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JUNE 2026

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THE MAN BEHIND THE MISSION: HONORING DOUG MILLER



ORIGINATING FROM SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, Doug Miller, co-founder of The Seeker Christian News, comes from a long line of writers, inventors, and athletes. From childhood through college, Doug excelled in athletics, earning medals and ribbons in track and football, and even breaking school records in weight lifting.

Doug furthered his education by completing six years of college, majoring in Human Relations and earning his degree from Central Washington State University.

In the late seventies, Doug started a family with his wife, Marti. In the early eighties, Doug, Marti, and their daughter, Kristina, relocated to Kentucky, where

(Continued on Page 12)

Doug Miller, Co-Founder of The Seeker Christian News

REMEMBERING TWO LIVES TRAGICALLY LOST



REMEMBERING TWO LIVES TRAGICALLY LOST: BRIAN SWITZER, 42, OF JESSAMINE COUNTY, AND BREANNA EDWARDS, 35, OF MADISON COUNTY, were killed during the deadly robbery at the U.S. Bank branch on Chestnut Street in Berea on May 1. Both were valued employees of the bank. Hundreds gathered at the Madison County Fairgrounds on Friday, May 15, for a memorial fund raiser dinner provided by Lee's Famous Recipe, along with an auction and live music by Call to Post Band, to support the Switzer and Edwards families during this difficult time.



We thank you and praise you for all that you have done and all you are doing for us.

You are our Father who fights our battles and meets our needs. You remember and keep your every promise to us, even those we may have forgotten. You are working all things for good for those who love you.

That is your Divine Design.

It is your still, small voice that whispers encouragement, inspiration, guidance and strength to us when we need it. You move Heaven and Earth to find us when we are lost.

You are the One who is Holy, all knowing and all power. You could be or do anything, yet you choose to love. You loved us so that you made the ultimate sacrifice that we may spend eternity together.

Thank you for being all that we need. You are not only our Heavenly Father, you are our mother, brother, sister and friend. You are our shield and shelter in times of trouble.

In honor, celebration and praise, to the Creator of the Universe, the *Alpha* and *Omega*, with all our hearts...

"Yet, Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you our potter: we are all the work of your hand."

ISAIAH 64:7

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Brian Daniel Switzer

June 17, 1983 - April 30, 2026

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Breanna Diane (Bryant) Edwards

March 30, 1991 ~ April 30, 2026

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Jane B. Stephenson



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Ty Caleb Stallins



Nov. 8, 1984 - May 2, 2026

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ALL I NEED IS YOU!

I THINK THIS WAS THE TITLE OF A SONG many years ago. It came to mind this morning after visiting with a lady who had been widowed for 3 months. We were discussing what we need, what we can let go of and the changes death brings to our lives. If the loss has been a sibling, you may not feel as deeply saddened by the loss as other losses. But a sibling relationship can be very close. Often older siblings walk beside us on a pathway we do not have with anyone else. My sister was 10 years older than myself and we had a mother/daughter type relationship.

Very often I have longed to hear her voice and use her as a sounding board. Sometimes she was all I needed to get through a day. The loss of a parent for many, feels like their 'rock' has come loose. There 'rock' probably knows them better than anyone and has been beside them all their lives. Parents often support their child even in difficult times. The parent might have been not only an emotional support or the needed physical presence and maybe even the financial stability needed. The dying process might have been a slow process, watching the strong person to someone who needed the help. You might have gone from being the child to being the parent to your parent. Many times, we feel our parents are all we need. Then the loss of a child puts a, entirely different picture on life. We often hear the phrase, 'the loss of a child is out of order.' Yes, out of the natural process of life, expecting the parent to pass before the child does. Children are thought of as a product of the parent and the par-

ent's job is to protect the child from all dangers. Then death occurs and the all we need in life is gone. Then we come to the death of a spouse. When we are young, raising a family, enjoying life, planning for retirement and then death interrupts our plans. Our spouse holds a special place in our life. Couple share many blessings together but also many heartaches but they had each other to lean on. Now, the half of the couple gone, the thought can enter our mind, all I need is you. The death of a spouse can be very life changing. From make decisions together to solely making decisions can be more then we want to face many times. We think, all I need is to have you back with me. When we really dig deep into loss, we come to realize the only stable part we have in our life is Christ as our Savior. He really is the only one we need. He knows us better than anyone else. He knows your needs, your wants, your desires, your lonely feelings, your frustrating thoughts. When I have felt this way, I have several choices. I can talk with a friend, I can call on my pastor, I can go shopping, I can go on vacation, I can sleep all day, I can enjoy a blizzard from Dairy Queen, etc. But the thing we really need is a quiet time with our Lord, looking into His word, searching for a Bible verse for support. Jeremiah 33:3 "Jer 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Does this work? Yes, I have seen it work in my life and in the lives of many others. God is waiting for you to call on Him and rely on Him.

By Marian Abbott, Bereavement Specialist

Events

Berea Evangelistic Center Yard Sale

Fri/Sat June 12/13-Come find treasures along with baked goods, while supporting a good cause! 180 Plaza Dr.-Berea

JIM SHIELDS BOOK SIGNING

Saturday June 13th, 10am until 2pm. Kentucky Artisan Center in Berea.

Williams Memorial Singing

Williams Memorial- Calvary Heirs Singing Jun 14 at 6 pm- food and fellowship following service. 402 Poplar St., Ravenna

Kristi Miller & Storm Chasers at River Drive Christian Church

Sunday, June 14, at 6 p.m. More on Pg 18. Ravenna.



