

Sign on....

I see where the State Legislature has presented a bill to the Governor to be signed raising the age from eighteen to twenty-one to buy cigarettes and other tobacco products. Now, I'm not a smoker or a tobacco user of any sort, so it doesn't affect me personally. I did smoke for a couple of years back in the 'fifties when I was working in the plywood mill on the night shift and going to Humboldt State College, as it was known then. My nose ran all the time, and the doc figured that I was allergic to cigarettes. - One of the best things that could have happened to me-so I quit. Saved me thousands of dollars- or at least gave them to me to spend on other things. As a grocery clerk, checking age ID's for those who wanted to buy cigarettes became tougher as I got older. Getting back to the raising of the age limits- eighteen years old is considered an adult- they can be drafted to get shot at in defending our country if we get involved in a military battle, they can vote, get married without a parent's consent, and a myriad of other adult issues, and while I dislike smoking, why should adults not be able to buy tobacco products? Like anything else that's illegal, they'll figure out how to get them and turn them into criminals. I hope the Governor doesn't sign it.//Then, they want to put a special tax on soft drinks and other sweetened food items. Put the money to taking care of the problems caused by their use- yeah- right! I'm sorry- I am so tired of all these penny-pinching taxes that are taking away our freedoms and our dollars, even if it is a

penny or two at a time!*There seems to be a lot of controversy on where these special tax monies go-They tell us , when the bills are presented, that the money will go for roads, or schools, or here or there-then, first thing you know, they want more money for all these special funds. I've been involved, in a small way, with organizations who had money raised for special occasions, which goes into the general fund, never to be seen again, and I don't know if that's what happens on a larger basis, but it sure sounds like it does.//*On Friday, March 18, the Eureka Chamber Music Series presents Classical Violinist, Hye-Jin Kim. She has a long list of accomplishments. Ms. Kim will perform at Calvary Lutheran Church, Friday March 18, at 7:30 P.M., with a meet the artist reception to follow in the Fireside Room. Her classic violin is over three hundred years old. If you have not attended one of the ECMS performances, you are missing a real enjoyable experience, both in listening^{to}the performance, and meeting the artists after the performance. *Please try and be there and young folks are guests of the series. Come early for a good seat.

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