and their families. The number of locations standard permit holders would need to avoid if HB 30 became law would be whittled down to federally prohibited property; jails; courtrooms; and police/sheriff's offices. All holders of a Kentucky CCDW Permit would enjoy concealed carry reciprocity with currently 37 other states.

HB 30 would also make Kentucky the fourteenth state (AK, AZ, AR, KS, ME, MS, MO, NH, VT, and WV) in the Union to recognize the right of citizens to exercise their Second Amendment right to bear arms in a concealed manner without asking permission from the state. Kentucky residents could carry a firearm concealed without a permit at any location (unless otherwise restricted by federal or state law) where a firearm could constitutionally be carried openly (similar to the states of ID, ND, and WY). Kentuckians who chose not to obtain a permit would be prohibited by federal law from carrying a firearm on school property, and would enjoy concealed carry reciprocity with currently only nine other states.

Constitutionally, there are no public locations (daycares, schools, universities, bars, etc.) in the Commonwealth of Kentucky where the state legislature may infringe (or empower another entity to infringe) upon the bearing of arms openly; the legislature's only authority concerns the concealed carry of weapons. Section 1, Article 7 of the Kentucky State Constitution's Bill of Rights is crystal clear:

The right to bear arms in defense of themselves and of the State, subject to the power of the General Assembly to enact laws to prevent persons from carrying concealed weapons.

Rep. Goforth has put forth common sense legislation built upon the civil rights principle that a right not exercised is a right lost. HB 30 would extend to all law abiding Kentucky CCDW permit holders expanded abilities to legally protect themselves and their families as previously only afforded to the "special" people. What can you do to help make this bill become law? Call 1-800-372-7181 and request all legislators be urged to support the passage of HB 30.

Commissioner Lewis to Begin Series of Monthly School Visits and Discussions

Will visit the Jackson County Area Technology Center on July 25th

(FRANKFORT, KY) – On Thursday, Jan. 17, Kentucky Education Commissioner Wayne Lewis will begin a monthly series of visits to Kentucky Area Technology Centers (ATCs), high, middle and elementary schools across the state. Thursday morning's visits will be to Bullitt County, where the commissioner and other state education officials will make stops at Bernheim Middle School, Lebanon Junction Elementary and the Bullitt County Area Technology Center. Thursday afternoon the visits will be at Nelson County Area Technology Center, Foster Heights Middle School and Old Kentucky Home Elementary School.

"I am looking forward to seeing learning in action during my visits," said Lewis. "The best part of my job is having the opportunity to spend time in schools with students, educators, and leaders. I get to see teaching and learning in action, and in addition to students and educators, engage with parents and community stakeholders. There is no substitute for personally spending time in classrooms and in local Kentucky communities."

During the tour, several of the ATCs will host "Conversations with the Commissioner," an open forum during which local stakeholders are encouraged to discuss issues including but not limited to school accountability, career and technical education (CTE), and graduation requirements.

"I am particularly interested in discussing career and technical education with students, educators, and community stakeholders. CTE has to become a central part of high school education in Kentucky. Advancing CTE across Kentucky is necessary if we are to ensure that graduates are prepared to take advantage of career opportunities and that the state has the skilled workforce needed to attract and retain good paying jobs," said Lewis. "I am excited about the opportunity to hear firsthand about challenges and opportunities as we chart a course forward together."

The ATC visits will be at the following locations and "Conversations with the Commissioner" will be held at the ATCs indicated in bold. The additional elementary, middle and high school visits will be scheduled in the coming months.

McKee

Trade Store Now Open

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Saturday 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Located at the old Lord's Gym in McKee

Inspirational Thoughts Into God's Word

By Lynetta Hunter

God has a spiritual justice system in place, which declares that humanity has already been convicted of a crime; sin. The evidence has been gathered and guilt has been determined beyond a reasonable doubt. (Ro. 3:23 All have sinned and come short of the glory of God).

His method is not like an earthly sentencing; His final judgment on humanity hasn't taken place yet. It will one day, but until then the trial is still in progress. Jesus is still advocating, calling sinners to repentance, and releasing people to be free from guilt and shame.

Before the sacrificial works of Jesus; crucifixion, burial, and resurrection, Gods ways of justice included an eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth, along with many other individual laws that now seem harsh. After Jesus fulfilled His purpose and completed the purpose for the law, the justice system was altered. Now, He is the proprietor of justice. There's no need for retaliation as paying dues, for He paid the price for all wrongdoing to be made right, justifying those who believe by faith, and because He forgives without retribution, we can forgive one another without revenge.

