

Times Remembered
Betty A. Young

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A fishing outing trip is a fun way to spend time with your grandchildren. Fishing is all about connecting with your grandchildren and creating memories. It's also a wonderful way to introduce a child to nature. Imagine a day that's made up of fresh air and sunshine, no cell phones, video games, e-mail or blasting TVs. It's a family day with your children, especially your grandson, Colton.

Last Saturday morning our kids, Tara, Steve, and Colton came up to go fishing at a family pond/lake. Colton has been fishing some before but with basketball, football and now with traveling baseball it is difficult to work fishing in his schedule. But his Poppa Bob is determined to make him a fisherman. Colton loves it and did quite well fishing last Saturday.

We arrived at the pond/lake about 9:00 a.m. Everyone seemed to find their favorite spot and began to cast. Tara and Steve love bass fishing, so they were using artificial bait most of the time. Bob and Colton were using fishing worms and wax worms. They were fishing for bluegill and catfish or anything else that bites. He explained to him that you must have patience. That's my problem, things don't happen fast enough for

Betty's Fishing Story

me fishing!

Bob gave Colton instructions on the basics of retrieving the fish when he caught one; things to do when you have one on the hook, how to retrieve your catch, how to set the hook and when to reel.

The fish were biting.....everyone had a least caught three or four bluegill and small bass within the first hour. Tara and Steve like fishing for bass and they use artificial lures. Bob and Colton decided on using fishing worms and wax worms to attract bluegill and catfish. And attracting them.....was an understatement, just as fast as Colton could bait his hook, a blue gill would it was crazy. He caught some good sized blue gill. Actually, he caught 34 blue gill and 5 small bass.

About 11:00 he got something on his line; all of a sudden all heck broke loose, he had definitely snagged a good size fish. He began to yell to Bob for help, but Bob said, "No, I'm going to coach you and you are going to bring him in," Of course Colton was nervous and feared he would lose the fish. He had hooked into a big fish earlier but it got off the line. But he listened to Bob's instructions. In the process of reeling, the reel fell off the rod, it was a real old combo, but he hung in there and started pulling the line and go it back to the bank without losing his catch.

It was an adventure, and also a learning experience. He reeled, pulled and twisted and hung in there, pretty soon he got the fish to the edge of the pond. It was a Catfish, probably about five pounds.

He was so excited; this was the biggest fish he had ever caught. I think Bob and his Mom and

Dad were just as excited as he was; I know I was excited too.

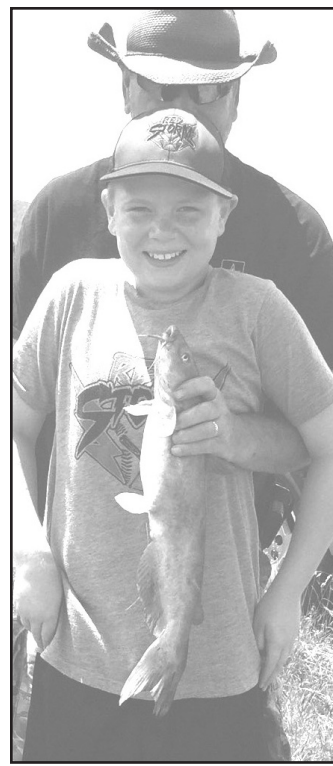
We took pictures, but Colton was not too excited about holding the Catfish since it had already spurred Bob and brought the blood; so Bob helped him hold it in the picture.

It really doesn't cost that much to take a kid fishing. To begin with you just need basic equipment and some advance planning to make the experience stress-free. Use an ultralight bait-cast or spin-cast rod and reel combination since they are easier for kids to use. Remember that small hooks equal big catches. You should avoid hooks larger than a size three, keep in mind that hook sizes run backward, so that a size 12 is smaller than a size 10. Fish generally won't take to large hooks. A tiny hook will allow small fish to inhale the bait rather than nibble at the hook. Of course, if the fish swallows the hook you can cut the line as close to the hook as possible, and let the fish go. Bobbers, or floats work well for kids.

You don't need a lot of high-tech gear, in fact the less complicated the better. It's all about the catch. Fishing is a great sport to have and you want your grandchildren to have fun. So keep it simple and don't expect him/her to really be proficient with different types of rods and reels.

In the end, the important thing is to try to take your grandchildren where the fish are biting. It doesn't matter what they are catching as long as they catch something. But we did use catch and release to ensure others may experience the thrill of fishing.

Remember free fishing is Saturday June 2nd and Sunday June 3rd, across Kentucky. Enjoy!



Betty's grandson Colton shows off his big catch with help holding it.



Matt Kirby, right, Kentucky Department of Highways worker from Estill County received a plaque for winning first place in tractor driving in District 10's Rodeo equipment operating contest. Keith Horn, Lee County, was second place. For the third straight year, the team from the Morgan County state highway maintenance garage won the championship. The individual contest winners and runners-up will advance to a statewide competition against participants from the other 11 highway districts across Kentucky, to be held at the Kentucky Horse Park June 26-27. State winners will be eligible to participate in the annual Southeastern Regional Equipment Operators Safety Training Conference competition, to be held in Biloxi, Miss., in September.

ESTILL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

246 Main Street Irvine, KY – Call 723-3030

JUNE 3-7, 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Wallace Circle Nursing Home Court Street Hood Avenue Broadway	Harris Ferry Cressy Stacy Lane	West Irvine Crooked Creek Station Camp Wisemantown	Senior Citizens Doe Creek Buck Creek South Irvine	Summer Reading Mountain Crest 12:00 - 1 P.M.

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

Day Camp at Aldersgate Church Camp

Make plans to attend the 5th annual Day Camp at Aldersgate Camp for rising 2nd thru 12th grade students. What better way to start off summer than a day that is filled with awesome activities. The United Methodist Churches of Estill County have teamed up with Aldersgate Camp to provide a one day Day Camp on Thursday, June 6.

Activities for the day will include Bible study, field games, craft project, swimming in the pool, visiting the farm animals, creek walk to the clay wall, and visiting and learning about the Fitchburg Furnace. The Day Camp staff will be the trained summer staff at Aldersgate Camp. Lunch and morning and afternoon snacks will be provided.

Limited transportation will be available at Irvine and Wisemantown United Methodist Churches. Pick-up will be at 9 a.m. and drop-off will be at 5 p.m.

Registration forms are available at the Estill County Public Library's bulletin board, the local United Methodist Churches, or at the Aldersgate Camp website: www.aldersgatecamp.org. The cost is \$15 to cover food and staff. A few scholarships will be available. Enrollment will be limited to the first 50 young people who register. Registration deadline will be Monday, June 3 at 5 p.m.

Aldersgate Camp & Retreat Center has been exciting and empowering campers of all ages for over 50 years. Owned and oper-

ated by the United Methodist Church of Kentucky, Aldersgate is located about 20 minutes from Irvine, nestled on about 350 acres in the ghost town of Fitchburg in the foothills of Appalachia. It is one of the hidden jewels of Estill County. Aldersgate seeks to intentionally provide for the faith development of individuals of all ages in Christ and in the Christian community within the natural beauty of God's creation by providing opportunities for people to come and enjoy the outdoors through activities such as hiking, gaga ball, swimming, playing in the creek, fishing, low and high ropes courses, crafts, animals, prayer labyrinth, faith development, camp fires, friendship, and much more.



Having fun at Day Camp at Aldersgate Camp