*Happy May Birthday's to Charlenea K. Wirth and Scott Keeling
Happy June Birthday's to Pearl West, Alison Mason, Marlene Owens, Kelly Vee and all those celebrating in June.
Wishing a Happy Heavenly Birthday
Pete Lingard*

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Kentucky Evangelistic Gospel Music Fellowship gathering

at Burger King in Beaver Dam, KY, just off Hwy 231 across from WALMART on June 7, 2025, at 6:00 PM For more information, email: truesong777@gmail.com

GOSPEL FEST IN THE PARK

June 13, 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. in Hartford, KY. Jason Crabb, Kelly Crabb and the Bowling Sisters, Scotty Inman, and more! For full line up, visit: <https://gospelfestinthePark.com/>

Gospel Fest in the Park will be held at the Ohio County Park and Fair Grounds at our newly upgraded amphitheater in Hartford, Kentucky, just off of Hwy 69 on June 14, 2025, from 11:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Everyone is invited to come!

**TUNE INTO WRVK with
CHARLIE NAPIER
1460 AM**



AS RECORDED IN PSALM 27, there is no fear when we feel God is near. Like David says, "the Lord is our light, our salvation, and our stronghold". David's single desire was that he may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of his life (v. 4). He wanted to learn God's way and be led down the straight path (v. 11).

We can all pray a similar prayer today. When we dream about what is needed, then we begin to believe it will happen. We then develop plans and know what steps to take. We take those steps and become more confident that our dream will come true.

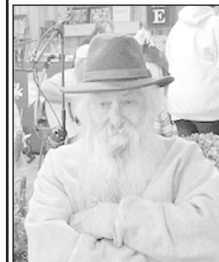
I remember playing baseball in high school. The day before a tournament, our coach gave a talk about a guy who was a great golfer. He came down with an illness and was directed by his doctor to stay in bed for two weeks. Concerned that he would lose his edge for a major tournament coming up, he decided to practice in his mind.

Each ball he hit in his mind was perfect; straight down the fairway and further than he had ever hit a ball before. Over and over each day while he lay in bed, he played rounds of golf. After the weeks had gone by, the doctor then declared the golfer was over his illness. The golfer then went out to the golf course the first chance he got and shot the best round of golf in his life.

I took this inspiring story from my baseball coach and applied it to hitting a baseball. In batting practice before the first game of the tournament, I was seeing the ball good and hitting it solid. The first at bat, I saw the ball coming towards me and hit it solid. It jumped off the bat and went over the right field fence.

Friends, we can do the same today by practicing in our minds the type of life we would like to live. By Mark Shields - © 6-08-2013

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Kristina Miller

Happy Jubilant June!

Wishing all dads a joyful Father's Day. Take every opportunity to say what needs saying—and perhaps unsay a few things—while there is still time.

We cordially invite you to join our band, Kristi Miller & Storm Chasers, Sunday, June 14, at 6 p.m. at River Drive Christian Church. More on pg. 18.

Don't forget—our Flip Book is available online at seekernews.com, along with extra photos, videos from regional events, and now memorials. Please like, leave kind comments, and share to help spread the encouragement.

Life is a gift, and one wonderful way to enjoy it is by spending an evening with great music and delicious food at Charlie's Pickin' & Grinnin'—see pages 6 and 18 for more.

We also encourage you to worship at the church of your choice. Be sure to visit our Church Directory on page 9 to find a place to connect.

As always, thank you for helping this ministry grow as we celebrate 41 years of service. It is truly an honor and a privilege. Heartfelt thanks to those who submit inspirational articles, photos, and other material; to the businesses that allow us to distribute The Seeker; and to everyone who helps with selling ads, designing layouts, and delivering papers each month. A special thank-you goes to Lewis Settlege, who has faithfully delivered The Seeker for nearly four years. This ministry would not be possible without each of YOU. With gratitude and faith,

— The Seeker Team



FROM THE EDITOR

We Want To Hear From You. Please Send Any Articles, Recipes, Jokes, Ads, or Announcements To: kristimiller1005@gmail.com

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kristimiller1005@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE!

The deadline to get material in or out of The Seeker is the 20th of each Month. All advertisements cancelled after our deadline, which is the 20th of each month, will incur a charge. When advertisements are cancelled on short notice, we do not have ample time to resell the spot(s) and cover our expenses. As always, thank you for your support and consideration.
-The Seeker Christian News



Williams Memorial Baptist Church

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Ravenna (606) 723-5429
or (606) 643-5603



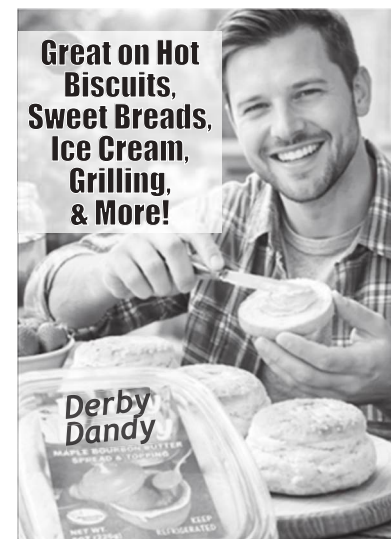
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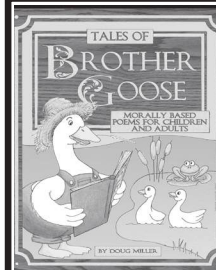
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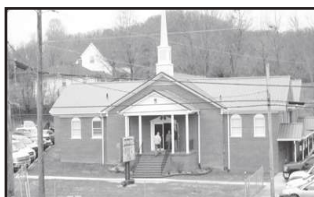
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Zoe Grace

By Robin Richmond Mason

Zoe's journey is rooted in a timber frame home,
Where love provided the space to roam.
From Kelsey's warmth and Lucas' pride,
With Hayden and Hope there by her side.
And paws that pitter-pattered near,
Barked Piper, Peaches and Maddox dear.

