

OPINION

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ENCOURAGEMENT THAT TAKES YOU HIGHER A Short Story of Independence Day



Sherry Brown

A Special Task

Sarah was entrusted with making the decorations. She spent hours crafting red, white, and blue streamers, her small hands carefully tying knots and arranging them on the picnic tables. As she worked, her grandmother shared stories of the town's history, tales of bravery and sacrifice that led to their freedom.

The Celebration

As the sun set, the park filled with families. Laughter echoed as people shared food and stories. Sarah felt a sense of pride as she looked around at the vibrant decorations she had made. When the time came for the fireworks, everyone gathered on the grassy hill, eyes turned

skyward.

A Moment of Reflection

As the first firework exploded in a burst of color, Sarah's heart swelled with joy. She thought of the stories her grandmother told her, realizing that this day was not just about celebration but also about remembering the sacrifices made for their freedom.

The Spirit of Independence

With each firework lighting up the night sky, Sarah felt a deep connection to her community and the values they shared. Independence Day was more than a holiday; it was a reminder of unity, courage, and the spirit of freedom that lived in their hearts. As the final firework faded,

Sarah whispered a silent promise to always cherish and uphold the values of independence, ensuring that the stories of the past would never be forgotten. (Story taken from the internet).

What a beautiful story of how education and experience and great sacrifice touched a heart of a young child that was changed through the power of liberties truths that brought a huge celebration yearly to an American community that displayed the power of unity and joy in the courageous mindsets filled with knowledge and appreciation for love of country and profound freedoms that were always paid with the high price of past generations.

Happy 250 Anniversary America! O the sweet land that I love and as

we have love for Country we should also have a greater love for God and thank him for allowing us to live in such a great nation! The sweet beauty of just knowing we are in the atmosphere of such freedoms that many envy globally! God has blessed our nation beyond imagination! I am so thankful to be an American! I am more thankful to be a Christian and serve God with my whole heart. May we all take a special time during these days of celebrations and honor God because our freedoms only come from God's Holy grace and

mercy! Amen! Psalm 33:12 Blessed is the nation whose

God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance. KJV

What a glorious jubilee celebration this July 4th and may wonderful memories be made on this special day as rich history will be made and shared with future generations.

Keep shining America!!! We praise you Lord for allowing us to live within its borders and enjoy daily life!

Verse of the Week

Mark 5: 34 And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

BREAD OF LIFE

Luke 10:19 Behold I give unto you power to tread on serpents, scorpions and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Joshua 1:9 Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither thou dismayed for the Lord thy God is with thee whither so ever thou goest. Born again believers have these promises of God. Whenever things around you seem dark, remember these scriptures. Matthew 5:43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; courage comes from trusting God. It comes from believing what God says regardless of what the circumstances look like. Courage comes from faith. Where does discouragement come from? It comes from the devils lies about what God is not going to do for you. As believers of God we must shake

off discouragement and rise up with courage. We must quit looking at our failures and limitations and start looking to God. Luke 18:27 And he said the things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Once you realize who you are and what you've been given by the power of God, you'll rise up in faith and quit letting the devil run over you. John 1:4 In Him was life; and the life was the light of men 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father, which is in Heaven. As a Born Again Believer you have the light of the world in you. When circumstances in the world have you tempted to despair, meditate on the fact that Jesus Christ the light of the world is in you. You can overcome darkness with your light!

TRUST, BELIEVE & OBEY GOD'S WORD

Sharing a Smile

By Tom Metcalfe

Precarious Decision

Have you ever wondered what Happened to those men who signed the Declaration of Independence? After all this represented one of the biggest resistance to a major military power in the world. England thought of this act as disloyal. Wait a minute! Disloyal doesn't quite explain it. It was considered a treasonous act and it could lead to serious punishment, even death.

These men were very intelligent and many highly educated. Twenty-four were lawyers and jurist. Others were men of means - merchants, farmers, and plantation owners. So the point I am making is that they had to know that by signing this document they were facing danger, not only for their own lives, but for their families too. Loss of property was also very likely.

The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence faced varied fates; but while none were actually executed by the British for treason, they paid a steep price. Many lost fortunes, had homes ransacked or destroyed, and suffered imprisonment or battle wounds.

