



Times Remembered
Betty A. Young
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We attended Colton's 8U Ohio Regional Valley Tournament this past week in Vincennes, Indiana. The 8U Scott County Boys took it all; winning the tournament. I'm so happy for them. They braved all the heat and humidity of 106 degrees heat index.

Vincennes and Evansville is a land of flat cornfields and soybeans. We stayed in Evansville due to non-availability in Vincennes. There were teams there from 5 or 6 different states. Lexington had two teams that participated. Scott County ending up playing them and defeated Lexington 10-1; in the championship game taking top honors.

Parents and Grandparents braved the heat, with plenty of water and Gatorade. Shelters and awnings helped as did fans run by batteries with buckets of ice under them. Some wore cooling towels, tank tops, visors and hats to beat the heat; unfortunately it was nearly unbearable; especially for me. The heat zaps me, but they persevered.

The drive from our motel in Evansville to the ball park was thirty-six miles one way. Along the way, we drove through corn and soybeans fields. It's a land of flat-landers; no hills or mountains, mostly corn and soybeans. I

Baseball and Cornfields

will take the mountains any time.

The dry conditions were much worse than ours; the grass was brown and the corn and soybeans were starting to show the results of the heat. The farmers had begun to use irrigations systems with water sprayers all across the fields to save their crops.

Of course, any trip isn't without traffic jams and delays anymore. State highway departments are working on all the roads in the summer. Construction of additional lanes and repairs contributes to the back-up of traffic. Starting out we had some back-up near the Frankfort exits on I-64 and in Indiana on 41 North toward Vincennes; there were some delays every day due to construction. Remember when highway departments used those kerosene smudge pots in construction? They were little flaming black cannon balls. They are antique now. I saw on ebay they are selling for \$40.00 each. One thing I don't understand is this: why do they close the lanes when they aren't even working?

Indiana has very stiff fines for speeding in construction zones; up to a \$1000.00 and jail time for reckless driving. Whew! I sure didn't speed. Most people didn't pay any attention; they just flew by anyway.

Remember when all the traffic jams you saw were farmers on tractors pulling tobacco and hay wagons, or mowing machines. You stopped at all the roadside fruit stands that sold fruits and veggies. I especially liked to buy peaches and watermelons. Those days are gone; most places you can't even sell anything on two lane roads. I know when I first started working at the Blue Grass Army Depot in the ear-

ly 70's there were fruit stands all along US 25 South back then; selling all kinds of fruits and vegetables.

On the interstate you don't see nothing! Unless you exit to go potty or get gas. Then you rush to get back on the interstate and access the super slab to see how fast you can get to your destination. It's like you are in a race and everybody is passing you if you are doing the speed limit. Forget about merging into

traffic; no one will let you in; they had rather hit you; I've never seen such discourteous people on the highway. What is wrong with America? Most don't care what they say or do "It's "I don't care and you don't matter." Sad.....so sad.

The Scott Boys returned home last night about 10 p.m. with their trophies and awards, smiling from ear to ear but very tired and sleepy. I'm proud of all of you!



Old crows and yapping little dogs are only nuisances



America's Heartland

Roger Alford
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A man and wife were walking along a country lane when a crow, flying high overhead, dropped a messy present on the woman's shoulder.

"Ewww," she screeched. "Get some toilet paper or something."

"What for?" the husband asked. "That crow must be a half mile away by now."

There are times in all our lives when we feel like even the birds are conspiring against us, when things just aren't going well. In such times, we need to remind ourselves that God is on our side. King David, who faced all sorts of life-threatening situations, often took courage in that fact.

"The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom should I be afraid?" he wrote in **Psalm 27:1**. "Though an army deploys against me, my heart is not afraid; though a war breaks out around me, still I am confident" (**Psalm 27:3-4**).

King David realized that he was a child of God, and that provided him with a strong sense of security, no matter what he was facing.

The Bible provides great encouragement to us when we feel overwhelmed, when we're caught up in life's distractions. One of my favorite church hymns, A Child of the King, reminds us that we have a Heavenly Father to strengthen us against whatever comes our way, because, as the lyrics point out, "With Jesus my Savior, I'm a child

of the King."

Harriett Buell, a native of New York state, wrote those words one Sunday in the late 1800's while walking home from church, no doubt feeling safe and secure in her Heavenly Father's watchful care. A music teacher, John Sumner, saw the words and set them to music. The story goes that Buell was delighted when she heard her words being sung in an evening worship service in Manlius, N.Y.

How those words have lifted the spirits of so many Christians facing difficult circumstances over the years, knowing that the All-Powerful Creator, the God who made all that exists, is our loving Father.

"If God for be for us, who can be against us?" (**Romans 8:31**).

There's the story about the big, strong, broad-shouldered coonhound that was walking home when a tiny little house dog came yapping and growling at him. That big hound could have snapped the smaller dog in half with just one bite, but he didn't. Instead, he just kept right on walking toward home, paying no attention to the noisy little creature. Oh, if we all be more like that coonhound, focusing on our journey home, rather than the little nuisances we encounter along the way.

The great enemy of mankind wants us to focus on the "little yapping dogs" of this world and, thereby, divert our attention from our Christian journey. Oh, there'll be distractions along the way. Old crows might even drop unwelcomed bombs of one sort or another on us, but we are not to be discouraged.

"So, do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (**Isaiah 41:10**).

Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rogeralford1@gmail.com.

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Estill County High School SCHEDULE PICKUP DATES

- August 1st:**
Seniors: 9-11
Juniors: 1-2:30
- August 2nd:**
Sophomores and New Enrollees: 9-11 & 1-2:30
- August 3rd:**
Freshmen Orientation: 6-8

ESTILL SCHOOLS BACK TO SCHOOL DATES

- South Irvine P/K**
Pre-school Open HouseThursday, August 10, 5-8 p.m.
First Day for P/KMonday, August 14
- Estill Springs**
Open HouseTuesday, August 2, 4-7 p.m.
- West Irvine**
Open HouseMonday, August 7, 4-7 p.m.
- Estill County Middle School**
Open HouseTuesday, August 1, 5-8 p.m.
- Estill County High School**
Dual Credit OrientationMonday, July 28th at EKU
Senior SchedulesTuesday, August 1, 9-11 a.m.
Junior SchedulesTuesday, August 1, 1-2:30 p.m.
Sophomores/New Enrollees . .Wednesday, August 2, 9-11 a.m. /1-2:30 p.m.
Freshman OrientationThursday, August 3, 6-8 p.m.

ESTILL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

246 Main Street Irvine, KY – Call 723-3030

JULY 31 - AUGUST 4, 2017

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Richmond Rd. Northwood Crestview Ct. Wall Street	Race Track Rd. Harris Ferry Cressy Stacy Lane	Wisemantown Station Camp Red Lick Crooked Creek	Old Landing Doe Creek Barnes Mtn. South Irvine	No Bookmobile Service

"Mommie & Me" and Storytime Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. & Fridays, 10:30 a.m.