From Linda and Kathy, she carries the light,
Legacies of strength shining through the night.

In Elizabethtown, she found her start,
Then traveled where the Hilltoppers dart.
With silver needle, swift and fine,
She weaves a delicate design,
Inspired by blooms of softest pink,
Tulips and Canterbury Bells, she'll think.
At Hobby Lobby, Home Goods, and TJ Maxx,
She finds the treasures the others might lack.

On the field where spirits rise,
Underneath the WKU skies,
She kept the beat, a rhythmic flair,
With snare drum echoes in the air.

And in the years old and new,
A circle of friendship blossomed through.
With Megan, Allison, and Shiloh there,
A bond of laughter they always share.
From sisterhood and red and buff,
She showed the world she's pretty tuff
An Alpha Gamma Delta heart,
Doing her purposeful, diligent part.

Beneath Western's arch of stone and glass,
She watched scholarly shadows pass.
In UK's lecture halls where logic flows,
New depths of Zoe's mind will grow.

And when the heavy books are closed,
A different kind of grace is posed.
Christ's fingerprint is surely there
With a quiet spirit that is truly rare.

A godly heart with a scholarly artist's hand,
The finest girl in all the land.

And a heart for service, and her gentle way,
To help a child find words to say.
In Speech Therapy, her goal is clear:
To help the youngest voices hear.
With patience, kindness, and a smile,
She'll walk the academic mile.

She fuels the grind with quick delights,
With Dr. Pepper through study nights.
Mac n cheese and a Chic-fil-a tray,
"Hold the pickles," is what she'll say.

Yet the greatest thread she'll ever twine,
Is the one that makes two lives align.
On June thirteenth, twenty-twenty-six,
A joyful fate from heaven fixed.
The summer air will be sweet and new,
She'll say "I do" to her Andrew—
He and the girl from E-town, bride-to-be,
Starting their beautiful history.



KIND READERS, I am providing this poem as a point of closure to the growing up years of our children. It is Father's Day and I have written for decades about God's blessings revealed in family life. In June, our youngest child, Andrew will marry Miss Zoe Grace Graham. It is a bitter sweet moment made better by the quality of characteristics that Zoe exhibits. Perhaps I will write to you someday about a new litter of grandkids and some new barn adventures and wildlife taming. Life goes forward. We are hear introducing a new member of our clan.

DOUG MILLER -CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

new opportunities and a new chapter awaited them.

One of Doug's passions eventually evolved into a successful business. An avid record collector, Doug amassed an impressive collection of more than 30,000 LPs and 45s and later opened a record store in the Boone Square Mini Mall in Berea, sharing his love of music with the community.

Doug also owned and operated a landscaping business, serving numerous homes and businesses throughout the region with dedication and care.

Committed to helping others grow and succeed, Doug shared his knowledge and experience by teaching and training students through classes at Richmond's Kentucky Junior College of Business, helping many hone their skills for the future.

As their involvement in church deepened, Doug and Marti felt increasingly called to ministry. Though they initially aspired to start a Christian school, those

doors eventually closed. After much prayer, Doug sensed a clear calling and urgent need for a Christian newspaper. With no prior experience in the print industry, Doug and Marti stepped forward in faith, relying on God and the helping hands of generous people who offered guidance, materials, and equipment.

In 1984, Doug and Marti launched The Seeker, a monthly Christian news publication, dedicated to sharing faith, hope, and encouragement throughout the community.

Like many ministries, the early years came with challenges. Through rejection, financial hardships, and severe health struggles—particularly Marti's battle with Crohn's disease—the Millers persevered with faith and determination.

Many may not know this interesting piece of Seeker history: shortly after The Seeker began, Southern Gospel singer Mark Bishop worked part-time as a sales representative for the publication while also employed at Meade's Do It Center in Irvine. Mark sold advertising for The Seeker until The Bishops Gospel trio was discovered, leading the family into full-time national ministry.

Doug often reflects with heartfelt gratitude on the advertisers who supported The Seeker and helped sustain its ministry. Remarkably, some faithful supporters have remained with The Seeker for nearly 42 years.

On January 31, 1998, Doug and Kristi sadly lost Marti, mother and beloved wife of 20 years, due to complications from Crohn's disease. While navigating this profound loss, Doug continued moving forward, launching two additional publications—Kentucky Collectibles and Home Furnishing Showcase—both of which served Central Kentucky for several years.

When Doug was not selling advertisements, covering stories, delivering newspapers, and often doing the work of an entire staff, he devoted his creativity to writing Gospel music. An award-winning songwriter, Doug has had songs recorded by accomplished Christian artists. His works include "I Am the Scars," "When God Comes on the Scene," and "He Lost His Religion When He Found the Lord," co-written with Berea's Ralph Arvin, among many others.

Doug is also the author of Brother Goose, a beloved collection of morally based, faith-filled poems for children and adults alike.

Copies are available to order. Please see the contact information in Kids Corner on page 14.

Despite battling severe health challenges of his own, Doug continues to write songs and poems prolifically each day, and often co-writes with his daughter, Kristina, who now serves as publisher of The Seeker. He also enjoys meaningful collaboration and treasured friendship with longtime companion Carlene Zumstein of Berea.

Doug is currently preparing his newest book, *Mixed Garden: Seeds of Faith-Filled Family Poems and Funnies*, a joyful collection celebrating faith, family, laughter, and timeless lessons. Be watching for its upcoming release.

Today, we honor not only a father, but a faithful servant, gifted writer with a witty sense of humor, (or as he says, "half witty"), songwriter, publisher, and visionary whose life's work has touched countless hearts.

