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Thursday, June 18, 2026

UPLAND, FAIRMOUNT & HARTFORD CITY
Courier

The Voice of EAST CENTRAL INDIANA Since 1892 • Indiana News Group

Fairmount mother and son enjoy variety of adventures

By Cathy Shouse
ING Contributing Writer

Diana and Isaiah Geist are a mother and son duo from Fairmount who like to take up adventures where they find them. In recent months, they've been to Houston, Texas with Isaiah's team to a worldwide robotics competition, as well as to see the famous Big Boy steam engine when it passed through Indiana.

Union Pacific's famed Big Boy No. 4014 is the largest operating steam locomotive. This summer its part of a historic coast-to-coast tour celebrating America's 250th anniversary. It's heading to a 4th of July celebration in

Philadelphia and making more than 50 "whistle-stops in 10 states, including Indiana. The train stopped in Argos, Indiana June 5 and simply drove by other locations.

"The train didn't stop in our location," Diana Geist said. "We just have a picture of us by the tracks. Big Boy passes through Indiana July 16 again, going back to its home out West. Thousands of people lined the tracks. It was really special, and inspiring to see a massive train still functioning, a manmade contribution to the industrial age. Puts AI to same."

Geist and her older kids as well came from out-of-state in 2017. Isaiah is

especially involved with a favorite project, his robotics team.

"America aims to be a world leader in technology, so these days science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) opportunities are up there with baseball and apple pie," she said. "My homeschooled high school son, Isaiah, has been a part of the community-based FIRST robotics team in Matthews, PhyXTGears, for 3 years. This year the team qualified to go to the FIRST World Competition event in Houston, TX after an outstanding competition season here in Indiana! When a once in a lifetime event comes along, you've got to take it!

And take it they did, with just 48++ hours to decide on—and fund—whether they would go to Texas. Dozens of students and adults went.

"I was impressed by how quickly PhyXTGears mentors, parents, sponsors, family and community members came together to provide for the expenses for such an endeavor. . . . Once on site at the competition venue, the George R Brown Convention

Center, I realized I had not fully imagined the scale of the event. It's one thing to read about 50,000 attendees, 19,000 students, 1055 teams from 66 countries but quite another to experience it! Interacting with teams from around the world was as exciting as watching all the teams demonstrate their level of STEM expertise."

The purpose of the event may have been science activities, but they made a human connection as well.

"Many teams had something from their team or country to give away. Isaiah came home with team buttons, stickers, 3-D printed gadgets and candy from other countries or parts of America. PhyXTGears students had other quintessential American experiences . . . the kinds of things that help a young person expand their understanding of themselves and our world," she said.

Isaiah took away a lot from the experience.

"What I enjoyed the most was the opportunity to meet other teams from across the world and to see my very own robotics team compete at the highest level of



Diana Geist and son Isaiah are pictured at a world robotics competition in Houston Texas.

competition," Isaiah said. "This program is an opportunity to increase knowledge in STEM for passions and careers. It is inspiring how NASA creates these games to motivate students to learn new skills to demonstrate at competition. Also, while we were there, we went to the NASA Space Center. It was exciting to explore more about space. My favorite part was seeing Saturn V! It was thrilling to see a historical piece of American technology!

This trip built up my friendships."

"Three years ago it was a God-send to find this {robotics} community. The mentors meet the students where they're at and instruct them to the next level. Despite significant physical limitations associated with arthrogyrosis, this robotics program is one way Isaiah still has freedom of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. 250 years of America's founding principles and counting!"



Isaiah Geist and his mother Diana pose by the railroad tracks where they saw the Big Boy engine whiz by on its 250th anniversary journey across the US.

PhyXTGears robotics mentor Mike Koch answers questions

1. How did you become involved?

I became involved in 2005 after visiting the Indiana Robotics Invitational. Although this is an off-season event originally for Indiana Teams, it has become one of the most elite events for FIRST

(For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) teams. Sixty-four of the best teams in the world gather for two days of qualification and playoff matches. Each team has its own 10' x 10' pit for robot preparation and repair manned by students eager to show off their robots, explain its

operation and detail the challenges of the design and fabrication.

They then play on a basketball-size field, 3 on 3 for that year's game.

The challenge, relational interaction and outcomes were what motivated me to become a mentor.

2. How do you feel about the team qualifying for the world competition this year?

Over the years the PhyXTGears team has attended the World Championship playoffs five times in St. Louis, Detroit and this year in Houston. There, 600 teams compete for top honors. Eight simultaneous competitions of 70 some teams on eight

fields. On Daly (fields are named after scientists) we ended 7 - 3, a very rewarding experience for students and mentors alike.

