

# The Circus



Ron Cowell

Being raised in the city every time spring comes around one of the things I remember the most as a young boy was when the Circus came to town. It was a big deal. As soon as I heard the circus was coming to town my mind went into overtime seeing all the animals and acts that were coming to town. It was pretty expensive back then so I only got to go a time or two but Dad and Mom always made sure we got down town to see the circus come to town. As the circus wagons passed by, followed by elephants and tigers in cages, clowns riding in a small car and juggling to me what looked like bowling pins. It was a big deal living in the city and seeing that parade. I sometimes wish we could see and experience that parade one more time.

The "Greatest Show on Earth" the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus closed for good just what seems to be a few years ago on a Saturday night in New York, ending a 146-year run. They say that success has many fathers and failure is an orphan but in the case of Ringling, there is at least one proud papa taking credit for driving the circus into the ground and that is the animal rights movement.

The circus for wild animals came to an end when People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in a news release after Ringling announced its imminent shutdown in January. "Thirty-six years of PETA protests and of documenting animals left to die, beaten animals, and much more, has reduced attendance to the point of no return."

The dwindling audiences that led Ringling to fold up its Big Top probably have had more to do with competition from other forms of family entertainment than with animal rights agitation. The Kill Ringling Brothers movement which includes many groups, among them the Humane Society of the United States, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Performing Animal Welfare Society, as well as celebrities such as "Baywatch" star Pamela Anderson and "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane was nothing if not dedicated. Someone should protest Family Guy. If you have never seen it you are missing nothing. PETA posted picket bearing protesters outside nearly every Ringling performance and flooded the Internet with disturbing videos showing helpless beasts shackled in chains, closely confined in cages, goaded with hooks and whips and vulnerable to infectious diseases in packed circus trains.

Ringling Bros. has always denied mistreating its animals. Feld Entertainment Inc., Ringling's parent company, paid a \$270,000 civil penalty to the Department of Agriculture to settle a PETA brought claim of violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act. Feld also agreed to compliance training for its handlers and veterinarians. In 2016, Ringling took elephants out of its shows altogether. The PETA motto sums it up "Animals are not ours to eat, wear, experiment on, use for entertainment, or abuse in any other way." For the truest believers, the idea is any use of an animal by a human is abuse.

I don't believe in cruelty to animals either but in some way it looks like things have gone to far the other way now. I respect a person's view on not eating meat or using animals to perform so why push their belief on everyone else. Once again in a small way between the Circus mistreating the animals and this countries move to political correctness ended what was once truly "The Greatest Show on Earth I miss it! Till next time "Keep Cruizen"!

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# Family, faith and favorite things

Linda P Stephens

Favorite thing .... A heating pad. Are these not the grandest things? Recently my lower back has been bothering me, so I pulled out the heating pad. What a good feeling to "feel" the warmth from that heating pad move into my sore back!

Pot Propaganda Challenged. There's a huge gap between what mental health professionals know and what the general public has been led to believe regarding the harmful effects of pot.

Alex Berenson is a journalist and author of "Tell Your Children: The Truth About Marijuana, Mental Illness, and Violence." His research indicates that marijuana use is linked to mental illness and violence. "Almost everything you think you know about the health effects of cannabis, almost everything pot advocates, and the media have told you for a generation, is wrong."

Of course, pro-pot people disagree. For 30 years, pot advocates, including the media and some politicians, have waged a shrewd and expensive lobbying campaign, telling us, that marijuana use is no big deal and should be legalized for medical purposes. They are wrong.

Here are some of the deceptions that Berenson's research undermines: 1) Deception: Marijuana has many different uses. In reality, pot works only in a few narrow conditions. 2) Deception: Cannabis (marijuana) stems opioid use. In truth, marijuana is too weak a painkiller for people who need opiates. 3) Deception: Pot is safe and a potential treatment for psychiatric problems like depression. Wrong again.

Berenson said, " .... a mountain of peer-reviewed research in top medical journals shows that marijuana can cause and worsen severe mental illness, especially psychosis. ("Psychosis" refers to a range of conditions that affect the mind, in which there has been some loss of contact with reality.)