*Happy Father's Day, Doug Miller.
Thank you for planting seeds of faith that
continue to grow.*

*With Love,
-Kristi*

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HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

WELCOME TO KIDS CORNER

BIBLE VERSE

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O
Lord, my rock and my redeemer.
Psalm 19:14

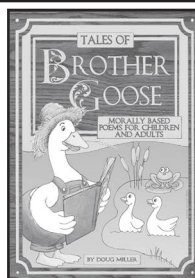
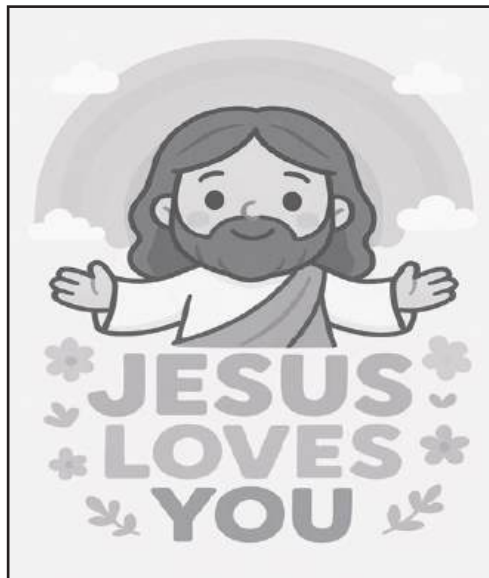
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LITTLE LAUGHS

How do you know that the ocean is
friendly?
Because it waves!

What do the mermaids use to call
their friends?
Shell phones

What do the detectives find on a
beach?
Something fishy

How can you differentiate between a
piano and a fish?
You can tune a piano, but you
cannot TUNA fish!

Which tree can fit in your hand?
Palm tree

What do you call a coconut with sun-
glasses?
A coconut on vacation

What animal likes to play baseball?
A bat

THE GOOD SHIP OF THE WORKS OF MAN

By Doug Miller,
Co-founder of The Seeker
A ship is called The Works of Man,
She can sail like no ship can.
She is strong and fast and free
And able to stand the storms at sea
Captain Flesh and Captain Spirit
Are both aboard and
Each could steer it
Which is stronger, which one can,
Control the course of
The Works of Man?
Captain Flesh would pass by sin,
And send the ship into a spin.
Then the ship is wrapped and tossed
And down it goes with all hands lost
But Captain Spirit sails by strength.
He knows the width, the breadth
The length.
Captain Spirit will make it through,
And the works of man found,
Tried and true.
Here's the point you should not miss-
Everyone has a ship like this
And you decide who gets control,
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NUMBERS**

**Can be found inside...
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Now here's where you come in: You need to make sure you check all your \$1 bills. Even ask for change in ones so you can increase your odds. You are not asked to buy anything. **THIS IS NOT A GAME OF CHANCE.** You simply have to retrieve one of the \$1 bills with one of the matching serial numbers that we have listed in The Seeker for the month.

You have from the 5th of each month when they are released into the public until the 5th day of the following month when the serial numbers expire to turn it into The Seeker. If the dollar is determined to

be a winner, the cash reward will be given at the end of the month. This feature of The Seeker is sponsored by Smith's Tire Center, US 25 North, in Berea, KY. We appreciate their support of this contest. Call (859) 986-2032 or email: kristimiller1005@gmail.com to make arrangements to meet if you have found the winning number. Three new Lucky Bucks will be released during the first week of each month.

Each month that the Lucky Buck is not retrieved, the cash prize grows by \$100. Thanks to our Sponsor, Smith's Tire Center. (Family and employees of The Seeker Christian News are NOT eligible to win. May take 6 weeks to process. All winners will be photographed and published in the paper)

CHURCH ON THE ROCK CCA OFFICE RIBBON CUTTING



A SPIRIT OF HOPE, HEALING, AND FAITH filled the air during the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Christian Counseling Associates office at Church on the Rock in Berea on May 1. Community leaders, counselors, and church members gathered in prayer as Kentucky welcomed the state's first office of Christian Counseling Associates (CCA), a growing ministry serving individuals and families across seven states.

Pictured left to right are: Celita Eden, PhD, Mental Health Therapist; Alex Hoffman, Project Manager and Intake Supervisor; Pastor Mark Sarver and wife Dana of Church on the Rock; Rich Hoffman, PhD, Executive Director of CCA; and, far right, Renee Bair, Clinical Supervisor.

Located on the second floor of Church on the Rock-Berea, the counseling center will provide support for individuals facing grief, depression, and a variety of life challenges, offering faith-based counseling by appointment.

Celita Eden, PhD, will lead the local office of Christian Counseling Associates in Berea. To learn more or schedule an appointment, call 859-270-1416 or visit ccakentucky.com.

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PEARL WEST, WINNER OF THE BEREA HEALTH CARE TALENT SHOW! Pearl won the competition with a heartfelt rendition of the beloved gospel hymn, "I'll Fly Away," on Thursday, May 14. Wishing Pearl a Happy Birthday this month.



