

Rainbow Bridge

A few days ago, I said goodbye to my 14 1/2 year old friend, Shelton. This little buddy was loyal, loving, faithful and eagerly accompanied me to work for over four years. The sadness and loneliness I feel is eased by the comforting words and phone calls from friends and customers. In months past, many of my customers and friends have said goodbye to their pets, either from illness or accidents. Ben, Bandit, Ozzy, Pudgy, Little Bit, Snowball, Sonora, Cuddles, Hannah, Puddles and Vegas to mention just a few. I hope the following poem will bring comfort to you and all pet owners. I want to thank Dr. Prather and staff at All Creatures Veterinary Clinic for being so very gentle and good with Shelton, and for sending me this poem.

Gail Barrett
Gail's Pampered Pooch
Brookhead, KY
Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of Heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together.

There is plenty of food and water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable. All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

The animals are happy and con-

tent, except for one small thing: they miss someone very special to them who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. The bright eyes are intent; the eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to break away from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster. You have been spotted and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your special friend, so long gone from your life, but never absent from your heart.

Then, you cross Rainbow Bridge together...

Author Unknown



Mr. Harold R. Whitaker, center, of Rt. 1 Mt. Vernon received second place in the Commissioner's Environmental and Sustainable Agriculture Award. The Rockcastle County Commission District nominated Mr. Whitaker for his leadership in the establishment of No-Till Tobacco. Harold, along with his wife Sandy, above left, Conservation District Supervisors, Randall Templeman representing NRCS, and Warden Alexander with FSA attended the AG Day Luncheon that was held on March 21, 2001 at the Farmham Dodgeon Civic Center in Evansport. Mr. Billy Ray Smith, Commissioner of Agriculture, presented Mr. Whitaker with a plaque and a \$500 check. Ky. Association of Conservation Districts, Ky. Dept. of Agriculture, and Ky. Farm Bureau, and Co-op Extension Services sponsor this annual event.

I'm Looking Back

By: Ravena Payne
I'm walking down the road of life; my dreams placed in a sack. And though I always look ahead there's a joy in looking back. Things always seem much clearer when there's distance in between. For we get the right perspective. For at last we've really seen. For we fashion our tomorrows from mistakes of yesterday. And we profit from the lessons of for which we had to pay.

We are better for the lessons that life teaches us so well. There would be no rising upward if our feet had never fell. It is good to be a deer but a deer has his place. It is helpful to remember that the turtle won the race. I have found the highway straighter but I love the beaten track. The view ahead is lovely but I'm always looking back.

Bus Drills/Early Dismissal

The Rockcastle County Schools will be conducting bus drills on Friday, April 6, 2001. The Rockcastle County High School and Middle School will dismiss at 2:30 p.m. Buses will then proceed to the elementary schools where the drills will be conducted. Please adjust your schedule for this early dismissal.

Applications for New Opportunity School for Women requested now

Applications for the summer session of the New Opportunity School for Women, a free educational and career exploration program, should be requested now.

The upcoming session is scheduled for June 3-23, 2001, on the Berea College campus. Designed for women of low-income who have high school diplomas or GED's or who are actively working on their GED, but who have not completed college, ap-

plicants must be between the ages of 30 and 55.

The program provides educational opportunities through classes in computer basics, leadership development, Appalachian literature, and writing in addition to lectures, field trips and workshops focusing on building self-confidence.

Job skills will be identified and participants will learn to write resumes and practice interview techniques. Those selected to attend will also have internships in a field of interest, either on the Berea College campus or in the community. Lodging and all meals are provided and grants for travel and child care are available.

Requests for applications and additional information should be addressed to Caroline Francis, Executive Director, New Opportunity School for Women, 204 Chestnut Street, Berea, Kentucky 40403 or by phoning 859-985-7200.

The school was founded in 1987 by Jane B. Stephenson, a specialist in adult education programs and 337 women have now graduated from the program.

Help Wanted

Renfro Valley Entertainment Center is hiring for a server to work evenings at the Lodge Restaurant. Apply in person at Renfro Valley Entertainment Center, 1-75 Exit 62 and US 25, Renfro Valley, KY 40473.

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