Richard Stockton (NJ) was captured by the British and imprisoned, while Arthur Middleton and Thomas Heyward Jr. (both of SC) were captured following the Siege of Charleston.

Seventeen signers had their homes looted or burned by the British, and some lived in hiding. Thomas Nelson Jr. (VA) went bankrupt after al-

lowing American forces to fire upon his own home, which the British were using as a headquarters.

Button Gwinnett (GA) was killed in a duel with a rival General just a year after signing. Thomas Lynch Jr. (SC) disappeared at sea when his ship went missing. Many signers would face British retaliation, having their houses burned down or wives captured.

Throughout the Revolutionary War, at least 14 served in their state militias or the Continental Army itself. Other signers, Robert Morris most notably, would act as financiers for the cause. Richard Stockton would be captured by the British in late 1776 while trying to evacuate his family from Perth Amboy, New Jersey. Thomas Heyward Jr. and Edward Rutledge would both be taken as prisoners of war following the Siege of Charleston in 1780.

Many of these men would go on to have illustrious political careers. Sixteen would also sign the Articles of Confederation and six—Ben Franklin, George Clymer, James Wilson, George Read, Roger Sherman, and Robert Morris—would sign the Constitution. Most signers would go on to serve in state and federal governments as assemblymen, judges, representatives, senators, and governors.

Samuel Chase and James Wilson were both appointed to the Supreme Court. Three men, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Elbridge Gerry, became the first, second,

and fifth vice presidents, respectively. Adams and Jefferson would later be elected as the second and third presidents. John Adams's son, John Quincy Adams, would become the sixth president. Benjamin Harrison was the father of ninth president William Henry Harrison and great-grandfather of twenty-third president Benjamin Harrison.

John Morton was the first to pass away in April 1777. While most would die naturally or of disease over the coming decades, Lachlan McIntosh and Thomas Lynch Jr. would pass in a shipwreck. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson would pass away hours apart on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the signing. Charles Carroll was the last surviving signer, passing away on Nov 14, 1832, at the age of 95, 56 years after the signing.

Nine signers died directly from wounds or the severe hardships of the Revolutionary War. Arthur Middleton, Richard Stockton, Thomas Heyward Jr., and Ed-

ward Rutledge—were captured by the British and imprisoned.

At least 17 signers lost their homes, properties, or had their estates looted and burned by British forces. For instance, John Hart's mill was destroyed and his wife died while he was forced to live in hiding.

In your partying and celebrating the 250th birthday, remember it came at quite a price to some.

Emma Joke - Why did the picture go to jail? Because it was framed.

Wisdom of John Ed -Women are smarter than men.Did you ever hear of a woman marrying dumb man just because he had a good figure?

Experiencing the Dream - We made it! The big celebration is upon us - just 3 days until Saturday, July 4. Thanks to all who assisted me in writing about the history, the people, the events, and the places related to the start of this great and wonderful country!

NOTICE

The Nicholas County Courthouse will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of the Fourth of July holiday. Regular business hours will resume Monday, July 6th, 2026

MATHERS FUND NOTICE

Mathers Fund applications will be taken on the following dates in the County Judge/Executive's Office by APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Monday, July 13 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
 Tuesday, July 14 and Wednesday, July 15 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Monday, July 20 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
 Tuesday, July 21 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

To make an appointment, call 859-289-3725 prior to July 13.

Bring proof of household income, food stamps, child support, childrens' medical cards, etc.

Must have been a resident of Nicholas Co. for at least 2 years.

These will be the ONLY days applications will be taken.

Pre-school does NOT qualify. No exceptions.

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SEALED BIDS

The Nicholas County Fiscal Court will be accepting sealed bids for resurfacing/blacktopping of various roads

PLEASE SUBMIT BIDS IN SEPARATE ENVELOPES WITH ROAD NAME

| | |
|--|--|
| Dog Walk Road CR 1316 MP 0 to MP 2.665 | |
| Lower Concord Road CR1204 MP 0 to MP 1.0338 | |
| Watkins Lane CR 1103 MP 0 to MP 1.672 | |
| Burris Road CR1207 MP 0 to MP 3.027 | |
| Upper Sharpsburg Road CR 1115 MP 0.229 to MP 0.6832 | |
| Upper Sharpsburg Road CR 1115 MP 0.6832 to MP 2.767 | |

Bids will be accepted until 4:00 pm on July 9th, 2026 in the County Judge/Executive's Office, Carlisle, KY 40311. Bids will be opened at 9:00 am at the Fiscal Court Meeting on Friday, July 10th, 2026. Specs can be picked up at the Nicholas County Judge Executive's Office.