Man Cave Corner

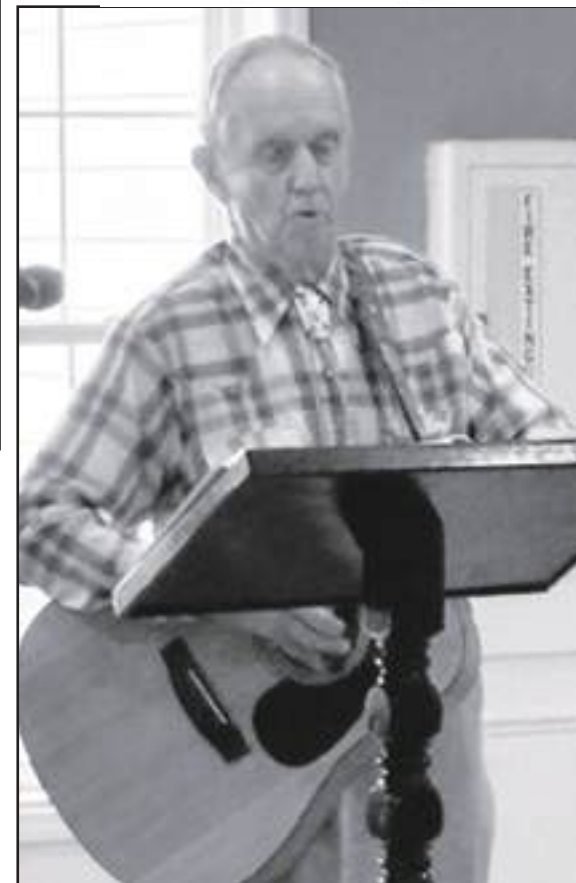
MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION AT ARCADIAN COVE SENIOR LIVING



DANNY HELTON, COMMANDER OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 50, along with Gary Baker, Emerson McAfee, and Jim Miller, hosted a meaningful Memorial Day Celebration at Arcadian Cove in Berea on Friday, May 22.

The moving ceremony honored veterans who have passed on after faithfully serving our country and leaving a lasting legacy of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism. A special memorial table was thoughtfully arranged, with symbolic items representing loss, bravery, remembrance, and the enduring hope we have because of their sacrifice.

Jim Miller and Kristi Miller provided patriotic music for the ceremony's musical segment. Danny Helton delivered a heartfelt address and shared an informative series of videos highlighting the history of both the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. Please scan the codes for snippets of the speech and song.



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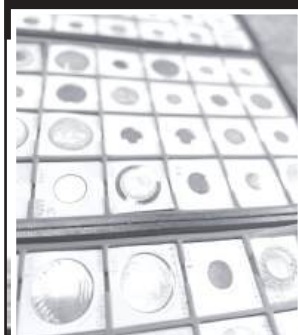


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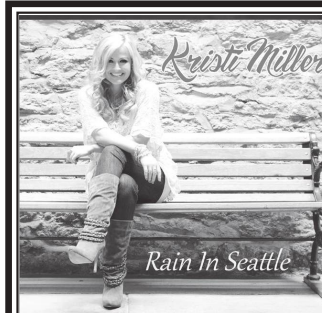


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DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS?

1. Which popular Christian song includes the lyric "You're a good, good Father, it's who You are"?
2. Which Southern Gospel family group is famous for songs like "I Know a Man Who Can" and "The Lighthouse"?
3. Which beloved hymn begins with the words: "Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father..."?
4. What country artist recorded the touching father-themed song "Love Without End, Amen"?

GOSPEL MUSIC TRIVIA WIN A PRIZE!

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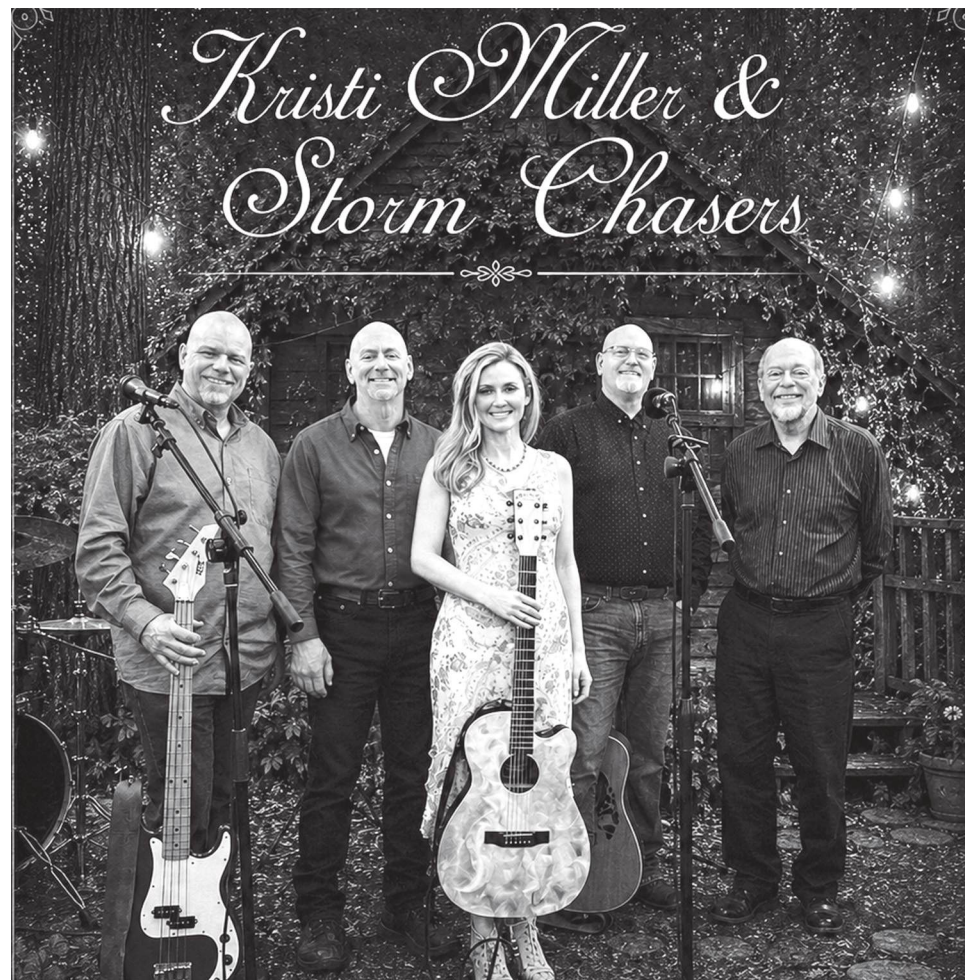
JUNE '26 LUCKY BUCK #'S

\$1000

JUNE PRIZE AMOUNT

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WE PLAN TO SPEND THE LUCKY BUCKS IN RICHMOND, BEREA, AND Irvine. Smith's Tire and The Seeker. The current value is the maximum reward and will be divided evenly in the event there are multiple winners. Thank you for participating. More details can be found on page 16.



