

# When you don't trust love

BY NANCY KENNEDY

When I first met my husband he drove a brand-new 1973 Mercury Comet GT, white with orange pinstripes along the sides and orange vinyl interior — and a manual transmission.

As Barry attempted to teach me how to drive it, I proved myself to be a willing student, but not an adept one.

I understood the whole clutch-brake-gas pedal thing in theory, but when it came to putting my foot on the correct pedal at the correct time there seemed to be either one too many pedals or I had one too few feet to do it right.

Every time I'd grind the gears, Barry would squeeze his eyes shut and groan, probably thinking about the cost of a new clutch.

I really wanted to learn to drive the Comet, mainly so the vein in Barry's temple would stop throbbing.

Every time I got behind the wheel my stomach knotted as I worried about whether or not I would do something wrong that would cost a trunkload of money. I couldn't concentrate on where I was going.

I kept thinking, "What's that noise? What's that smell? Is the car supposed to be lurching like that all over the highway?"

My saving grace was that (a.) We were newly married and my doing idiot things to the car was still somewhat cute, and (b.) we lived in Northern Maine where there wasn't much to crash into except snow banks and caribou.

Time went on and as hard as I tried, I never could get the hang of driving with a stick shift. The more I concentrated on doing it right, the bigger the danger I became to everyone on the road, including myself — I was a nervous, neurotic mess.

Even after weeks and weeks of practice, I was always afraid that I'd crash it or break it and that Barry would be mad — he loved that car.

Not only that, I was missing out on the fun of driving. I missed out on the beautiful scenery and the feel of the wind on my face with the windows rolled down.

So, I tried harder to do it right. But I just couldn't.

Not just with driving a stick shift, but with other areas of my life.

On the morning Barry and I got married 51 years ago this month, he went out to get film for his camera.

As he got into his Comet I said to him, "Please come back."

Now as I look back on my 20-year-old self and her battle with the clutch pedal, I know that her real battle was insecurity.

I didn't trust love. Years ago I heard a pastor say that insecure Christians don't believe God truly loves them and to compensate they strive toward perfection and control.

That was me. Still is sometimes.

"Such a person won't let go of the control of anything until they can trust giving the control over to God," the pastor said.

Over the years, I've come to realize that secure Christians loosen up a little, dance a little, enjoy the scenery — and the ride.

which are never yours anyway — and you let God drive, trusting that He not only knows how to drive and knows the road you're traveling, but also that He will ultimately bring you safely home.

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NANCY KENNEDY

# Horses helped define Kentucky history

In 1788 the first circular racetrack west of the Alleghenies was laid out by Kentuckian William Whitley. A Revolutionary War hero, Whitley had his racetrack constructed behind his home, Sportsman Hill, and because of his extreme dislike for the British whose racetracks ran clockwise, Whitley commissioned his track to run counterclockwise. Whitley's counterclockwise racetrack became a standard for racetracks throughout America.



BONNIE STRASSELL

This year was the 152nd running of the Kentucky Derby. The first Derby, in 1875, was held on the opening day of the newly opened Louisville track, with more than 10,000 people attending the event.

The Kentucky Derby became the longest continuously run horse race in America, and the most famous.

Kentucky has a long legacy of horses and horse racing. Early pioneers from Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas brought with them their love of horse breeding and racing; and Kentucky became the horse racing capital of the Western Frontier.

Horse racing has always been a favorite sport of Owen Countians; and young men in the area would spend free time racing against one another, either on county back roads or around the courthouse in town.

After the City of Owenton was formed, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth passed an act in 1828 authorizing the election of trustees in the town.

The act also stated that if any "person or persons shall be guilty of running or racing any horse or horses within the limits of the inlots or streets of said town, every person so offending shall forfeit and pay, for each and every offence, the sum of one dollar which shall be applied towards keeping the streets of said town in repair."

Horses played a monumental role in ancient history. They revolutionized warfare and agriculture. They were indispensable on the battlefield, and eventually replaced the ox as the animal of choice to plow fields and harvest crops.

Early settlers traveled over the Appalachian Mountains into Kentucky and many brought a family horse along to carry a load of household goods or small children who found it difficult to walk the hundreds of miles through the wilderness.