3. What was your favorite part of the world competition experience and how many students attended?

About 30 students from the East Central Indian Robotics (PhyXTGears) team located in Matthews attended along with many parents and mentors. This was a great competition with teams from 16 countries, was educational, inspiring and challenging. We were honored by our

sponsors' confidence in the team and the program, who made the trip possible.

What's next?

The 1720 team was invited this year to IRI, July 16-18 at Lawrence Central High School.

Find out more at <https://phyxtgears.org/>



Mike Koch



Matthews-area robotics team and its community supporters took a photo in Houston, Texas at the world championships.

STUDY,
from page 2

much more. This study provides a comprehensive look at the many hats worn by women in agriculture as well as opportunities to better support them.”

A key finding from the study is that women in agriculture have strong confidence in their ability to balance farm work and family responsibilities. Most respondents also have a high level of confidence in their ability to represent agriculture in public or professional settings. In fact, 9 out of 10 women report feeling

confident speaking at community meetings about agriculture, and an impressive number — nearly 90% — of women surveyed are interested in taking on leadership roles now or in the future.

Conversely, the study also identifies five key areas where the agriculture sector could increase support: time and caregiving; skill development; leadership involvement; financial future; and overall wellbeing.

For example, almost half (44%) of women surveyed reported interest in gaining equipment or technical skills training, while nearly

6 in 10 respondents (56%) expressed interest in business and financial management training.

“As a grassroots organization and committee, we have long built our programming based on feedback from members,” Chism said. “For example, we doubled the number of communications boot camps we host. This survey gives us contemporary data that will help us develop future workshops, online engagements and peer-support networks for women.”

Encouragingly, several data points reinforce existing

Farm Bureau programming. For example, 45% of respondents expressed interest in policy or civic engagement training, and 42% expressed interest in community involvement or advocacy training. This aligns with the focus of Farm Bureau’s Women’s Communications Boot Camp, which has trained more than 350 women in agriculture in communications and advocacy.

Furthermore, the Women’s Leadership Committee has continually focused on the importance of mentorship among women in

agriculture, an interest identified by 45% of survey respondents. Programs such as AgConnectHER serve to inspire and equip women in agriculture to succeed in leadership, not just in the agricultural industry but well beyond.

More than half (52%) of all respondents reported interest in training related to farm succession or ownership transition. Farm Bureau has featured workshops on succession planning at eight of the last 10 most recent Farm Bureau Conventions and nine of the 10 most recent Young Farmers &

Ranchers or FUSION conferences.

More than 4,300 women in agriculture from all 50 states and Puerto Rico responded to the survey. A strong majority (61%) described their operation as a family farm, and more than 25 different crops and commodities were represented. AFBF and its research partners will continue analyzing the study results to gain additional insights.

Farm Bureau is appreciative of CoBank and JBS for their support of this study in order to recognize the essential roles women play in agriculture.

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TELEHANDLERS: 2023 Magni TH5.5.19P telehandler-1,625 hrs, 12,000 lb cap, 61 ft reach, cab, heat/AC, forks, outriggers; 2019 Merlo P50.18HM telehandler-514 hrs, 12,000 lb cap, 59 ft height, cab, heat/AC, aux hydr, forks; 2018 Xtreme XR1147 telehandler-10,580 hrs, 11,000 lb cap, 47 ft height, cab, heat/AC, aux hydr, forks; 2023 JCB 510-56 telehandler-655 hrs, 10,000 lb cap, 56 ft reach, outriggers, aux hydr, forks; 2018 Xtreme XR1055 telehandler-4,594 hrs, 10,000 lb cap, 55 ft reach, OROPS, outriggers, forks; 2018 SkyTrak 10054 telehandler-7,764 hrs, 10,000 lb cap, 54 ft reach, cab, heat/AC, forks, outriggers; 2016 SkyTrak 10054 telehandler-4,575 hrs, 10,000 lb cap, 54 ft height, forks, outriggers; 2004 JLG 944E-42 telehandler-1,999 hrs, 9,000 lb cap, 42 ft reach, OROPS, 4x4; 2024 Bobcat TL619 telehandler-246 hrs, 5,500 lb cap, 19 ft reach, cab, aux hydr, quick attach.

TRENCHER / PAVER / SWEEPERS: Hoes 685 trencher-800 hrs on motor, Deutz engine, 7 ft digging depth, tile boots; 2016 Volvo PF2181 asphalt paver-5,939 hrs, diesel, heated screed, 15 ft 7 in max paving width; 2017 Lay-Mor Sweepmaster 300 towable sweeper-408 hrs, OROPS; Tennant 550 floor scrubber-2,108 hrs, OROPS.