KRISTI MILLER & STORM CHASERS to perform Jun. 14 at 6 p.m. at River Dr. Christian Church in Ravenna. Enjoy an eclectic blend of rootsy classics, uplifting gospel, and original music. For bookings call Kelly Vee 859-881-8333.

DOOBIE SINCLAIR'S LAST HURRAH

By Bruce Walker ©2024

IN 1947, DOOBIE SINCLAIR WAS eighty-seven years old and wearing out, though he would have argued the point with any man foolish enough to bring it up.

For sixty years he had lived in the same little house, raising a family, burying a wife, and keeping his front yard neat enough to make the neighbors ashamed of themselves. But after his wife died, the place began to slip away from him. The grass grew high. The gutters overflowed every time it rained. The porch sagged like an old mule after plowing season.

His son, Dennis, and daughter-in-law, Delores, decided it was time to fix up the spare bedroom and bring Doobie home with them.

Living with family was not the worst thing that could happen to a man, but Delores made it harder than necessary. She treated Doobie as if age had turned him into one of the children.

Doobie would sit on the edge of his bed, pulling on his shoes, and mutter to himself, "Just because I'm old doesn't mean I'm stupid."

Every morning he still walked down Meridian Street to the Maple Wood Motor Court, where old men gathered under the shade of tall maple trees to play dominoes on picnic tables and solve the world's problems between spits of tobacco juice.

Delores had made it her mission to "straighten Doobie out." She banned his pipe tobacco, raided his room, and evicted both Jack Daniel's and Prince Albert from the premises.

Worst of all, she forbade him to go anywhere near the Shady Lane Motor Court down the street. She had it on good authority that gambling, moonshine, and loose women were plying their trades there with no regard whatsoever for the Baptist hymnal or the PTA handbook.

Her commandments did not stop Doobie. They only encouraged him to improve his night vision.

He simply waited until the house was asleep, then slipped out like a tomcat with business across town.

Doobie's eyes lit up every time his twenty-five-year-old grandson, Alfred, came through the door. Alfred still lived at home but was planning to marry Barbara at the end of the month and start a home of his own. Doobie had taken a

keen interest in the boy's plans, the way old men do when young love reminds them of springtime.

One Friday evening, Alfred picked up his pay envelope at Merrimack Mill and headed home with a full heart and a foolish plan. He intended to go to the Shady Lane Motor Court, play a little poker, double his money, and then ask Barbara to marry him.

It was not so much a plan as it was a prayer wearing a blindfold.

Running the card game that night was a tinnhorn Yankee gambler named Kettle Belly Brown. He was a slick-tongued, bottom-dealing card shark known for separating greenhorns from their pay envelopes before they knew their britches were missing.

Alfred, led like a lamb to slaughter, never stood a chance. When he came home, he looked as if somebody had drained the blood out of him. He had lost not only that week's paycheck, but every dollar he had saved for marriage.

Doobie saw it the moment Alfred stepped into the room.

"What happened, boy?"

Alfred swallowed hard and stared at the floor.

"All is lost."

That was all Doobie needed to hear. He did not scold. He did not preach. He did not say, "I told you so," though he had earned the right at least twice over. He simply sat very still for a moment, then nodded as if some old door had opened in his mind.

That evening, Doobie bought a quart of Jack Daniel's and made a parade of walking through the house with it. He made sure Delores saw him. Her eyes narrowed to two slits of righteous thunder.

In his room, Doobie carefully poured the whiskey into a Mason jar and tucked it beneath a loose floorboard. "Waste not, want not," he chuckled. Then he rumbled his clothes, mussed his hair, stretched across the bed, let his mouth hang open, and arranged himself into the pitiful wreckage of a man overcome by strong drink.

When Delores stepped in to check on him, she smelled whiskey and saw the empty bottle dangling between his fingers. With a disgusted snort, she snatched it away and carried it to the trash.

Doobie did not move. He was an old possum, and he knew how to play dead. Sometime after midnight, when the house had gone quiet, Doobie opened one eye. He eased up from the bed, lifted a double-barrel shotgun from beneath the mattress, and slipped out the window.

Taking the alleyway, he made his way to the back of the Shady Lane Motor Court

and found the little cottage where Kettle Belly Brown was staying.

Through the window, Doobie could see him sitting at a table, counting money and laughing to himself. The card shark was enjoying the harvest of another evening's cheating. At three o'clock in the morning, no respectable person was awake, which suited Doobie just fine.

He stepped into the room with the

statement that saved him.

"He was in that room all night," she said, lips pursed with shame. "I checked on him myself. He was so drunk he was passed out to the world."

The detectives took her word for it. A woman like Delores did not lie, especially when the truth made her father-in-law look bad.

As for Kettle Belly Brown, the police advised him that his time in Huntsville



shotgun leveled. Kettle Belly jerked around, first startled, then angry.

"You stupid old man," he snapped. "What do you think you're doing?"

Doobie's voice was calm.

"I came for the money you stole from my grandson." Kettle Belly sneered. "You think you're the first man to threaten me with a gun?"

"No sir," Doobie said, "but I'll be the last one you see if you don't hand it over." That settled the matter.

Doobie took the gambler's wallet, counted out Alfred's wages and savings, then put the wallet back in Kettle Belly's pocket.

