

Summer 1992

# UA51/3/3 Fanlight Vol. 8, Nos. 3 & 4

Kentucky Library & Museum

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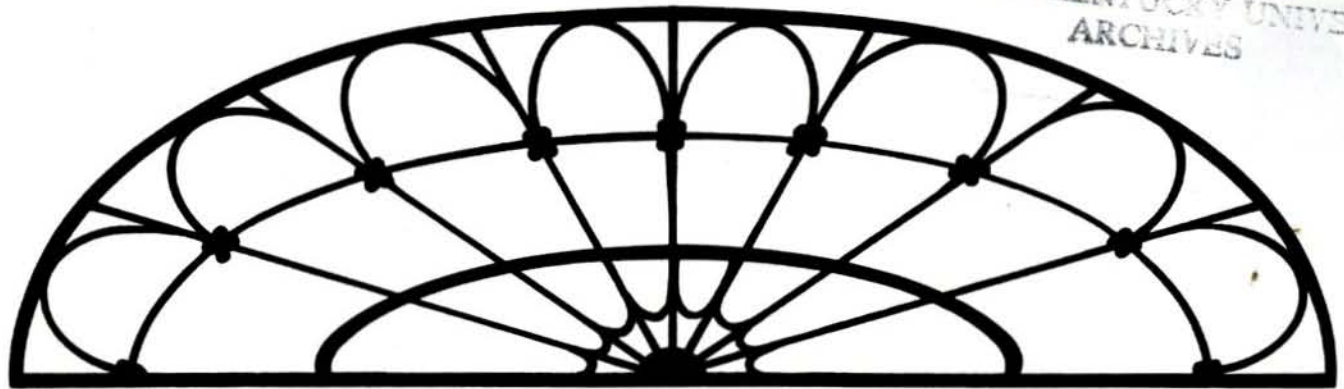
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WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY  
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# THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 8, No. 3 and 4

A Publication of Western Kentucky University Libraries

Summer/Fall, 1992







The  
Kentucky  
Museum's

# Oktoberfest

OKTOBERFEST '92 is past, but memories of a wonderful, fun-filled evening still linger. The success of the museum's third annual fundraiser can be attributed to many:

- American National Bank, Minit Mart Foods and Turner Industries for sponsoring the event, and Harlin and Parker law firm for providing additional funding.
- Decades, Mariah's and Bolton's Landing for complimentary dinners; Opryland and Horse Cave Theatre for admission tickets; and Pow-

Lite Electric for the ceiling fan, all of which were raffle prizes.

- Committee members David and Lucinda Anderson, Anneliese Bays, Michael Binder, Donna Blackburn, Jane Brooks, Bob and Carol Carraco, Earlene Chelf, Gerda Clark, Mary Cohron, Billie Dickinson, Cindy Engdahl, Irene Fisher, David Garvin, Gray and Jim Godfrey, Riley Handy, Sandy Horn, Adele Kupchella, Dick and Mary Mason, Martha McGuirk, John Minton, Sandy and Tom Owen, Donna Phillips, Mania

Ritter, Doug and Jeane Robertson, Jo Jean Scott, Larry Scott and Sally Ann Strickler for months of hard work organizing OKTOBERFEST '92.

- Friends in the community and the region who bought tickets, sweatshirts, souvenir mugs and raffle chances.

Proceeds from this year's fundraiser were earmarked for conservation and preservation of museum artifacts. Thanks for your support; you have helped preserve a bit of Kentucky's heritage.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL CHANGES

This summer, President Thomas C. Meredith appointed five new members to two-year terms on the Kentucky Museum Advisory Council. New appointees, Barry Bray, Jerry Hatcher, John Long, Patsy Sloan and John Wigodsky, were welcomed to the council at the quarterly meeting held in July.

At that same meeting,

Martha Haynes, outgoing council member, was given a certificate of appreciation; and Kristen Bale was made an honorary member after she resigned from the Advisory Council to serve on the University's Board of Regents.

Others serving on the twenty-member Advisory Council are Lucinda Anderson, Ray Buckberry, Jr., Charles Carter,

Marilyn Casto, Mary Cohron, Billie Dickinson, John Edmonds, David Garvin, Henry Hardin, Richard Mason, Martha McGuirk, Julia Neal (honorary member), Top Orendorf, Jo Jean Scott, Jim Smith and Cynthia Veitschegger.

*Ex officio* representatives are Michael Binder, Riley Handy, Larry Scott, Earlene Chelf and Adele Kupchella.