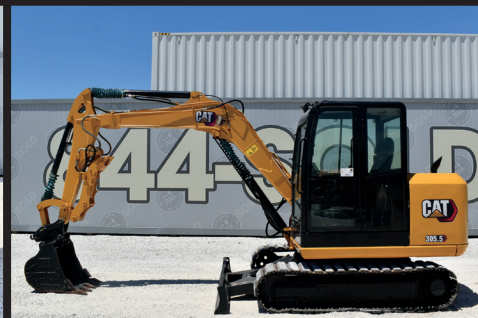
BOOM LIFTS / SCISSOR LIFTS: 2013 Genie S85 boom lift-2,278 hrs, 85 ft reach, 4x4; 2015 JLG 600S boom lift-5,419 hrs, 60 ft height, diesel; 2014 JLG 600A boom lift-3,213 hrs, 60 ft height, 4x4, dual fuel; 2014 Genie S45 boom lift-3,728 hrs, 45 ft height, 4x4, jib; 2011 Genie Z45/25J boom lift-6,086 hrs, 45 ft platform height, dual fuel; 2007 Genie S40 boom lift-2,955 hrs, 40 ft height, gas; 2012 JLG E400AJPN electric boom lift, 40 ft height; 2018 JLG T350 towable boom lift-160 hrs, 34 ft platform height; 2008 Genie GS5390RT scissor lift-2,531 hrs, 4x4, outriggers, 53 ft height; Skyjack SJ9250RT scissor lift-2,230 hrs, 4x4, outriggers, 50 ft platform height; 2015 Genie GS5390RT scissor lift-2,115 hrs, 4x4, outriggers; 2012 JLG M4069LE electric scissor lift-524 hrs, 40 ft platform height; 2006 JLG 2630ES electric scissor lift-469 hrs; 2023 MEC Micro 26 AC electric scissor lift-143 hrs.

COMPACTORS / ROLLERS: 2014 CAT CP56B padfoot roller-11,158 hrs, cab, heat/AC, 84 in drum; 2012 CAT CP56 padfoot roller-7,517 hrs, cab, blade, 84 in drum; 2017 Bomag BW177PDH-5 padfoot roller-1,177 hrs, OROPS; 2010 Bomag BW138AD double drum roller-2,060 hrs; 2017 Bomag BW900-50 double drum roller-158 hrs, OROPS; Benford 2010SD roller-558 hrs.

TRACTORS: 2021 John Deere 5045E tractor-2,409 hrs, OROPS, MFWD, 3pt, PTO; 2019 John Deere 5045E tractor-2,745 hrs, OROPS, MFWD, 3pt, PTO; John Deere 3010 tractor-1,578 hrs, open station, synchro trans, PTO, 3pt; 2007 John Deere 2320 loader tractor-1,229 hrs, loader, mower deck, hydrostatic trans.

TRUCKS: 2007 Kenworth T800 dump truck-812,770 mi, quad axle, CAT C15, 18 spd, aluminum bed, roll tarp; 1996 Mack RD688S dump truck-36,817 mi, quad axle, aluminum bed, roll tarp, 8LL trans; 2005 Peterbilt 378 sleeper semi-503,000 mi, rebuilt engine, manual trans, wet kit; 2013 Kenworth T660 sleeper semi-1,387,668 mi, Cummins, tandem axle, sleeper; 2005 Peterbilt 385 day cab-820,419 mi, CAT engine, manual trans; 2010 International ProStar day cab-416,479 mi, Cummins, manual trans; 1999 GMC TopKick C7500 dump truck-191,299 mi, CAT engine, auto trans, roll tarp; 2012 International Durastar 4400 dump truck, MaxxForce, auto trans, roll tarp; 2007 International 4400 flatbed-319,525 mi, tandem axle, MaxxForce DT, Allison auto; 2006 Chevrolet Kodiak C4500 dump truck-192,846 mi, crew cab, Duramax, auto trans; 2017 Ford F550 XL service truck-270,009 mi, 4x4, diesel, crane, compressor; 2012 Ford F450-174,168 mi, 6.7L Powerstroke, enclosed van body; 1994 Ford F700 dump truck-177,000 mi, Cummins L10, manual trans, 9 ft dump body; 2017 Chevrolet 3500HD LTZ-56,947 mi, crew cab, dually, 4x4, Duramax; 2018 Ram 2500HD-158,513 mi, crew cab, long bed, 4x4, gas; 2013 Ford F150 Platinum-191,093 mi, crew cab, 4x4, leather; 2007 Ford F150 Lariat-210,230 mi, extended cab, 4x4; 2014 Ford E250 van-187,594 mi.