According to Owen Countian Mrs. Ann Garnett, "It wasn't out of the ordinary in early times to see a large man sitting on a horse atop a two-bushel sack of corn, while his wife, cradling an infant, sat behind him."

Former president Ronald Reagan once stated, "I've often said there is nothing better for the inside of the man, than the outside of the horse," and a great number of Owen Countians would agree; for although it has been said that a dog is man's best friend, it might be difficult to convince many local folks who have always had a special affection for their horses.

Countians have always

considered horses as part of the family, and most were affectionately given names.

The Owen County Pictorial Book, (available from the historical society for \$40), is replete with pictures of Owen Countians and their favorite horses.

In one photo the grandchildren of Jim Wiser, Joyce and Howard Gayle Wiser, are shown sitting astride a team of pulling horses, Betty and Bob.

A photo, dated 1926, shows Bill Pace and his horses, Gip and Dave; and a 1918 photo shows Black Beauty hitched to a buggy and ready to provide transportation for the Alexander family.

Ronald Smoot owned a horse called Tom Dooly. Maude was the favored mount of Boyce Ligon, and the family steed of Mary Smith Williams was fondly called Old Nell.

Some horses were downright contrary and others, like the pony Ginger who was owned by the Rice family, obviously had grand visions of becoming a racehorse at the Kentucky Derby.

Ginger took every chance to exhibit her speed, and when the opportunity presented itself, she would gallop alongside the family car to vie for first place at the end of the driveway.

Horses were indispensable in the early wars of America, and most militiamen provided their own mounts from home.

During the Civil War civilians would hide their horses when soldiers came into view, for it was common practice for both Confederate and Union armies to confiscate all healthy horses.

After one of his many

raids, General John Hunt Morgan, who was a hero in Owen County, left his worn-out stallion at Rowlett's Landing at the mouth of Severn Creek in exchange for one of Rowlett's best mounts.

The Morgan stallion was nursed back to health and eventually sired numerous fine horses in that community.

Horses have contributed to America's success as a nation and to the heritage of its people. Some of these favored animals brought settlers across the Appalachian Mountains into the wilderness of Kentucky where, working alongside their owners, they helped carve a place on the frontier.

Others became famous racehorses; and their names have echoed throughout generations of Kentuckians.

The horse made a significant impact upon mankind and the culture of the world. Its story began in ancient civilizations, and through the ages horses continued to change lives and make vast contributions to society. As one unknown author succinctly put it: "The history of mankind was carried on the back of a horse."

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 9, from 10-11 at the museum, when gunsmith and historian Tom Strassel will display his craftsmanship as he presents Defending the Kentucky Frontier.

On Saturday, May 16, 10-11, we will celebrate Armed Forces Day at the museum with stories of our Owen County service members; and we invite you to enjoy some refreshments as you tour the museum.

# What kind of person screams one minute, cries the next?

A psychology professor, giving a lecture on mental illness, asked his students what they'd make of someone who paces back and forth screaming at the top of his lungs one minute, then sits down and weeps uncontrollably the next.

didn't weep uncontrollably. When things were beyond miserable, and he was seeking some relief, he went out and sat on a heap of ashes. There he took shards of pottery and scrapped the boils that covered him from head to foot.

Job's friends proved to be a source of aggravation. His wife was no help. But God was with him throughout the ordeal.

Everyone is certain to face times in their lives when their worlds are turned upside down, times when they're tested to their very cores, as Job was in his day. It's times like those when we need to be able to turn to Jesus for strength to carry on.

God's people, like Job, deal with adversity very differently than people outside the kingdom. God's people face adversity with a peace that surpasses all understanding, as the Apostle Paul once explained. This ability to deal with adversity is a gift known only to those who trust fully in God, knowing that all things work together for the good of those who love Him.

Jesus provides that ability, because He is the source of that peace.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).



ROGER ALFORD

A fellow in the back of the classroom answered: "He must be a basketball coach."

Certainly, life can be a rollercoaster for coaches. But that also holds true for everyone, regardless of profession or station in life. We're all prone to wins and losses in the game of life.