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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
Sandye Watkins
NICHOLAS COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

Notice is hereby given pursuant to KRS 395.625 that the following Settlements will lay over until 12:00 pm on the 17th day of July, 2026, at which time hearing will be held in Nicholas District Court when said settlement shall be approved and recorded unless prior thereto exceptions have been filed.

Decedent/Ward: Kathleen Chappell
Address: 216 Morgan St., Carlisle, KY 40311
Fiduciary: Tammy Biddle
Address: 216 Morgan St., Carlisle, KY 40311
Title: Guardian
Nature of Account: Periodic Settlement

Witness my hand the 29th day of June 2026

Sandye Watkins
Nicholas Circuit Clerk

Published in the Carlisle Mercury on 07.01.26

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Heelstone Renewable Energy, LLC is proposing to develop, construct, own, and operate South Fork Solar, LLC, a 45-megawatt solar project located in Nicholas County, Kentucky. The proposed project will comprise approximately 250 acres near Carpenter Pike Road and Miller Station Rd near the Nicholas County industrial park. The Project has been in development since 2021, awaiting its interconnection studies results during this period.

The public is invited to learn more about the Project through a public information meeting.

Additionally, you may email questions to cpaulsen@heelstoneenergy.com.

The Company is hosting a public meeting for the community to learn more about the Project with representatives available to answer questions from the community.

The meeting will be held on the 6th of July, 2026 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Nicholas County Public Library Community Room, located at 223 North Broadway Street Carlisle, KY 40311. Please enter the building from the side door; handicap accessibility is available through the main entrance.

*This meeting will be Open House style on the 6th of July, 2026 from 5 p.m. To 7 p.m. We encourage you to stop by anytime within the timeframe to learn more about the project.

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NOTICE

The Barterville Cemetery board members will be working on cleaning up the Barterville Cemetery. Several monuments have fallen or been knocked over; board members are going to be working towards getting them picked back up. Anyone that does NOT want their family members monument picked back up please contact Pam Randolph at 859-473-2657

NOTICE

The Nicholas County Convenience Center will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance of the Fourth of July holiday. Regular business hours will resume Monday, July 6th, 2026

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
Sandye Watkins
NICHOLAS COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

Notice is hereby given to all creditors pursuant to KRS 424.340 that the Nicholas District Court has appointed personnel representatives as follows:

Decedent/Ward: Ray Ham Jr.
Address: 1209 W 5th St., Millersburg, KY 40348
Fiduciary: Traci Hunter
Address: 549 County Line Rd., Ewing, KY 41039
Title: Executor
Attorney: Andrea Bussell
Address: 106 E. Main St., Carlisle, KY 40311
Date: 06/10/26

Decedent/Ward: Phil B. Mitchell
Address: 170 Columbine Dr., Carlisle, KY 40311
Fiduciary: Bobbie Harris
Address: 170 Columbine Dr., Carlisle, KY 40311
Title: Executor
Attorney: Andrea Bussell
Address: 106 E. Main St., Carlisle, KY 40311
Date: 06/10/26

Decedent/Ward: Willa J. Pratt
Address: 639 Dorsey Ave., Carlisle, KY 40311
Fiduciary: Dustin Mitchell
Address: 423 Hickory Ridge Rd., Carlisle, KY 40311
Title: Executor
Attorney: Ken Baker
Address: 101 W. Chestnut St., Carlisle, KY 4031
Date: 06/17/26

Decedent/Ward: Cathy Livingood
Address: 2159 E. Headquarters Rd., Carlisle, KY 40311
Fiduciary: Stellana Tobin
Address: 1282 Hick Hardy Rd., Cynthiana, KY 41031
Title: Administratrix
Attorney: Dawn C. Letcher
Address: 125 E. Main St., Carlisle, KY 4031
Date: 06/17/26

Witness my hand this the 29th day of June, 2026

Sandye Watkins
Nicholas Circuit Clerk

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