TRAILERS: 2017 Wilson DWH-651 40 ft hopper trailer, electric tarp, electric hoppers, lift axle; 2015 Western 44 ft belt trailer, hydr door, roll tarp; 2008 Utility 53 ft van trailer, fixed axle, missing reefer unit; 2005 Wabash 53 ft van trailer, sliding axle; 2005 Wabash 53 ft van trailer, tandem fixed axle; 1995 Fruehauf van trailer, tandem axle; 1993 Transcraft Eagle aluminum flatbed trailer, 45 ft x 96 in, spread axle; 1971 40 ft flatbed trailer, tandem axle, wood deck; Fontaine step deck trailer, 41 ft overall, 10 ft step, 29 ft main deck; 1979 East 30 ft end dump trailer, roll tarp, plastic liner; 2026 Industrias America 625 bale wagon;



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Doris Maureen Colvin

Doris "Maureen" Colvin, 86, of Marion, passed away at 9:12 am on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at Wesleyan Health Care & Rehabilitation Center in Marion. The family will receive visitors from 11:00 am to 12:00 noon on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Maureen's life will begin at 12:00 noon with Evangelist Taylor Ladd officiating. Burial will take place at Grant Memorial Park.

Brenda Sue Borders

Brenda Sue Borders, 63, Gas City, passed away in her home at 7:45 pm on Wednesday, June 10, 2026. A funeral to celebrate Brenda's life will be held at 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at the funeral home. Pastor Mick Simpkins will be officiating with burial following at Riverside Cemetery.

Lowell D. "Skip" Roby

Lowell D. "Skip" Roby, 86, Gas City, passed away at 5:45 pm on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne. A funeral service to celebrate Skip's life was held at 11:30 am on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at the funeral home. Pastor Tom Mansberger officiated with burial following at Grant Memorial Park.

Our deepest condolences to those who have lost loved ones. Prayers of comfort and peace.

Michael F. Schadler

It is with deep respect and heartfelt sorrow that we announce the passing of Michael F. Schadler, a devoted man of faith and family, who left us on June 7, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana. A visitation to honor Michael's memory was held on June 12, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at, Maple Run Friend's Church, located at 4460 W 400 S, Marion, Indiana 46953. The funeral service followed from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the same location.

Jason R. Cochran

CJason R. Cochran - September 30, 1974 — June 11, 2026 - Funeral Service was held on Monday, June 15, 2026 - 1:00 - 2:00 pm (Eastern time) at Jones-Smith Chapel, 259 N Main St, Upland, IN 46989.

William T. Conrad

William T. Conrad, 85, of Swayzee, passed away at 1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at Marion Health. At William's request, there will be no public visitation or funeral service. Arrangements are entrusted to Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN.

Sherry Lynn Rice

Sherry Lynn Rice, 74, of Upland went to be with the Lord on June 9th, 2026. There will be no services at this time. In lieu of flowers please make donations to your local pet shelter in her honor. The family would like to thank Heartland Hospice for their compassionate care during Sherry's end of life journey.

Kevin D. Van Ness

Kevin D. Van Ness, 59, of Marion, Indiana, passed away on June 8, 2026, in Ft. Wayne. Services will be set for a future date to be determined. Owen-Weilert Duncan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Velma Olena Wafford

Velma Olena Wafford, 73, passed away on June 9, 2026 at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. Velma's wishes were to be cremated with no services. Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 North High Street, Hartford City is in charge of arrangements.

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- Back Creek Wesleyan** - 10:30 a.m.,
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Baptist Church** - 10:30 a.m.,
Sunday School - 9:30
- a.m.
Fairmount Church of God - 10:30 a.m.,
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Fairmount Friends - 10:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Wesleyan** - 9:30 a.m.
Fairmount United Methodist - 9:30 a.m.
- Fowlerton United Methodist** - 10:45 a.m.
Grant Church (Global Methodist) 11018 S 300 E
Fairmount 9:00 a.m.
- Jones Chapel** - 10:30 a.m.,
Sunday School - 9 a.m.
MorningStar Ministries, 11:00 a.m. (Jonesboro)
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church** - 9 a.m. (Hartford City)
- One of Ten Ministries and Church** - 10:30 a.m.
Pilgrim Holiness - 6 p.m.
- Real Community Covenant Church** - 10 a.m. - 1240 S. Adams in Marion
- Westview Wesleyan**, 11 a.m. (Jonesboro)
Women of Hope Bible Study - Tuesday - 10 a.m.
(Located at One of Ten on SR 26 in Fairmount. Open to all women in Grant County)
- Fairmount UMC** - Monday - 7 p.m. - Campus Life
- Fairmount UMC** - Wednesday - 10 a.m.,
Men and Women's Bible Study

