



Tam's Front Porch Ponderings
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Different people have different personalities; we can't choose how our bodies are designed, we are who we are! Some folks are quiet and reserved, I on the other hand, am NOT! I can't help it, it's who I am. My personality type is loud, tends to talk out of turn, and we're very high strung. It won't do you any good to look at me and say, "Calm down." I won't... because I can't!

A perfect example is rain. I don't like to drive in it; well, it's not that I don't like it, it's just that... it terrifies me! Corky is constantly harping at me to "calm down" and of course, I can't. I suppose I suffer from anxiety attacks and I try really hard not to freak out, but I always do. Nothing describes the way I freak out better than our recent trip to Lake Cumberland.

We had just got off the Cumberland Parkway when I noticed the sky looked weird, really weird. Corky was driving his truck and I followed behind in my vehicle and I kept going slower and slower so I could stare at the sky. It looked like someone had taken a black, magic marker and drawn a straight line from Heaven to earth. The left side of the line was coal black, the right side was solid white. I

We Can't Choose How Our Bodies Are Designed

felt sure we would be driving away from the menacing looking cloud, but as luck would have it, we met it head on.

Instinctively, I turned the radio to a local station for a weather update... nothing but tunes. I began talking to myself, out loud, to calm my heart rate, "It's just gonna' be a little rain, it will be all right, only a little rain..." I kept saying, as the day around me turned to night. I switched on my headlights just in time to see Corky disappear into a wall of water, I was freaking out just a little, but I slowed my Tahoe to a crawl and followed him in. My knuckles were white on the steering wheel, my wipers were slapping so hard it was deafening and STILL nothing on the radio but "Sweet Home Alabama." "Surely if there were dangerous storms in the area, the National Weather Service would break in," I kept reassuring myself; so, on I went, still freaking out... just a little!

The wind picked up and my Tahoe started to rock, "Ok, this is not good," I yelled over the pounding rain. Then the trees looked odd, like closed umbrellas with their branches sucked straight up, and suddenly I heard loud banging, "No, No, NO, tree branches hitting my truck, must go faster, get away from trees," I screamed, but it wasn't branches, it was golf ball sized hail! That was the least of my worries! As Bob Seger began singing "Against The Wind," trees began blowing across the road in front of me. I couldn't see Corky's

tail lights so I stopped and tried to figure out how to maneuver around the tree trunk. The wind shifted, lifted the tree and flung it back to the side of the road it came from.

I stopped talking to myself and started talking to someone who knew what was going on! "God," I screamed over the wind and hail, "get us through this mess or find us a place to pull over!" The radio played on, "I'm older now and still running-against the wind, against the wind." "Your choice of music is perfect, but it's not doing a lot to soothe me about now," I continued my conversation with God.

The tree-lined lane was littering the road with debris and I began to tremble. "Lord, I'm not kidding here, keep me safe, keep me safe, keep me safe," I pleaded. For twenty-five minutes I plowed through what I'm sure was a baby tornado. Just as we turned onto the lane where our family's campers were, the rain sud-

denly stopped and the sun peeked through. I was still shaking so hard it was difficult to keep my foot on the gas pedal. "Thank you Lord for Your blessings, thank you, thank you, thank you", I kept repeating out loud, trying to calm down.

Corky was waiting for me when I pulled into our driveway, "Were you freaking out just a little?", he asked.

"Who ME? Noooooo, calm as a cucumber, why do you ask?"

"Well, you're out of the truck and still holding onto the steering wheel," he pointed out.

Just as I released my death grip on the steering wheel, a long, loud beep came over the radio, "The National Weather Service in Louisville, KY has issued a severe thunderstorm warning for RUSSELL COUNTY. Some rotation has been reported with this storm, seek shelter immediately".

Corky looked at me and started laughing. "GREAT!" I said, "NOW they tell me!"

School News

Thursday, August 1st, 4-7 p.m.

West Irvine Elementary Open House

West Irvine Elementary is hosting Open House, Thursday, August 1, 2013, 4-7 p.m. Open House is an opportunity for all students and parents to meet their teacher and ask important questions for the upcoming school year. West Irvine Elementary's back to school theme is "Wild About West." We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Thursday, August 1st, 5-8 p.m.

Estill Middle School Open House

Estill County Middle School students and parents/guardians are invited to our annual open house activities Thursday, Aug. 1 from 5 to 8 pm. Schedules will be available at this event. Make plans to meet your teachers and obtain needed information for the upcoming school year. We hope to see each and every student at this event.

Monday, August 5th, 3-6 p.m.

Estill Springs B-to-S Open House

Estill Springs Elementary will host a Back-to-School Open House on Monday, August 5th from 3-6 p.m. for students and families of all Estill County first and second graders! Bring your child to see our exciting changes the night before school starts and sign up to volunteer this year! Confidentiality Training will be offered on the hour at 3 p.m., 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. Parents may also wish to bring school supplies in as well. ESE Staff hope to see you there! Go Bulldogs!

Estill County High School Schedule Pickup Times

Wednesday, July 31st

Senior and Junior schedules 9 - 11 a.m.

Sophomore schedules 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 1st

Freshmen: Orientation 6 - 8 p.m.

Schedules will "not" be available in advance of these designated times. **Please adhere to these assigned times in order to expedite the process.** If students cannot make it at their designated times, the schedules will be **available on Infinite Campus to print starting on Aug. 2.** ***Schedule change requests will only be considered if it is a graduation requirement issue: a required class for graduation is missing "or" the student has inadvertently been placed back into a class for which he/she has already received credit.

ESTILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

246 Main Street, Irvine, KY - Call 723-3030

If school is canceled due to icy roads, the bookmobile will run two weeks after the scheduled date.

Week of July 29- August 1, 2013

BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THUR.
Northwood Apts. Winchester Rd. Edgewater Drive Crestview Ct.	S. Irvine Ele. Stacy Lane Winston Rice Station	Horizon Angel Keepers Ravenna Wagersville Drip Rock	All God's Children, Sugar Hollow, Buck Creek, Doe Creek, Comp Care, Barnes Mt.

"Mommie & Me" and Storytime

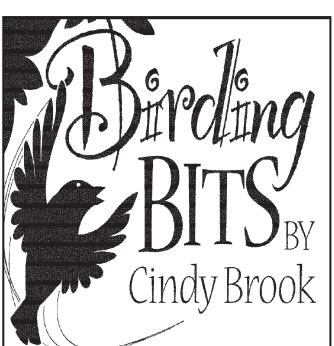
Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. and Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

In Memory Of



Ruby Powell
 December 9, 1946
 - July 25, 1993

"She is in the hearts and memories of all that knew her."



Not Just for Birds
 It's summer, and it's hot. Birds aren't the only fliers that need clean water. I have seen other creatures with wings, like bees and dragonflies, sipping water from birdbaths. So keep those birdbaths clean and keep that water fresh.

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com
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Sunday, August 4th, 10a-3p

ROUND UP THE KIDS.

Back to School extravaganza

Looking for some free fun for the kids? Come join the Ravenna church of the Nazarene for their Back to school extravaganza on August the 4th! There will be free food, inflatables, dunk tank, and other fun games at Ravenna's Veterans Memorial Park. You and your family will not want to miss it. All this free fun will take place right after the church service at Ravenna Nazarene on 530 Main Street, across from the park, until 3 p.m. The Sunday school starts at 10 a.m. and the morning service starts at 10:45 a.m. The new children/youth pastor, Rev. Josh Sutton, will be preaching the morning service. We would love to see you come join us, do not let this be something you will regret not coming to.