## THE FANLIGHT

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Layout and Graphic Design.....Sarah J. Moore  
Contributors .....Michael Ann Williams  
Photography .....Marilyn Casto  
Earlene Chelf  
For Kids Only .....Dianne Watkins

## COVER PHOTO:

The black and white prints are copies of photographs taken by Dr. Marilyn Casto for the exhibit "Historic Architecture of Bowling Green, Kentucky." (From top left) A private residence (1908) which combines Queen-Anne and Neoclassic details; State Street Baptist Church (1898); a representation of the Gothic and Romanesque Revival styles; Quigley-Younglove building (1837), the oldest commercial structure in Bowling Green; and City Hall (1907), one of several in the community designed by Brinton B. Davis.



# NOTES FROM THE HILL

## The Cooperative Nature of Museum Work

by

**Michael Ann Williams**

*This column is reserved for articles written by individuals from departments across campus.*

*Dr. Michael Ann Williams is an Associate Professor in the Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies Department.*

Recently, I was asked to write a letter of support for the small museum where I worked as an undergraduate in college. In composing a letter to the current president of my *alma mater*, I reflected on how much that one job influenced my career choices. I went on to work as a museum professional and every spring I now teach, as part of my duties in the Folk Studies Program, a museum course.

My college experience also confirmed for me the importance of "hands-on" training as part of education. Every year, the undergraduates and graduate students in my museum course are required to complete a group project in a museum. While group projects can be

trying for students and teachers alike, they best reflect the cooperative nature of museum work.

This spring the museum class was especially large and students were given a choice between two possible projects. The majority chose an education project using The Kentucky Museum's Felts House. Under the direction of Education Curator Dianne Watkins, the students designed, researched and conducted a teachers' workshop on early Kentucky folklife.

At the four-hour workshop, the museum students presented information on architecture, costume, foodways, folk medicine, crafts and oral traditions and demonstrated or suggested possible activities for young children. Area teachers, as well as museum staff and volunteers, participated, and the museum students were thrilled with the enthusiastic

support.

Programs such as this one have benefits for the students, the museum and the community. Teachers in the community took away valuable information about Kentucky folklife. It is our hope that they will be inspired to use the resources of The Kentucky Museum in their classes and introduce a new generation of children to the value of a museum. The museum benefitted from the energies and diligent work of the undergraduate and graduate students. And, finally, the students in the museum class probably benefitted the most through their valuable "real life" experience.

Museum class lectures can only take a student so far. Western students are lucky, as I was, to have a campus museum that can provide a window into opportunities of a career in museum work.



**Dr. Michael Ann Williams (left) is shown with Sharon Koomler, a graduate student in the Museum Studies class and workshop presenter.**



# 1993 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

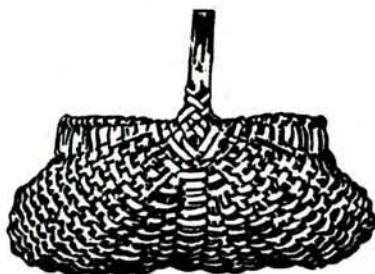
A Southern architect, the Soviet Union and Kentucky crafts are the subjects of three exhibits currently booked for Kentucky Museum galleries next year.

One additional exhibit, new work by internationally-known artist Joe Downing, is tentatively scheduled to open in late March.

Opening first will be "The Hill Builder: Brinton B. Davis and Western Kentucky University," curated by Jonathan Jeffrey, Library Special Collections assistant professor. Using a variety of materials—photographs, postcards, floor plans and a couple of watercolor paintings—the exhibit will focus on Davis and his influence on the development of what then was Western Kentucky State Normal School,

now Western Kentucky University.

Wendy's of Bowling Green, Inc. has underwritten this Curator's Choice exhibit, which runs from Feb. 9-Dec. 17.



Dr. Ronald J. Kurth, Murray State University president, will be guest curator of an exhibit titled "The Soviet Union: A Photographic Essay." The exhibition of about forty large pho-

tographs is scheduled for April 20-June 21 in the Garden Gallery.

Kentucky craftspeople and their work will be featured in the third exhibit, scheduled for Oct. 12-Dec. 6 as a part of the Year of American Craft celebration. About two dozen items, representing a variety of crafts, will be selected for this exhibition, which has been underwritten by Trans Financial Bank.

Michelle Coakes, assistant professor of Art, will be guest curator.

As details unfold, you'll hear more about these exhibits. In the meantime, special thanks go to Wendy's and Trans Financial for their financial support and to President Kurth, Michelle Coakes and Jonathan Jeffrey for helping develop these exhibits.

## The Year of American Craft

As Kentucky's bicentennial festivities wind down, another celebration—the Year of American Craft—is just gearing up.

The primary goal of YOAC's year-long celebration is "to heighten national and international awareness of the outstanding cultural contribution

of craft by portraying ways in which craftsmanship is woven into the aesthetic and spiritual fabric of life throughout the Americas."