"I ain't a thief," he said. "I'm just correcting arithmetic."

Then he left the same way he came. Before dawn, Doobie climbed back through his bedroom window, hid the shotgun, and stretched himself across the bed exactly as Delores had last seen him.

Later that morning, the police came to question him about a reported robbery at the Shady Lane Motor Court. Delores, organist at the Baptist church and president of the PTA, provided the

had come to an end. He left town before sundown, probably seeking a community with fewer elderly men and looser floorboards.

Doobie gave Alfred back his money with a wink. No questions were asked.

Alfred married Barbara. Delores never did find the Mason jar under the floorboard. And Doobie Sinclair, having pulled off one final piece of righteous mischief, died a week later.

Some men fade away.

Doobie went out with both barrels loaded. Contact:bruce.walker2@gmail

Look for
your copy of
Divine
Appointments
God's lessons
in
making it
through life



By Seeker Columnist,
Dr. Charles Burton, D.D. PHD

Seeker Snicker



When the pastor became ill one Sunday morning, he called on a retired pastor in the congregation to fill in for him. The substitute agreed, but with some reservation since the regular pastor was well loved by the people. When that all preacher entered the pulpit, he gassed for an illustration that would convey his humility in the task.

"I feel inadequate in taking the place of your minister this morning. He is such a good preacher and brings light just like sunlight through a clean pane of glass. I, on the other hand, am like the piece of cardboard that has been substituted for the pane in the window."

He went on to preach a decent sermon. At the door afterward, a well-meaning lady grasped his hand. "Preacher, you're no cardboard, you're a real pane."

Why can't preachers get to sleep at night?

They count lost sheep.

When the flight attendant asked the preacher why he was nervous, he said, "The Bible says, 'Lo, I am with you.'"

A boy's mother told him: "You mustn't pull the cat's tail like that."

A minister was opening the mail one morning. One envelope contained a single sheet of paper on which was written only one word: Fool. The next Sunday he announced, "I have known many people who have written letters and forgotten to sign their name. But this week, I received a letter from someone who signed his name, but has forgotten to write a letter."

The minister was waiting up for his teenaged daughter who was out far past her curfew. When she finally came home around 3:30 a.m., he bellowed, "Good morning, child of the devil."

The girl answered respectfully, "Good morning, Father."

A young girl's parents decided to take her to visit a new church on Sunday morning. As a small bribe, they told her that if she were good during the service, they would take her to her favorite restaurant after work.

During the pastor's rather fiery sermon on the destination of the good versus the destination of the evil, he asked, in a rather loud voice, "And where do you think those who live a pure, just, and good life before the Lord are going to go?"

The girls stood in her seat and cried out "To my favorite restaurant!" cows come to get it."

After church on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I think I'll be a minister when I grow up."

"That's great, but what made you decide that?"

"Well," said the little boy, "I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell then to sit and listen."



Breaking Bread



SHRIMP BOIL FOIL PACKETS

Ingredients:

1 ear of corn cut into 8 pieces
1 medium zucchini sliced thick
4 cloves garlic minced
½ lb uncooked shrimp
2 andouille sausage
1 teaspoon Old Bay Seasoning
1 teaspoon Cajun seasoning
4 tablespoons butter
Fresh parsley chopped

Directions:

Tear an 18" piece of heavy-duty foil for each packet, along with a 16" sheet of parchment paper for each. Layer the parchment paper on top of the foil.

Divide the corn, zucchini, minced garlic, shrimp, spices, and butter between the two sheets of foil.



To form the packets, bring one of the short edges of the foil to meet the other, then crimp around all edges to seal.

Cook the packets on a grill (or the grill grate over your campfire) for 8 minutes, flipping occasionally.

Remove from the grill and let cool slightly. Open the packets carefully – they will be full of hot steam. Top with fresh parsley and enjoy.
2 servings per pack.

PINEAPPLE DREAM DESSERT

Ingredients:

Crust
2 cups graham cracker crumbs (14 rectangle crackers)
½ cup light brown sugar packed
6 tablespoons unsalted butter melted
Filling
8 ounces cream cheese at room temperature
½ cup unsalted butter at room temperature
2 cups powdered sugar
20 ounces crushed pineapple well drained
2 cups Cool Whip thawed
Garnishes
Cool Whip
Fresh pineapple wedges

Directions:

In a mixing bowl, stir together the graham cracker crumbs, brown sugar, and butter until evenly combined (the mixture will be crumbly).

Spray an 8-inch x 8-inch square pan with non-stick cooking spray. Press 2 cups of the graham cracker mixture into the bottom of the pan to form a crust. Set aside the remaining crumbs. Place the crust into the fridge while you make the filling.

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, butter, and powdered sugar until smooth.

Fold in the crushed pineapple until evenly distributed. Spread the pineapple filling in an even layer over the crust.

Spread 2 cups of Cool Whip over the filling. Cover with plastic wrap and chill in the fridge for at least 4 hours. Sprinkle with graham cracker crumbs. Top with Cool Whip & pineapple.

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The Seeker Christian News
P.O. Box 302 Berea, KY 40403

HOPE

By Charles L. Burton

JOB 11:18 AND THOU SHALT BE SECURE, because there is hope; yea, thou shalt dig about thee, and thou shalt take thy rest in safety. There are not very many Bible characters better than Job, that could teach us about Hope. He knew exactly what Hope would bring back to him as a result of all his loses.

Look here: Job 19:25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: This life is full of struggle and disappointment and challenge. The only way to get through this is Hope. Our Faith is built on our Hope.