One of the best-known examples is Job, a very Godly man who lived in Old Testament times. He was healthy and wealthy and wise. Then, all of a sudden, he lost everything he had. To make matters worse, he developed an ailment that resulted in painful, infected sores all over his body.

Job was in absolute misery, but, though it all, he trusted in God. In the end, not only did God restore everything he had, he gave him twice as much as he had before.

If you're familiar with that story, you know that Job was steadfast throughout. He didn't pace back and forth screaming. He

## FBC NEWS

BY BRO. BRAD BANKS

Our message Sunday from Isaiah 6:1-8 was entitled, "Isaiah: Encountering the Manifested Presence of God in Loss." The message focused on the context of God's manifested presence, the revelation of God's manifested presence, the personal recognition due to God's manifested presence, the restoration of God's manifested presence, and

the response to God's manifested presence. Sunday evenings study in Hebrews 5:12-14 was entitled, "The Mandate of Maturity."

Our Parent/Baby Prayer dedication service will be this Sunday, May 10. Our graduate recognition service will be May 17. VBS will be held during the morning hours of June 15-19.

Our students and children meet each Wednesday at 6:30pm. Our Children's

Church Ministry is offered during the 11:00am worship service. Come check out our new children's ministry room.

The FLC is open Monday – Friday from 8:00am – 1:00pm, Saturday from 9:00am – 1:00pm, and Monday/Tuesday/Thursday from 4:00-8:00pm.

Our weekly service times are Sunday at 9:00am, 11:00am, and 6:30pm. The Sunday School gatherings start at 10:00am. Our

Wednesday service begins at 6:30pm.

Our church would like to remind you that you can connect with us through our website at owentonfbc.com, Face Book at FBC Owenton, download our church app, join us on twitter or Instagram. You can also call the church office or email us at office@owentonfbc.com.

God bless you, your family, and our community. See you Sunday!

# LEGAL NOTICE

PURSUANT TO KRS 424.290, "MATTERS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED," THE FOLLOWING RACES WILL APPEAR ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS IN THE PRECINCTS LISTED IN OWEN COUNTY FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 19, 2026.

REPUBLICAN PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

4th Congressional District  
UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One)

A. Nick SHELLEY  
 Daniel CAMERON  
 Andy BARR  
 Anissa CATLETT  
 Valerie "Dr Val" FREDRICK  
 Jonathan M. HOLLIDAY  
 Other Donald WENZEL  
 Michael James FARIS  
 Nate MORRIS  
 James D. DUNCAN  
 Jimmy L. LEON  
 George WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE in CONGRESS  
4th Congressional District (Vote for One)

Thomas MASSIE  
 Ed GALLREIN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
47th Representative District (Vote for One)

Felicia RABOURN  
 Mark A. GILKISON

COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE (Vote for One)

Todd WOODYARD  
 Tom SLAYBACK  
 Nicholas CARTER  
 Greg ESTES

SHERIFF (Vote for One)

Brent CALDWELL  
 Jimmy McINTOSH

ALL PRECINCTS

MAGISTRATE  
1st Magisterial District (Vote for One)

Rodney Brian SMITH  
 John L. WILSON  
 J. T. OLDS

NEW LIBERTY, POPLAR GROVE, JONESVILLE and NORTH OWENTON

MAGISTRATE  
2nd Magisterial District (Vote for One)

Dane PERKINS  
 Jeff WRIGHT  
 Larry KARSNER

CONSTABLE  
2nd Magisterial District (Vote for One)

Kevin HUDSON  
 Mark Anthony KING

SOUTH OWENTON and OWENTON INC.

MAGISTRATE  
3rd Magisterial District (Vote for One)

Teresa Kemper DAVIS  
 George MILLER  
 Wayne "Frog" HARRIS

NEW COLUMBUS, HESLER and LUSBY'S MILL

DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

4th Congressional District  
UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One)

Dale Lewis ROMANS  
 Charles BOOKER  
 Logan FORSYTHE  
 Joshua BLANTON SR.  
 Vincent Anthony THOMPSON  
 Pamela STEVENSON  
 Amy McGRATH

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE in CONGRESS  
4th Congressional District (Vote for One)

Melissa Claire STRANGE  
 Jesse Russell BREWER

ALL PRECINCTS