

FOCUS

Bond's Broadcast

By Hank Bond



Bats in the Belfry ... No, Bats in the house!

If you have followed the Bond family adventures at all, you probably know things don't happen just a little bit at our house.

Wednesday night, we had just arrived home and settled into the television viewing pattern for the evening, when this loud, screeching sound echoed from the living room.

I tried to tell myself it was just a loud cricket, but I knew full well what it was going to be, when I walked into the room.

Click, on went the light, and lo and behold, not three feet away on the floor was a bat.

Not a Louisville Slugger, either, one of those fly over your head in the night fellows. I wasn't a happy camper, to say the least.

I grabbed my favorite combat weapon, the broom, and ventured back into the living room to do battle with the flying enemy.

Quickly, the swoosh of the broom filled the air and I took the round in one fall ... no questions asked.

To say the least, it was a relief to climb the stairs, and fall into a blissful sleep. Don't stop reading now!

This isn't even close to the end of the story. At 4 a.m. I hear this slapping sound in Amy's bedroom. At first I thought it was Amy moving around, but I was quick to fig-

ure out it was a bat flying back and forth through her room hitting the wall and then the window.

When I switched on the light the bat was delayed enough to allow Amy to scamper into our room, and I closed the door.

In that way, I figured I'd be able to wait until daylight and then kill the bat when it wouldn't fly. Well, that worked for about an hour.

Since Amy couldn't go back to sleep, I was pushed into re-runs on television with her, and at 5:15 the awfullest hollering you ever heard came rolling down the stairs at our house.

Broom in hand, I'm running, barefeet, underwear and all to engage a hostile bat. I didn't know a bat could get through a real small space, and apparently it had come under the door and was snoring through our bedroom.

My wife was none too calm as I entered the picture saying something about not being able to get out of the bed and knowing she was going to die.

Once the bat came at me I managed to take my trusty broom and change its direction, twice, before it went under the bed ... I thought.

So, here I am bending down, looking under the bed, and I hear the kids behind me yelling, "There it is ... There it is," about six inches from my foot.

Quickly I turned, swoosh went my trusty broom, and I just knew I had become the Bat Man of Carlisle.

I moved the broom, the bat screeched, and I nearly had a heart attack. Beth, my 10 year old stepped on the broom in an effort to kill the bat, but no way was I going to deal with that ... I sent for MY shoes, and my small right foot brought the end to Mr. Bat.

After the demise of the bat and successful sweeping out the second floor door, I began to pound on my chest and scream, "Bat Man!"

To say the least there was to be no sleeping the remainder of the night, so we're up and ready to go at 6 a.m.

That is all of us except Carol and Michael, who had managed to sleep in the back of the house, fan on, indifferent to all going on.

Carol got it pretty bad for sleeping all night.

U.S. SENATOR FOR KENTUCKY

Mitch McConnell

Our nation's agriculture economy is under siege. The lack of rain combined with record high temperatures plunged this nation into the worst drought since the Great Depression. I consider the drought not just a crisis, but a national emergency of immense proportions.

In Kentucky, the drought is destroying millions of dollars worth of agriculture products and threatens to deal a devastating blow to the state's agriculture economy. Over the past months, I have been in constant communication with officials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to make sure that the USDA is doing everything possible to help farmers save crops and cattle. To date, Congress and the USDA have mobilized resources and taken the following measures to aid farmers:

Haying and Grazing - The USDA has authorized 100 counties to utilize an avoid land for haying and grazing. CPM land in these counties may also be hayed. In addition, any emergency forage, or "stress crop," may be harvested for immediate feeding.

Emergency Feed Assistance - Two programs, the Emergency Feed Program and the Emergency Feed Assistance Program provide livestock producers with breaks in the cost of government-owned stocks or with cost-share assistance for feed. This aid is available to qualified farmers who live in approved counties.

Emergency Disaster Loans - An auction is declared disaster area, the Farmers Home Administration may make available low interest loans to farmers who qualify. Stabilization of Cash Markets - USDA has indicated it will purchase up to \$50 million worth of bulk ground beef and pork to help support meat prices which have plummeted because of the drought.

TOLL FREE HOT LINE - The USDA has a disaster assistance hot line available for farmers who have questions about what resources are available to them. The number is 1-800-451-3775 and is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday; all times are Eastern Daylight Time.

As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I am working with other committee members and the bipartisan House-Senate Drought Task Force to monitor the severity of the drought and develop legislation to offer additional assistance to farmers. No one could have predicted this drought or anticipated its severity. I plan to continue my work with the USDA and make sure that Kentucky farmers are able to take full advantage of all federal programs and disaster funds for drought relief.