Master's Voice and The Rogers Family in concert at Epworth Church



Master's Voice



The Rogers Family

Epworth Church, 105 W 8th St, Matthews, Indiana is pleased to announce Master's Voice with special guest The Rogers Family in concert on Friday, July 10, 2026! Doors open at 6 PM, Concert starts at 7 PM. Tickets are \$15. Also, a love offering

will be received. Limited seating, To guarantee your seats, please purchase tickets in advance at epworthworship.com/mv or call/text 765-667-0842. Master's Voice is a Southern Gospel quartet based in Bristow, Oklahoma, founded in 1995

by Ricky Capps. Master's Voice's music spans several genres, including Southern Gospel, Country Gospel, and Contemporary Christian, all while conveying the core message of Christ. Their primary goal is to encourage believers and reach out to those who do not yet know Jesus personally. They maintain a busy tour schedule, performing extensively across the Midwest and other regions, including international tours to places like Canada and Australia. The current lineup consists of Ricky Capps (tenor), T.J. Evans (lead), Nathan Terry (baritone), and TBA (bass). The Rogers Family originated in Northeast Georgia

where Ray & Helen Rogers, and their daughter, Kim, sang in churches with Kim playing the piano. Kim met Sammy Shields at a church in North Carolina, and they married in 1999. They have three children: Rebekah, 25; Samuel, 21; & Hannah, 17. The family now resides in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. Ray passed away in 2010, and now the kids do most of the singing, although Kim and Helen still enjoy singing with the family as well. Helen, Kim, Sammy, Rebekah, Samuel, & Hannah is the current group that travels and sings today, with Kim still the pianist, and is blessed to carry on the tradition of southern gospel music.

Make a ceramic berry bowl at Arts place June 30/July 1

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Event Date/Time:
Jay County Campus: Tuesday, June 30, 2026 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
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Event Location:
Arts Place Hudson Center for the Visual Arts
136 E Walnut St. Portland, IN 47371
Arts Place Blackford County Arts Center 107 W Washington St Hartford City, IN 47348
Cost is \$25.00 per person
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Registration Fee is NON-REFUNDABLE
Arts Place contact person for questions or more information and how to be involved
Call Arts Place Blackford County Arts Center at 765-348-4154 with any questions.
How to get tickets or register: visit myartsplace.org, call (260) 726-4809 or stop in at Arts Place in Portland or Hartford City.

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Driving while injured, panicked, or in pain puts everyone at risk.

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

Is paying your bills getting increasingly harder?

By Teresa A. LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

Buyer beware. Everything around you is geared toward taking the money you work so hard to make. Department stores have one motive in mind: taking your money. Drug companies (no matter how harmful the side effects are) have one motive in mind: taking your money. Banks have one motive in mind: taking your money and using it to make them more money. As strange as it seems, some of your friends have one motive in mind: taking your money. Amazon, which I love, is geared toward taking our money. So, what do you do to fight against the desperate battle for your money that surrounds you all day, every day?

Almost everyone in America has heard



of the financial guru, Dave Ramsey. He says, “We (Americans) are ignorant as to how much effort, time, energy, and money is spent to get our business and thereby our money. While companies spend billions of dollars and hours to sell to us, we sit idly by, getting sold and sold and sold.”

Ramsey said if you want to be debt free you must, “figure out what your actual income is and then proceed to live far below that mark.” He says you must remind yourself to slow down. Evaluate carefully every purchase because you may be sacrificing your financial freedom for years to come.

Ramsey says if you must borrow money there are two sure-fire guidelines to abide by. First, borrow on short terms and only borrow on items that go up in value. That means, it’s okay to borrow for a house that is within your budget, but borrow for the least number of years you possibly can.

I wonder if most American’s have more trouble getting out of debt, or keeping out of debt?

He says, “Debt will always get you in trouble. Have you ever lain awake at night wondering which bills were going to get paid? Have you ever wished you could buy something for your

children but didn’t have the money?” According to scripture debt will bind you and choke the life out of you. Proverbs 22:7 says, “The rich rule over the poor and the borrow is servant to the lender.”

The Bible speaks against being impulsive. It says, “He who is impulsive exalts folly” (Prov 14:29).

Dave Ramsey is a first-hand rags-to-riches kind of guy. At 26-years-old, he had a \$4 million portfolio, but by the age of 30 he was bankrupt. He has since rebuilt his financial life and devotes himself to helping others who find themselves in the same “mess”. This is not an advertisement for Dave Ramsey, but a bell ringer to get our attention in a volatile financial world. I believe God gives us wisdom when we actively try to make wise choices.

Outdoor Truths: God changed everything

By Gary Miller

OUTDOOR TRUTHS

As adults, we all can look back on our lives and find people or moments that will forever be etched into our memories. Some of them will not only forever be remembered, but they are the ones that changed the trajectory of our lives. It may be the death of a loved one, an illness, or a tragedy, but these periods moved us to places we would have never otherwise gone. Thankfully some of these events were good as well.