So why the big push for marijuana to be legalized? Plain and simple: Money, money, money. There's potential for huge amounts of money to be made. For marijuana to be legalized, advocates have to put a positive spin on the product. The first step is legalization for medical purposes. When that's accomplished, then comes the push to get it legalized for recreational purposes. Just

like legalizing anything that will have harmful effect on families and children, advocates stifle the truth, attack the opposition, and paint a utopian picture. The only thing that matters is the money to be made!

Christian Persecution on the Rise Worldwide. More than 245 Christians around the world are now suffering "high" to "extremely high" persecution, according to Open Doors 2019 World Watch List. This is 14% higher than 2018. Open Doors believes this extreme rise in persecution is largely driven by Islamic extremism and Communist authoritarianism. The eleven top countries for persecution Christians are: 1) North Korea. 2) Afghanistan. 3) Somalia. 4) Libya. 5) Pakistan. 6) Sudan. 7) Eritrea. 8) Yemen. 9) Iran. 10) India. 11) Syria.

Around the world every month: 225 Christians are killed. 104 are abducted. 180 Christian women are raped, sexually harassed, or forced into marriage. 66 churches are attacked. 160 Christians are detained without trial and imprisoned. The Barnabas Fund helps Christians in over 60 countries, when disaster strikes and they are forced to leave their

homes. In many cases, they are denied state aid ... purely because of their faith. Supplies to displaced Christian families included sacks of maize, blankets, sleeping mats and soap.

One more thing: "Coastal Cat. For nearly 40 years, residents along France's Brittany coast have been picking up novelty Garfield telephones from off their beach. The problem began in the early 1980's when orange phones designed to look like the famous cartoon character began washing ashore now and again. At first, it seemed to be a prank, but after 35 years, volunteers with an anti-litter group decided to find the source of the now-vintage Garfield phones. Recently, the mystery was solved: a lost shipping container broken open inside a sea cave accessible only during low tide. The container remains out of reach, meaning the Garfield phones will likely continue appearing on French coasts."

In closing, adjustments in our new life.... My cat "children" and I are making several adjustments in our new life without David. Grocery shopping is different now. My shopping list has changed ....

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## ABSOLUTE Auction 63-Acre Farm in Tracts

Friday, May 24, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. CDT

2653 Old Clear Springs Road – Russell Springs, KY

Scenic acreage located near Russell Springs and Jamestown, prime for development with several beautiful sites for building. This farm also has excellent crop and pasturelands. This property has city water available and blacktop frontage. Join us for this all important land auction on Friday, May 24th at 5:00 p.m. CDT.



**Tract #1 and Tract #4** measures 4.53 and 5.65 acres respectively. These all cleared tracts are the best of cropland and have fantastic sites for home placement.



**Tract #2** measures 1.92 and is mostly wooded acres. This tract would be a great building tract in a wooded setting.



**Tract #5** consists of 1.56 acres. This tract has a basement already dug out and ready for you to finish a home to your specifications.



**Tract #3** (accessed by an easement) is that perfect 10.30 acre baby farm site.

**Tract #6** is the largest of the tracts at 21.62 acres. This tract is ideal crop/pastureland and for running livestock or building your dream home!

**Tract #7 and #8** measures 8.33 and 9.21 acres respectively. Again these rare find small acreages offer the best of pasture/crop land but have many beautiful home sites.

**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** Perfectly sized - tracts with development potential and farming greatness are offered in this 63 Acre farm being sold on the evening of Friday, May 24th. Join us at 5:00 p.m. CDT.

**Note:** There will be a ten percent buyer's premium added to the last bid to determine the final sales price.

**Terms:** Real Estate - 20% deposit the day of the auction with the balance due in 30 days.

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For additional information contact the auctioneers at 606-679-2212 or log onto our website at [www.fordbrothersinc.com](http://www.fordbrothersinc.com). Announcements made the day of the auction take precedence over printed matter.



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