Jesus is justification, His grace is greater than the guilt of sin, His sacrifice was honored by God and blots out the unworthiness of mankind, and His blood cleanses all unrighteousness, making wrongs right and punishment unnecessary, for by His stripes we are forgiven and healed (Is. 53).

Yards to Paradise The Edible Exotic Yard

By Max Phelps

Part of the pleasure of gardening and landscaping is trying to make it look like it's yours, that it belongs with your house, with your lifestyle; giving it your personality. Additional items like privacy, relaxation, not all-consuming of your time, and picking some food for fresh snacks, or for putting away for future use add multiple dimensions that go way beyond grass and a couple trees. This topic today is for you if you would like a garden or orchard, but don't have the room, or you think it doesn't look fitting in your neighborhood.

Let's look at taking plants that are unusual or exotic, and hopefully attractive also, and using them instead of the same old trees and shrubbery so many other yards have. It can be easy as A,B,C, so let us begin with an "A" and discover some planting ideas that might work in your yard.

Apples come in hundreds of sizes, shapes, and so do the trees. Some have white, some pink, and some red blooms. And all bear fruit that is useful for something...even if it's only for making juice or jelly or letting wildlife have it. Dwarfing trees give you a choice of how large you'd want for a tree, or how small. Asparagus is easy to grow, you just need to till the soil deep (or make a raised bed) and give it regular fertilizer...and you harvest it for awhile, then let it grow large where it blooms, has red berries, and may look like a rather large clump of grass as it waves in the breeze.

Beans that climb lattice of fencing or a birdhouse pole can have pink or red blooms, and also have edible green or shelled beans. Blueberries, blackberries, buffaloberries. And bamboo.

I wouldn't say blackberries are that pretty...but you can probably work a few vines in without anyone hardly noticing them.

Cactus, as in prickly pear, has a delicious fruit. Cranberries are diminutive small simievergreen vines that clump or creep on the ground. Currant bushes can be a 5 foot backdrop to shorter bushes or flowers. Chestnut trees could replace an elm or a flowering pear.

Dogwoods, the cornelian cherry and the kousa, have fruits that are quite delicious. You should try them! Daylilies—don't forget the buds and blooms and other parts are edible. (Chinese restaurants often have soup using daylily flowers.) Elderberries make wonderful jelly.

Figs, filberts, ginkgo and gooseberries are great edible assets but seldom utilized.

Honeyberry (a.k.a. Haskap or edible honeysuckle bushes) is a nice bush new to American gardeners in recent years. Has oblong blueberry-like berries that ripen even before strawberries.

Jujubes are a wonderful fruit, as anyone from China, Korea, or parts of India can attest. They also make nice small long-lived fruiting trees that require little attention.

Medlar, hayhaw, mulberry, magnolia vine, plus maples if you want to make maple syrup.

Oaks make stately trees, and bear nuts wildlife love, and you can eat, too. Oregon grape holly has yellow blooms, blue fruits, and large evergreen leaves. And there's olive trees for zones 7 and higher.

PawPaws, persimmon and passion fruits, along with peach and pecan trees. You see black walnuts, often planted by squirrels, in yards: why not pecans? They do require two trees that are compatible...but sometimes hickories will cross pollinate pecans. And, did you know the seeds of pine trees are almost all edible? Pinyon pine and the stone pines have the biggest seeds, along with the aruncaria from Chile.

Quince, roses (the 'hips' or fruits are good for you), serviceberries, seaberrries, strawberries. We can almost teach a child the ABC's while picking things in the yard.

Teaberry (wintergreen) thimbleberry, tayberry, tea (the camellia that gives us tea leaves)--not to mention turnips and tulips and tomatoes—what abundance we can grow in place of the commonly used shrubbery in most landscape schemes.

Viburnum, violets, walnuts. The hard snowball bush, viburnum trilobum or cranberry viburnum, makes a shrub the size of a burning bush, and almost as pretty. But it doesn't trim into a hedge very well.

Yucca roots, yams, and yellowhorn. No "z's"? Well there is zizyphus jujuba or the jujube.

Your yard may not be the place to try growing all of these exotic edibles mentioned today, but can you image a planted area or two using a grouping of one or more of the species we touched upon here today?

The author is a landscaper. Contact: rockcastles.net and rockcastles@gmail.com