For instance, I can remember my first time fishing at the lake and my first time sitting in a tree stand waiting on a deer. Both became part of the foundation of these articles that I have written for 24 years and the ministry they birthed. But the real life-changing event came without excitement.

In fact, without one small gesture, it would have been quickly forgotten. It didn’t come from anything that was special or anyone that was famous. But it is the one thing that changed my life forever. And it is the one thing I continue to go back to, to offer to others who may need that same life change as I did.

It happened one evening as I was preparing to speak at a wild game dinner, 18 years ago, this month. The event was small and held outdoors. About an hour before that event, two men drove up in an older van. I remember a couple of things about their arrival. First, as I noticed the interior of the van, it looked like they were living out of it. I don’t think they were, but it looked like it. And secondly, as I noticed the appearance of these two guys, it looked like they were

living out of the van. Lol. There was nothing special about our encounter. But for some reason I noticed their kindness. After a few introductions, they handed me a thin paperback book and invited me to read it. I thanked them, tossed the book in my truck, and went on with my business. I don’t know how long after that, that I decided to pick up that book, but when I began to

read, I couldn’t put it down. It changed my life because it showed me that God had already freed me from the responsibility of trying to live the Christian life in my own strength. It explained how Paul came to the end of his efforts to keep the law so that he could simply trust Christ to live His life through him. In essence, it broke the grip that legalism had on me

and showed me what grace really was, and how it was not only responsible for my salvation, but also for any spiritual growth I will ever experience. My job was not to produce the life of Christ. My job was simply to bring myself to the Source. Since that time, I have shared that message across the country, looking for others like me who have grown tired of their inability

to live the Christian life by their own efforts.

Looking for others who need someone to fire them from the job they were never qualified to do. So, happy anniversary to me! Eighteen years ago, two ordinary men handed me a little book, and God used it to change everything. “It’s for freedom, that Christ has set you free.” ~Paul

Gary Miller
gary@
outdoortruths.org

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 23 years.

He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men’s events for churches and associations. Stay updated on Outdoor Truths each week by subscribing at Outdoortruths.org



Momentary Affliction

By Brandon Bramlett
Pastor - Bandana Baptist Church

Numbness arrested my legs. Every step was an agonizing jolt, making it impossible to ignore the excruciating pain. Sweat trickled down my face and tears nearly did, too. Every fiber of my being screamed for me to throw in the towel. All of this agony stemmed from the 375-foot ascent to Eagle Point Buttress in the Red River Gorge of eastern Kentucky.

But once I got to the peak, the

sights made the struggle worthwhile. The breathtaking panoramic views stretched as far as the eye could see, as lush pine valleys and rolling hills came together to paint an unforgettable landscape. The beautiful blue sky was like an ocean floating in the heavens. The sun cast a golden glow upon every rock, tree, and stream in the wilderness, illuminating the scene with warmth. And as I took in the incredible scenery, every ounce of my pain melted away.

And the Bible says the same thing about the believer’s earthly sufferings. The uphill climb of life’s trials can make you feel like giving up. There will be times when you feel like you can’t take another step on the tribulation-laden road to everlasting life. But the sight of Jesus Christ in glory will make all of your sufferings worthwhile. That is why Peter said, “But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed” (1 Peter

4:13).

Being with Jesus in heaven will far surpass the pain of your earthly hardships. As a matter of fact, the magnitude of your heavenly reward far outweighs the gravity of your tribulations on earth—so much so that a comparison between them is impossible! As Paul aptly said, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us” (Romans 8:18). The troubles of this life

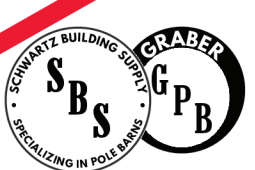
are temporary and they weigh nothing compared to the weight of heaven: “For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison” (2 Cor. 4:17). What is one drop of sorrow compared to an overflowing cup of joy in eternity? What are a thousand dark days compared to being forever in the light of God’s glorious presence?

I also snapped many photographs of the awe-inspiring peak to help me remember why the climb was

well worth it. And believers likewise have a picture of heaven to encourage them that the excruciating climb of life will be worth it in the end: “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:3-4).