After a day of having chimney work done, some holes patched, we decided to try sleeping again. Unable to get comfortable we turned on all of the lights in the house, and promptly went to sleep.

A little after 1 a.m., a good friend called to see if we were fighting bats, since it looked like we were trying to buy out Kentucky Utilities.

About 15 minutes later ... after I had fallen back asleep ... Marilyn began to punch me to give me the alarming news, "Hank, I think there's a bat under the bed ... I heard something."

I wasn't going to argue with her (I had my broom close by) and I dropped my left leg off the side of the bed ... and began to get out of bed.

Without my glasses, you see, I can't tell what hardly anything is, so here I am trying to focus on the broom to have weapon in hand for the impending battle.

Out of the corner of my left eye I see this giant bat, it must have weighed 40 pounds coming up from the floor near the corner.

No way was I going to tackle that one, so I hollered, Marilyn hollered, and I jumped back into the bed and nearly knocked Marilyn out of bed on top of her side, getting away from this GIANT bat.

After somewhat getting my composure I discovered it was actually Michael, who had crept into the room, gotten down in the floor, because he couldn't get into the bed.

Some fun, huh? Think it's funny? Well it is now, but at 1:30 a.m., Friday I thought my heart was going to be stuck in my throat forever.

Of course there was no getting back to sleep for Michael, so on power of two or three hours sleep in two days, I ventured with him downstairs.

I stayed up with him until about 4:45 (Do you know how bad television is at 3 a.m.?) and Marilyn sent me to bed for a nap, and she crawled into bed at about 6 o'clock. That's 6 a.m.

At 6:15 we got another phone call, and that just about put the end to life as we know it on this planet.

Of course, it would be unfair not to mention, Carol slept all night again.

Finally, after a couple hours sleep, we managed to make it through another work day and got home Friday night with the thought of lights or no lights, we're going to sleep.

Off went the lights ... and just as we were falling asleep, I can remember thinking, "Gee, I wish those people with brakes on their cars that sound like bats screeching would get them fixed."

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty (minutes sleep) I hope.

Screenings offered in Lexington
Carlie's residents turned out in full force on Saturday, June 18 for the free health screenings offered by the Kentucky Eye Institute.

GENERAL NEWS



Rick Navitsky - Dorothy Costello

Horse park open to Nicholas Counties

Residents of Nicholas, Ohio, Oldham, Owen and Owen counties will be the guest for a "County Day" celebration at the Kentucky Horse Park.

The event is scheduled for July 9. For residents of the counties invited, admission is free to the Horse Park. Among attractions covered in the park's general admission are the two horse movies, the horse museum, the motorized park tour, the Parade of Breda, the walking farm tour, and the new Hall of Champions, home of champion thoroughbreds John Henry, Frogs, and Boss Gold and standardebred, Rambling Willie.

White-Westinghouse 17.0 Cu. Ft. 100% Frost Free Refrigerator-Freezer. Features: 3 Adjustable Temperature Controls, Glace-Out Shelves, Optional Auto-Defrost, Twin Dairy Compartment, Removable Egg Slicer, Storage in Juice Can Rack, Twin Vegetable & Fruit Crispers.

White-Westinghouse 30 Eurocher® Range. Features: European Style Solid Surface Elements, Extra Large Clean-up Area, 16" Electric Cooktop for over 200 uses, Work-Saving Self-Cleaning Oven.

White-Westinghouse Whisper Cool Room Air Conditioner. Features: 11,500 BTU/HR, Whisper Cool Quiet Cooling, 5-Speed Fan & Motor, 4-Stage Filtration, Drainage, Quiet Cooling, Power Lock, Slide-Out Chassis.

Bobby Duncan Electric 102 South Broadway - Carlisle 289-2539. "We Service What We Sell"

Couple making trip

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After the long trek, will the pair recommend the trip to anyone else?

Costello said, "I think we would both recommend traveling on bike to everyone - we are frankly shocked that more do not take the time to see America this way."

"You do learn something new every day, and those can be valuable lessons when you have all this time to think about them," he concluded.

A silent agreement passed between the two and touched all that surrounded the cyclists as they rode into the mid-afternoon sun...

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL. Through High School Youth. Hear Bible Driver Mike Phillips and see his Race Car on Monday July 11th.

At The First Baptist Church of Carlisle 345 Locust Street July 11 - 15 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

All Invited! For further information call Reverend Michael Greer at 289-5293 or 289-5658. This school jointly sponsored by the First Baptist Church and the Carlisle First Christian Church.