For nearly two years, individuals, committees and organizations on the local, state, national and international levels have been involved in planning

YOAC events and activities. Countless programs and projects are already scheduled, but there is opportunity for many others to participate.

For more information about the celebration, contact Earlene Chelf, a member of the statewide YOAC Steering Committee, (502) 745-5263.

*Volunteers are needed to assist with the performances of "A Christmas Carol," December 8. If you can spare a couple of hours out of a busy pre-holiday schedule, please contact Earlene Chelf, (502) 745-5263.*



### HOURS:

Tues. – Sat. 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sun. 1 – 4 p.m.

Open Nov. 28–29 for holiday shoppers



**FOR  
KIDS  
ONLY**



## FAMILY HISTORY

Do you know who your great-grandparents are, or who your great-great-grandparents are, or where they came from? Discovering the answers to those questions is an exciting way to learn about your family's history. A person who explores the past of family members is called a genealogist.

To find out about your family history, begin by talking to your parents. Ask them first about yourself, where you were born and the places

where you have lived, then ask them the same questions about themselves. Tape record their stories and you can listen to them again and again.

Visit your grandparents and ask them to tell you the things they remember about growing up and *their* parents and grandparents. Sharing family stories is a lot of fun. By asking questions and listening carefully to the answers, you are learning about your past—your family history.

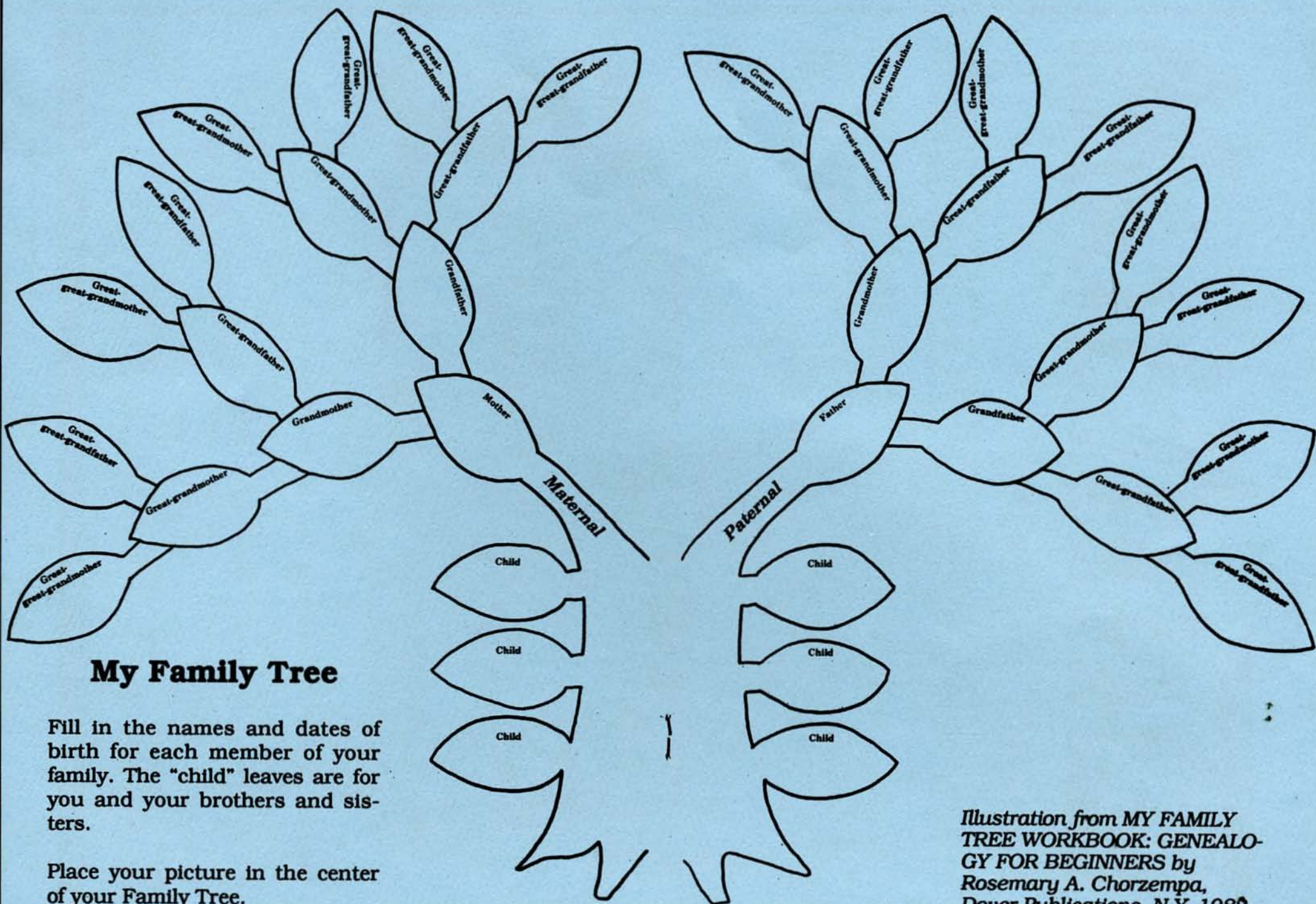


### QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Father's name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mother's name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date and place of marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Places lived \_\_\_\_\_  
 Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interesting stories about family events:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_





