

Our Readers Write

March for Babies raises over \$7K...

Dear Editor,
Since 2009, Rockcastle Regional Hospital & Respiratory Care Center has participated in the March for Babies to support March of Dimes. This year March of Dimes celebrated 75 years and 2013 was our most successful year yet, as we raised \$7,015.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Rockcastle County partners. It absolutely could not have been accomplished without the support of the community; specifically: Community Trust Bank, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Sylvia's Cut & Curl, New Vision, A Cut Above, Bradley's Barber Shop, Bootsie's WildKuts, Drew Davidson, FBLA and Mrs. Vicky Castle, Melinda Kincer, Rockcastle Regional Hospital Dietary Department, Shirley Martin, Dr. Callie Shaffer and Rock Peds, York House Child Development Center, Mount Vernon Signal, Silver Sneakers and Body Recall classes at Rockcastle Regional Hospital, and the local school system.

Whether it was haircuts for kids, a dime drive or one of the many other contributions individuals made, it all added up to an awesome year for March of Dimes.

The committee at Rockcastle Regional Hospital used their creative ideas, talents and time to benefit babies.

Many thanks to committee members: Twila Burdette, Cheryl Mullins, Lindsay Gabbard, Dwain Harris, Selena Mink, W. Anne Harris, Melissa Fain, Morgan Kincer, Kayla Rowe, Susan Turley, Lisa Smithern, Gayle DeBorde, Melissa Brock, Angie Adams, Amy Mink, Emily Valentine, Chelsen Larkey, Lora Beth McKee and Kennesha Daniels.

Thanks to everyone who donated for stronger, healthier babies.

Sincerely,
Arielle Estes
March of Dimes Team
Captain

"Memories"

(Cont. from A2)

ing a good time, it was a blast.

Many of these words are now part of the dictionary containing slang meanings. So if I said in the 60's, "I had a gas with my chick last night driving my ride with four on the floor. We went out to the submarine races to make out. But before I knew it, it was time to split and take my skirt home," would you understand? If

you were in high school during that special time, I think you would dig my meaning.

(You can reach me at themtnman@att.net or you can drop me a line at P.O. Box 927 - Stanton, KY 40380. I appreciate your suggestions and comments. You can also find information about my new book, View from the Mountain.)

"Points East"

(Cont. from A2)

ally began before I was even big enough to ride. Several boys on the holler had fathers who worked or drove coal trucks for the "pony mines" and my older first cousins sometimes showed up.

Many of the ponies were not willing participants. They had to be practically dragged from the barn to the end of our narrow lane which covered a distance of some 350 yards or so, but the more stubborn and meaner the better because all they wanted was to get back to their peaceful barn stall as rapidly as possible.

The more docile ponies that would go anywhere you wanted were not usually serious contenders in a race.

The lane was so narrow that we could only race three or four at a time but even at that I can remember jockeys suffering broken arms and collar bones from spills they took. In fact, it was generally against the rules to come to our house and "ride" ponies but several boys did it anyway.

The ponies had names like Bob, Bill, Ted, Jim, Joe etc. but John was the most popular name so if we had three Johns at the same time, one would be called First John, the next, Second John, then Third John, all named in the order in which they showed up to take temporary residence in our barn.

By the time I was ten or eleven years old, the ponies had all been sold off to private owners as pets or small utility animals. I became so attached to the last two or three we boarded, particularly one Shetland named Ted, that Dad would sometimes take me to visit them and their new owners.

Their racing and mining days were over and old Ted didn't seem to miss it at all.

In fact, he was treated with such fondness by his new owners that I'm pretty sure he came to think of himself as the family dog.

"I See It"

(Cont. from A2)

was saved but I wasn't attending church regularly or walking daily with the Lord by reading His word the Bible.

Although he asked me what church I attended, he didn't ask me if I attended church regularly or if I had a personal relationship with God by reading the Bible daily.

Looking back on the situation, he had pointed out the sin that he believed I had committed but in reality, he didn't show any compassion by wanting to actually help me with my sins in my backslidden condition and point me back in the direction of Jesus Christ.

I believe if every Christian searches deep enough, we will find that we have all been guilty of a similar thing at one time or another in our lives while we are witnessing to other people who are lost or backslidden.

Recently, as I was scrolling through the statuses on my Facebook news feed, I came across one of my Facebook friends who updated their status saying that he had been praying to God regularly and that God was not answering his prayers causing him to still be in the same mess he was in before.

My Facebook friend said God never answered his prayers and that he thought by calling God out on Facebook, maybe his prayers would go through to Him then.

Initially, my Facebook friend's status angered and offended me. Being a Christian, I thought how dare him put down God like that on a social media site and say he is angry with God because his prayers weren't answered.

Before messaging him on Facebook and pointing out what I believed he had done wrong, something came over me. After sitting and meditating for a little bit, I instead messaged him saying I understood what he was saying and that I had also been angry with God before in the past when he didn't answer certain prayers of mine.

I shared with him that sometimes God doesn't always answer our prayers and He allows us to go through certain struggles in our lives because He has bigger and better plans for our future. I told him that if God had answered our prayers and we never endured those struggles, then we would have never grown to the full potential He has planned for us.

By saying these things, I tried to show compassion for him instead of condemning him for what I believed he had done wrong.

I also asked him if he was saved or currently attending church anywhere. I still haven't received a reply from him but I can only hope and pray that the compassion I showed as a Christian was of some help to him and that he will one day find the peace and comfort he is seeking in Jesus Christ.

Truth be known, we have all disgraced God in one way or another sometime in our life, just as I did in my article. We have all also been angry with God in one

way or another sometime in our life too, just as my Facebook friend was when he felt like God didn't answer his prayers.

This is shown in one of the most famous scriptures in the Bible with Romans 3:23 which states "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

As Christians, we will come across a lot of lost and backslidden people in our lives. Instead of condemning them for what they have done or said, we need to show compassion for them as all of us were once a lost sinner or backslidden Christian sometime in our life as well. We need to use our testimonies as a former lost or backslidden person to help save them or bring them back to Christ.

So yes, I agree with Kent Ostrander that Christians need to step out in their faith and witness to a lost and dying world. But as we witness to this "lost and dying world", I pray that we show compassion for them and not just condemn them for what they have said or done.

Strange... But True?

by: Tonya J. Cook



Superstitions: How They Have Become commonplace In Our Lives

Superstitions. How do they affect our everyday life? Over the centuries, they have infiltrated our lives to a degree that sensible, well-educated people refuse to walk under a ladder, avoid the number 13, and many other practices. There are buildings that don't have 13th floors, and many people carry a rabbit's foot for luck. Most brides refuse to walk down the aisle (although actually they are walking down the nave) without "something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue, and a sixpence in her shoe". You see, superstitions have invaded the modern day, rational world to the point that people just accept such common superstitions as a way of life.

How did this happen? Superstitions began centuries ago when our ancestors tried to explain mysterious circumstances or events as best as they could with the knowledge available to them according to glckr.com. It is a common belief or practice still adhered to even if there is no proof or evidence to substantiate its reason to con-

tinue.

The more common superstitions revolve around death, marriage, pregnancy, luck, money, and health. These obviously play important roles in our lives and we naturally want to have our input concerning them, to control the outcome or alter the circumstances in our favor.

European folk belief fell under the generalized term of superstition. It was studied in more detail in the 18th century.

The word "superstition" was first used in the 15th century in the English language and modeled after an earlier French word. In Latin it is a verb, not a noun, and can be interpreted as "standing over a thing in amazement or awe", according to Wikipedia.

In the days ahead, we will study farther into the most mysterious world of superstitions and those that believe in them.

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