

Stalking is a crime

When you're driving, do you catch yourself singing or humming along to songs without even realizing it? I do, all the time. One Wednesday, I was driving to the spouse abuse shelter listening to Mr. 94.5 "WJZ Back Wednesday" playing "Every Breath You Take" by the Police. The radio personality came on the air after the song ended stating his friends called this song...the stalking song. I was completely caught-off guard. I've always loved that song...in fact I have the CD! But his friends are right. Think about the words in the chorus:

"Every breath you take
Every move you make
Every bond you break
Every step you take
I'll be watching you

Every single day
Every word you say
Every game you play
Every night you stay
I'll be watching you

O can't you see
You belong to me
How my poor heart aches
With every step you take"

It really should be called, "The Stalking Song." But this is supposed to be a love song...? When a man recites the above to a woman she's supposed to feel he loves her so much that he watches her every move as she's so beautiful and worth paying attention to. So how can this "love" song be called "stalking"?

Because loving someone is different than stalking someone to keep control. Stalking is not love and love is not stalking. Webster defines stalking as, "to go through (an area) in search of prey or quarry." Further, Webster gives an example of a hunter who will "...stalk the woods for deer." Comparatively, stalking a deer or a human...both feel fear of harm and try to flee danger they know is right behind them.

"If the perpetrator both continually follows and threatens his victim

with physical injury, death or sexual contact, he has committed the crime of stalking. KRS 508.130-508.150. Stalking requires a pattern of conduct consisting of at least two acts which seriously alarm, annoy, intimidate or harass the victim and would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial distress...Neither terroristic threatening nor stalking requires that a perpetrator physically injure his victim." (Representing Victims of Domestic Violence: A Kentucky Lawyer's Handbook, Section 1A: Scope and Dynamics of Domestic Violence pg. 13)

Stalking is a noted behavior included in environmental abuse. Perpetrators use environmental abuse to exert control over who the victims talk to, doesn't talk to, where she goes, how long she's gone from the perpetrator, limiting her access to bank accounts and money (including her own pay check), isolating her from family and friends, monitoring telephone calls, etc. For example, I worked with one woman whose husband worked all day. She was not allowed to leave the house or even be outside on the front porch. To make sure that she followed his rules, he spread flour all over the porch and steps. He also made sure not to leave any flour in the house for her to cover her tracks. Sometimes, he could even tell if she opened the door on a windy day. Extreme as this sounds, this controlling behavior is consistent with domestic violence. Stalking is another way of gaining control of and maintaining control over a victim and their environment and is considered emotional and/or psychological abuse. As the above quote states, it is the belief or fear of harm, not just the physical beatings. Stalking strips the victim of her rights as a human being. If someone is stalking a celebrity we press charges and call the stalkers or stalkers' mentally unstable. Let me ask then, what's the difference between the stalker we don't know and the stalker we do know. Why is a celebrity stalker crazy and dangerous but a husband or boyfriend

is "just in love?" Isn't the purpose of the stalking behavior identical? Is that really just love?

The next time you turn on the radio or watch your favorite movie, think about what you consider acceptable or normal behavior. In our society there are behaviors that we take for granted and brush off as "just in the movies" or "it's just a love song." Society has grown accus-

toried to accepting stalking behaviors as normal, but stalking is not normal. Stalking is not love. Stalking is real. Stalking violates human rights. Stalking happens to real people every day. Stalking is deadly. And in Kentucky, Stalking is a crime. --S.L. Michaels

For more information about domestic violence programs and organizations in your area, please contact

the Family Life Abuse Center: business line (606)256-9511. If you need immediate shelter or need to speak with a certified domestic violence advocate, call 1-800-755-5348 or (606)256-9511.

To further help victims, Donna Randall works as a Domestic Violence Victim Advocate/Crisis Counselor who works in this county. Victim Advocate services include (but

not limited to): crisis counseling, emotional support, legal advocacy, community referrals, assistance in filing for Emergency Protective Orders, attend court, assist in filing Victim Compensation claims, housing referrals, and emergency services. Donna can be reached at 1-800-755-5348 (victims only). Service providers please call the business line: (606)256-9511.

Printed below is a facsimile of PAGE 2 of the ballot which will be used in East Livingston and West Livingston precincts in the General Election in Rockcastle County on Tuesday, November 5th.

