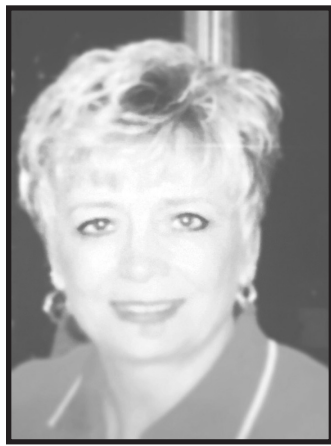


Cousins play each other in Mt. Sterling Tournament



Times Remembered Betty A. Young
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This past Saturday we were able to see Colton's Red Storm Basketball travel team play in a two day tournament in Mt. Sterling at the Dubois Community Center. Colton is our nearly 11 year old grandson, (his birthday is February 14, Valentine's Day), who lives in Georgetown and attends Ann Mason Elementary.

You'd think he was born in the gym, since he's been there since he was two weeks old watching practice and played with by several of the girl's parents who loved watching him during practice. So he pretty much cut his teeth on a basketball. He loves it and has grown into a skilled player. He is 5'4 and weighs 120 pounds.

We are hoping he will be as tall as his Dad, he's 6'6. Colton practices every day with the Scott County Girls Basketball Team, coached by his Dad and Mom, Steve and Tara Helton. Next year he will be able to play basketball at Royal Springs

Middle School.

There were seven teams that participated in the tournament. On Saturday, Red Storm played the Savages and defeated them easily by a large margin. In the second game they also defeated West Liberty.

They played again on Sunday against West Liberty. Winning this game set them up for the championship match between Red Storm and the Estill Elite Travel Team, from Tara's hometown of Irvine, coached by Bobby Willis. In fact, Tara and Bobby played on the West Irvine Basketball Team several years ago together.

All the Estill fans were excited about playing a former player/coach now in the championship game. Estill led Red Storm at half time by a score of 26-22. The score went back and forth but by the end of regulation time, Red Storm won 62-55. The game hard fought by both teams.

Cousins, Chance Rawlins and Colton Helton got to play against each other in the championship game and they talked and got to know each other better. Chance wants Colton to come play on his team. Chance is a sweet kid. He is the son of my great nephew, Chris Rawlins.

Colton scored 25 points and received the MVP award from Red Storm and Bobby's son, Cooper, received the MVP Award for Estill Elite.



Colton Helton (#23) played against the Estill Elite travel team and his cousin Chance Rawlins.



Colton Helton (#23) and a Red Storm teammate



Colton Helton (#23) and his team, Red Storm, with coaches Tara and Steve Helton.

Miracle pill overdose sends grizzled old man back to school



America's Heartland Roger Alford
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An elderly wife saw an advertisement on TV for miracle pills that could make men young again. It caught her attention because her grizzled old husband of 50 years generally spent his days in his recliner, hardly ever moving except for shuffling to the refrigerator for snacks. So, she ordered a bottle of those pills and started giving him one every night before bedtime.

After the first week, she saw no change in her husband whatsoever, so she gave him a whole handful of the pills. The next morning when she awoke, she couldn't find him anywhere. Finally, she spotted him sitting outside on the curb. She rushed out the door and said, "what are you doing out here?"

He looked up with tears in his eyes and said, "I think I missed the school bus."

It certainly would be something if a miracle pill could restore youth to an aging spouse. More often than not, restoring an out-of-shape body requires an exercise regi-

men that involves sweat and toil.

I've found that true for churches, as well. I've been working with a dedicated team of folks to restore South Fork Baptist Church to health. South Fork had fallen into decline over the years, and folks there felt like they needed to do something or face the real possibility that the storied old church might close. They began a prayer regimen to get the church up and moving. In that process, they invited me to help by serving as pastor, and we're just amazed at what the Lord is doing. On good days, when the pews in that 150-year-old church are full, we can't help but praise the Lord for what He is doing.

He has proven true to his Word in the Old Testament book of Haggai, Chapter 3, written at a time when God's holy temple had fallen into disrepair:

"Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing? Yet now be strong ... and work. Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory. ... The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former; saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts."

We've been blessed

to see folks coming to the altar every Sunday to pray. The Lord has been transforming lives. We've been celebrating around baptismal pool. It seems we're seeing those beautiful words of Haggai playing out at South Fork.

The Lord continues to bring in fantastic folks to help set South Fork back on her feet. We believe the Lord wants nothing less at South Fork than a church that can do significant ministry across Owen County and beyond. We'd welcome you to get on board with some of the finest Christians I've ever known as God restores health this lovely country church.

There's no miracle pill that can restore health to a church. Only the Lord can do that. But, based on Haggai's word, the sweat and prayers of God's people are necessary to make it happen. We'd love to have you come join us and work alongside us. It's an opportunity to be a part of something that will have an eternal impact. If you live too far away to join us at South Fork, you can still pray for us, and, if you're so moved, you're welcome to help support this important work financially.

Don't be like the old gentleman sitting on the curb, crying about missing the bus. We don't want you to "miss the bus" on this opportunity. Join with us.

Roger Alford is pastor of South Fork Baptist Church. Reach him at P.O. Box 673, Owenton, Ky. 40359 or at 502-514-6857.

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