Get this: Proverbs 3:5-6, 5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Just stay out of God's side and let Him do the work. We KNOW God can do anything and we Pray He does. Then we HOPE He will... That is Faith. It is the evidence of things NOT seen.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Note the word Hope... You cannot see it but you know God can do anything. Then your Faith (hope) kicks in and you wait to see God's reaction.

We all have lost friends and loved ones and my Prayer to our Heavenly Father is that He will send us Hope. With Hope comes assurance, this is what all of us need. We need to rest in Him because He will accomplish His Will in this matter.

Father, Bless these families as they do their best to get through this... It hurts, I know, I have walked this path numerous times in Ministry and in my personal life. One of our most treasured things on this is HOPE.

Psalm 33:18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; Rest assured God has you folk in His powerful hands.

Hope is our help in times of loss. The question is. What kind of loss?

#1 The loss of loved ones.

#2 The loss of friends.

#3 The loss of employment.

#3 The loss of money.

Note: Can you even imagine the loss people suffered in the Great Depression?



Dr. Charles Burton

#4 The loss of status.

Here is great news. God has every loss that occurs, in our lives, Covered. That is Grace. Not only saving Grace, but Grace for the day. Here is real HOPE.

Luke 12:7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. That is real Hope. Knowing that we are valued far above His wonderful creation. Hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it is no virtue at all...As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that known most clearly. He uses our sufferings and troubles to show us that He is our only source of strength. And when we see this truth, like Pastor Gerhardt, we receive new hope. Are you facing a great trial? Take heart. Put yourself in God's hands. Wait for His timing. He will give you a "song in the night."

Look at this promise. Psalm 38:15 For in thee, O Lord, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.

We all know God hears us. We all know God has an interest in our HOPES. So, we must believe.

Mark 9:24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

That is real Hope. I love this kids HOPE. A man approached a little league baseball game one afternoon. He asked a boy in the dugout what the score was. The boy responded, "Eighteen to nothing--we're behind."

"Boy," said the spectator, "I'll bet you're discouraged."

"Why should I be discouraged?" replied the little boy. "We haven't even

gotten up to bat yet!"

Psalm 63:7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

Jesus talked how He would have taken Israel to him as a Brood.

Luke 13:34 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!

That is HOPE.

Now, here is our Greatest HOPE. EVERLASTING LIFE. THE HOPE OF A FUTURE BEYOND THIS WORLD.

Romans 10:13 Authorized (King James) Version

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Turn to Him today. Believe he died and went to the Grave and rose again for your salvation. Ask Him to save and forgive you.

That, my friend is real HOPE. Everyone wants it. It's the thing that fuels what we do. It's the thing that stimulates courage and perseverance. It's what gets you through the tough times and keeps you from quitting. It's hard to be happy and hard to get up and continue when you don't have any of it. What is it? Hope, of course.

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TO PET LOVERS EVERYWHERE!

By Charlana K. Worth

YOU MAY WONDER WHY SOME-ONE would write a column in a Christian newspaper pertaining to dogs. For others, you wouldn't even question the validity of the subject of pets, amongst our many other beloved creatures.

I write for a purpose and the purpose in this writing is the importance of a toxic food that dogs can never eat. I urgently share this with you and explain why!

We recently experienced a close almost deadly occurrence with "RAISINS" consumed by our beloved dog! Because so many people I have shared this with had NO IDEA that raisins are extremely toxic to dogs, I feel the promptness to educate possibly saving a dog's life.

Even one raisin can be deadly!

Our God cares for His creations, no matter how small or how large, and He wants us to take the best care of them as we are able. He instructs us to in Scripture.

Our story: A zippered lunch bag had fallen off our counter and landed on the floor while I was out of the house and everyone else was out of the room. The raisins were not only zippered in the lunch bag, but they were sealed in a baggy inside the lunch bag. Our little dog saw the fallen bag and immediately tore it open devouring a hand full of raisins in seconds. As my husband walked into the room

and saw what had just happened, he immediately started praying, called the vet and took him to the ER vet clinic promptly. After our dog's stomach was pumped, tests performed detecting kidney damage, infusions, days and nights in the ER and weeks of fluids pumped intravenously, with lots of prayers he survived miraculously!

I write about this because the many people I have started sharing this with, 9 out of 10 did not know raisins are toxic to dog! People seem to be aware of chocolate, onion and Xylitol toxicity. But they aren't aware of raisins, though raisins are even more deadly to dogs. One person told me they knew grapes were toxic but not raisins. Oh My! Raisins are grapes!

So, I encourage you that through your compassion in caring for His creatures and maintaining life's sustainability on this earth, please research what foods are toxic to your pets. We decided to eliminate raisins in our home.

We are so grateful to the Lord, to all those who fervently prayed for our dog and for the compassion of our animal vets and vet techs who care for all pet companions everywhere!

"Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast but the mercy of the wicked is cruel" Proverbs 12:10

"Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies and not one of them is forgotten before God" Luke 12:6

"In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind" Job 12:10

"Know well the condition of your flocks and give attention to your herds" Proverbs 27:23

DANNA TURNER MEMORIAL DAY CAR SHOW AT THE BACK PORCH SMOKEHOUSE



WALK FOR LIFE MARATHON



THE AFFIRM WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE held its annual fundraiser, the Walk for Life marathon, Friday, May 29, at White Hall State Historic Site in Richmond. The event drew a strong crowd, with families enjoying games and activities while coming together to support the cause and celebrate life.



CLASSIC CARS, CHERISHED MEMORIES, and community filled the day at the Back Porch Smokehouse Memorial Car Show and Cruis-In on May 14, held in loving memory of Dana Turner, who passed away nearly a year ago and is dearly missed by family, friends, customers, and all who knew and loved her. Congratulations to the winners who entered the friendly car competition at the event, held at Back Porch Smokehouse on Lake Linville Road in Mt. Vernon



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