Norma Houk, County Clerk

"QUESTION"		NONPARTISAN CITY BALLOT	
Are you in favor of family courts in Kentucky by amending the Kentucky Constitution to allow the Supreme Court to designate a division of circuit court as a family court?	J. C. (Raymond) GRIFFIN	99	
Ed Curtis McHARGUE	100		
69 YES	WRITE - IN	101	
70 NO			
	JASON MEDLEY	103	
And you in favor of permitting the General Assembly to provide by general law for the formation, organization, and regulation of corporations by repealing certain sections of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to corporations?	KATHA CARPENTER	104	
Todd MINK	105		
74 YES	NO CANDIDATE	106	
75 NO	WRITE - IN	107	
	WRITE - IN	108	
	WRITE - IN	109	
78 Samuel STALLSWORTH	WRITE - IN	110	
79 Donna HASTY			
80 WRITE - IN			

BALLOT REVIEW BUTTON

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BALLOT ADVANCE BUTTON

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Printed below is a facsimile of PAGE 2 of the ballot which will be used in the Bullock precinct in the General Election in Rockcastle County on Tuesday, November 5th.

Norma Houk, County Clerk

"QUESTION"			
Are you in favor of family courts in Kentucky by amending the Kentucky Constitution to allow the Supreme Court to designate a division of circuit court as a family court?			
69 YES			
70 NO			
Are you in favor of permitting the General Assembly to provide by general law for the formation, organization, and regulation of corporations by repealing certain sections of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to corporations?			
74 YES			
75 NO			
"SCHOOL CANDIDATES"			
78 J. Stephen OWENS			
79 Tina HASTY			
80 WRITE - IN			

BALLOT REVIEW BUTTON

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BALLOT ADVANCE BUTTON

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Rockcastle Community Bulletin Board

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TOPS

(Take off Pounds Sensibly) TOPS meets Thursday at 6 p.m. at Broadhead Christian Church basement on Main St. in Broadhead. For more info, call 1-800-932-TOPS or locally 256-0789.

Narcotics Anonymous

Tired of drugs and/or alcohol controlling your life? Come join us at Narcotics Anonymous, every Thursday at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church, located on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon. For more info, call 256-9263.

Alcohol Anonymous

Alcohol Anonymous meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. behind Our Lady of Mt. Vernon Church on Williams St. in Mt. Vernon. For more info, call 256-1219.

Republican Party Meets

The Republican Party meets the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at Kastle Inn.

Center Hours

Rockcastle County Senior Citizens and Day Health Care Center hours are 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Mission Hours

First Baptist Church Food and Clothing Mission's hours are Mon. & Wed. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Mission is located on 30 Church St., Mt. Vernon.

Bookmobile Schedule

Mon., Oct. 28: Scaffold Cane, Disputanta, Anglin Falls, Clear Creek, Wildie.
Tues., Oct. 29: Buffalo, Old 461, Negro Creek.

Fire Season

Due to increase in fire activity in Kentucky the Kentucky Division Forestry is now taking applications for fall fire season. Call Co. Ranger 256-5031, Crew Leader 256-9884 or Crew Boss 256-0725.

Flu Shots

Flu shots are available at the Rockcastle County Health Center Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday on a walk-in basis. Medicaid and

Medicare part B will pay for your flu shot. Please bring your card with you. Flu shots are \$12.

Clothing Needed

The Rockcastle County Migrant Program is in need of light jackets and jeans to replenish the clothing closet. Please bring your donations to the Migrant Office across from the Rockcastle Central Office at 245 Richmond St. or call 256-2157 for pickup.

Fall Festival

Rockcastle Youth & Teen Center's Fall Festival will be Thurs., Oct. 24th from 5-7 p.m. Bring your entire family, for FREE food, games and prizes! Located 1/2 mile past Reno Valley on the right. For more info, call (606)256-4919.

Fruit Orders

Rockcastle County Farm Bureau are now taking citrus fruit orders until Oct. 31. Please call (606)256-2050.

Council Meeting

Broadhead Council will hold a special meeting on Oct. 28th at 7 p.m. to discuss an ordinance creating Rockcastle County Office of Emergency Management.

Portrait Fundraiser

Broadhead Volunteer Fire Dept. host a portrait fundraiser. Any one who contributes \$10 or more will receive a FREE \$x10 family portrait. Pictures will be taken at the Broadhead Fire Dept. on Nov. 16, 17 & 18. Thank you for your continued support.

Pie Auction

A pie auction at Sam's Place in Livingston will be Fri., Oct. 25th at 7 p.m. All proceeds go to the Livingston Fire Dept. and Livingston Homecoming. Everyone welcome.

Retired Teachers

Retired teachers will meet Mon., Oct. 28th at 6 p.m. at Kastle Inn.

Closed

Broadhead City Hall will be closed Nov. 11-15.

Special Meeting

Broadhead City Council will have a special meeting on Oct. 28th at 7 p.m. at City Hall for the 2nd reading of Ordinance creating Rockcastle Co. Office of Emergency Management.