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9	2	7	5	6	8	1	3	4
8	4	3	1	9	2	6	5	7
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7	3	6	1	2	4	8	5	9
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Jay County Civic Theatre elects three board members

Jay County Civic Theatre elected three board members during its annual meeting Saturday evening. Re-elected to the civic theatre board of directors was Reid Knuth for a third three-year term. Elected to the board was Katie Loy for her first three-year term. (Katie was originally appointed to the board to fill an unexpired term.) And newly elected to a three-year term on the board was Julie Crandall. Other board members are

Ray Cooney, Lee Osteen, Casi Denney, Sarah Lingo and Rachel Tebbe. Jay County Civic Theatre junior ambassadors for 2026-27 will be Alison McGraw, Leah Wuebker, Esther Crandall and Izzy Huelskamp. Board president Ray Cooney provided a review of the organization's 2025-26 activities. The year included productions of "Legally Blonde," "Annie" and this week's "1776"; the hiring of the organization's



first paid employee — Maisey Kelly as its operations and development coordinator; and work on an annual campaign. Also at the meeting,

the board announced its scholarship winners for 2026. Jacob Kellogg received the Tom Casey Memorial Scholarship. Inara Sanderson,

Jackson Sonner and Leah Wuebker each received a Heather McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship. Inara Sanderson, Jackson Sonner, Leah Wuebker and Jacob Kellogg each received a Jay County Civic Theatre Merit Scholarship. All scholarships are for \$250. Upcoming Jay County Civic Theatre activities will include: •This week's production of "1776" — Tickets are available at bit.ly/JCCT1776, by calling

(260) 726-4809 or at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland. •Working at the gates during the Jay County Fair •Hosting theatre workshops during July (stay tuned for additional details) •Auditions for "White Christmas," with details to be announced next month The next Jay County Civic Theatre regular board meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 7, in the board room at Arts Place.

Tanner Brooks receives sports award from Wabash

CRAWFORDS VILLE, IN — Wabash College is proud to honor its student-

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men to think critically, act responsibly, lead effectively, and live humanely.

Carson Sehy graduates from Carthage College!

KENOSHA, WI — Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. congratulates Carson Sehy from Fairmount, IN (46928), who

graduated earning a degree/s in Management and Geoscience. About Carthage Carthage College is

breaking records with its largest enrollment ever. Founded in 1847, Carthage blends the best liberal arts traditions

with innovative programs that shape careers, hands-on learning that fuels discovery, and faculty mentorship

that drives student success - all on a stunning Lake Michigan campus in Kenosha, Wisconsin, midway between

Chicago and Milwaukee. Grow with us: www.carthage.edu



Wednesday, June 10, the band 45RPM took the James Dean Memorial Stage at PlayAcres Park in Fairmount.



Members of the Fairmount Lions Club host and run the shows: L to R David Crouse, Hunter Wolf, Ava Osborne, Jake Roth and Mike Greenwald

Fairmount concerts at the Stage in full swing for the summer

"Amazing show tonight," Ava Osborne posted on Facebook Wednesday, June 10. 45RPM performed,

and the crowd was out on the dance floor. If you missed it, come out again every Wednesday.

For more info. Go to Facebook: Fairmount Concerts at the Stage." Cadaver Dogs up net on iJune 24, 7

pm-8:30 pm. Concerts Wednesday nights through August 19 at PlayAcres Park in Fairmount.

FAIRMOUNT LIONS CLUB
10152 S 100 E FAIRMOUNT, IN
Rent the Lions Den!
Call Shannon
765-380-0174

"CONCERTS AT THE STAGE"
2026 SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE

JAMES DEAN MEMORIAL STAGE
PLAYACRES PARK, FAIRMOUNT, INDIANA
Hosted by The Fairmount Lions Club

**"CONCERTS AT THE STAGE"
2026 LINEUP
OUR BEST YEAR YET!**
ALL CONCERTS, WEDNESDAYS, 7-8:30 PM

June 3rd The Bulldogs	July 15th The Bishops Band
June 10th 45 RPM Band	July 22nd Endless Summer Band
June 17th Mike & Joe Band	July 29th Hubie Ashcraft Band
June 24th Cadaver Dogs Band	August 5th The Toy Factory
July 1st The Sweetwater All Stars	August 12th The Flying Toasters
July 8th Cook and Belle	August 19th Blue Collar Union Band

All Schedules are subject to change.

MADE YOU LOOK!!

This could be your spot!!

Call 765-674-0070 to place your ad today!!

ONLINE AUCTION

ENDS MONDAY JUNE 22ND 6PM (CST)

HENDERSON, KENTUCKY

To view and bid go to ["www.Dimmettauctionservice.com"](http://www.Dimmettauctionservice.com) and click on **HiBid Online Auctions**"

LOCATION: DAS will be having a Online auction for The Estate of George Mattingly III located at 5371 HWY 41A, Henderson Ky.
To view and bid go to dasonlineauctions.hibid.com.

PREVIEW: AUCTION PREVIEW Items can be viewed Monday June 15th through Monday June 22nd from 8^{AM} to 6^{PM} CST.
To view and bid go to dasonlineauctions.hibid.com.