*Illustration from MY FAMILY  
TREE WORKBOOK: GENEAL-  
OGY FOR BEGINNERS by  
Rosemary A. Chorzempa,  
Dover Publications, N.Y. 1982.*



# Museum and Landmark Association Collaborate for Exhibit Opening



Marilyn Casto (right), guest curator of the "Historic Architecture" exhibit, greets guests during the opening reception.

## "A Christmas Carol" Sponsored by Kentucky Museum

This year, The Kentucky Museum's holiday programs "have gone to the dickens"—**Charles Dickens**, that is!

On Dec. 8, the museum is sponsoring three performances of "A Christmas Carol," performed by the Lexington Children's Theatre. The hour-long shows are scheduled for **9:30 a.m.** and **1:00** and **7:00 p.m.** Admission is \$2 for children up to 18 and for WKU students and \$4 for adults.

Individuals and

groups are also encouraged to tour the museum galleries and shop in The Museum Store.

People of all ages will enjoy LCT's dramatization of "A Christmas Carol." This very lively production of the holiday classic blends music, drama and storytelling to recount Ebenezer Scrooge's life-changing encounter with three spirits.

Seating is limited, so don't wait. Call Earlene Chelf, Special Events Coordinator, (502) 745-5263, for reservations.

On Sept. 8, approximately one hundred people attended the "Historic Architecture of Bowling Green, Kentucky" exhibit opening, an event co-hosted by the museum and the local Landmark Association.

Opening activities included a slide presentation by the exhibit's guest curator, Dr. Marilyn Casto, Associate Professor of Home Economics and Family Living, a reception, plus viewing of the exhibit.

"Historic Architecture" is a photographic exhibit which highlights the architectural styles and forms of several types of structures--homes, churches, businesses, government and University buildings, area landmarks--dating from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s.

Commenting about the exhibit, Casto said, "All of these historic buildings offer a look at the past and a reminder of how each generation's ideas are expressed through architecture."

The exhibit runs through Dec. 18, 1992.

## NEW HOURS FOR THE KENTUCKY BUILDING:

### Kentucky Museum and Museum Store:

Tues. - Sat.	9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sun.	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Mon.	Closed

### Kentucky Library:

Mon.	8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Tues. - Fri.	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sat.	9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### Manuscripts/Folklife Archives:

Mon. - Fri.	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sat.	Closed
Sun.	Closed



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## CURRENT

"Historic Architecture of Bowling Green, Kentucky" - Garden Gallery - closes Dec. 18, 1992.

Felts Log House - open weekends through Oct. 25; weekdays by request at Information Desk.

4-6, 9-13, 16-18 Early Kentucky Folklife in The Kentucky Museum's Log House - hands-on programs for schoolchildren, 9:00, 11:00 and 1:00 daily. Contact Dianne Watkins (502) 745-6082.

27-28 Museum Store open for holiday sales 9:30 - 4:00. REMAINDER OF THE KENTUCKY BUILDING CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING. Regular hours resume Mon., Nov. 30.

## OCTOBER

1 Textile of the Month - Quilt (ca. 1935) Crossed I pattern, pieced by Edith Neighbors, Butler County, Ky.

17 OKTOBERFEST - Kentucky Museum's annual fundraiser - 6-11 p.m. - Knights of Columbus Hall (see related article, page 2).

21-24 Southeastern Museums Conference annual meeting, Columbia, S.C.

26 Quarterly meeting - Kentucky Museum Advisory Council, Kentucky Building (time to be announced)

## NOVEMBER

1 Textile of the Month - Crib quilt (ca. 1925) Drunkard's Path pattern, made by Clara Lukas Helm, Warren County, Ky.

## DECEMBER

1 Native American blanket acquired in Cheyenne, Wyo., in 1900 by Duncan Hines, Warren County, Ky.

8 "A Christmas Carol" by the Lexington Children's Theatre - performances at 9:30 a.m.; 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Galleries K & L (more details, page 5)

19 KENTUCKY BUILDING CLOSURES FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. Regular hours resume Mon., Jan. 4, 1993.

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# THE FANLIGHT