A LOADER TRACTOR WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR MOST ITEMS.
If you are from out of state, we will work with you on picking up times.

1982 JD 4640

1978 JD 4440

1976 JD 4430

2- 1969 4020 GAS NF

2001 FORD F150 SUPERCAB 4X4 TRUCK

2002 CHEVY S10

1953 & 1954 JD 60

1951 FORD 8N

6- FORD F600 TRUCKS

FARM, HAY, & LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT AND MORE

To view and bid go to ["www.Dimmettauctionservice.com"](http://www.Dimmettauctionservice.com) and click on **HiBid Online Auctions**"

TERMS: Pick up time is Tuesday June 23rd from 10^{AM} to 5^{PM} CST. Cash, check, or credit card (3% charge) when you pick up your items. A 6% KY sales tax will apply unless proper dealer tax number and/or farm exemption number and forms are provided and a 10% buyers premium will be charged for this online auction. Shipping not available. Any announcements made day of auction shall take precedence over any verbal or printed material.

To view and bid go to dasonlineauctions.hibid.com.

SALE MANAGER: Robert Dimmett 812-305-2749

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www.dimmettauctionservice.com

Kent Kleiman
Auctioneer
KY Lic #253765

Great activities for kids come the dog days of summer

The arrival of summer is a momentous day for children. Summer means school is closed and weeks of rest, recreation and fun in the sun are on the schedule.

Although summer may start off with a bang, it may not be too long before kids are uttering the dreaded, "I'm bored," leaving parents and caregivers looking for ways to keep children occupied. Having a list of activities at the ready can help families stay active and engaged during the dog days of summer.

Summertime swim-

ming

Those lucky enough to have a backyard pool have a great source of entertainment right at home. Swimming alone can grow monotonous for kids, so work with friends' parents to devise a schedule to have the kids alternate whose house they visit for swimming sessions. Standard games like water volleyball or diving retrieval games can add some fun, but many times kids are happy to splash and float with friends. Stock a cooler with water, juice and healthy snacks so kids can just hop out

of the water and grab a refreshment, rather than leaving a water-logged trail into the kitchen.

Those who do not have a pool can consider membership to a township pool, where everyone can mingle with neighbors.

Host a movie night

The dog days of summer tend to be humid, hot and sometimes uncomfortable. Scheduling activities for later in the day makes the most of weather that has cooled off a bit. Purchase or borrow a projector that hooks up to a computer

or tablet, and set up a screen in the yard. Stream a family-friendly movie and prepare ready-made bags of popcorn or cotton candy for the show.

Add water to everything

Favorite backyard games can be enhanced with the use of a little water. For example, instead of tossing bean bags for cornhole, fill up water balloons. Kids who are playing tag or games like capture the flag may have to run through a garden sprinkler to get into their opponent's territory. Kids can

put their engineering skills to use by building an obstacle course of hurdles and the like from tires or pool noodles. Poke holes into one pool noodle and feed a garden hose into the end to create a water hazard.

Go on a scavenger hunt

Whether at a beach, park, or even walking the neighborhood, families can have a list of objects that must be found. The first child to find all of the items on the list gets a prize, such as choosing which ice cream shop to visit.

Dance in the rain
Summertime is known for the sudden arrival of storms. When a downpour occurs, have the family head into the garage with the door open to catch the amazing sights of Mother Nature. Take turns briefly running out into the deluge to dance and splash in the rain. Retreat to the indoors when thunder and lightning are close by.

Families have plenty of ways to fill the dog days (and nights) of summer with entertaining games and other activities.

Summer Farm Equipment

AUCTION

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

8AM (CST)

LOCATION



1010 Skyline Drive, Hopkinsville, KY

TRACTORS - COMBINES - CORN & GRAIN HEADS - DRILLS - PLANTERS - SPRAY EQ
HAY AND TILLING EQUIP - ROTARY MOWERS - INDUSTRIAL EQ

HUNDREDS OF ITEMS ON SALE DAY

NOTE! Information or to consign equipment, call Amy Ezell 270.604.2880
Or MaryElizabeth Roeder Coleman 270.350.5132

RECEIVING HOURS

July 1-July 29 – Monday-Friday: 8 am to 5 pm

July 30: NOT RECEIVING EQUIPMENT

CONSIGN EARLY FOR BROCHURE ADVERTISING!!
DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2026. CONTACT AMY EZELL.

Only Farm Related Items Will Be Accepted.
NO WORN OUT TIRES ACCEPTED. All Truck Titles Must Be Fully Executed Before Final Payment Is Made.

Roeder



Delbert Roeder - Broker - AHO#4090
270-881-2610
Cal Kaufman - Auctioneer - Lic. #NP6114
Brent Schmidgall - Auctioneer

AUCTION COMPANY