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Bluegrass Event Makes for A Big Weekend

JUNE 27TH 2012 BY STAFF WRITER

Bluegrass Event Makes for A Big Weekend

*Written by
Zach Hedrick, SMT Writer*

Grassy, Missouri - If Bluegrass Music is your style, then you will want to be aware of a great event held this coming weekend at Arrowhead Campground near Grassy Missouri. Bloom Hollow LCC has organized and produced a lineup of bands that will fill your needs.

The music will begin Thursday evening with well over 15 bands on tap for your musical entertainment. The Yonder Mountain String Band will perform both Friday and Saturday night. Other bands such as The Del McCoury Band and Bluegrass Ball will also take the stage during the weekend.

Yonder Mountain String Band is a very popular bluegrass band that is well traveled. They have always played music by the own set of rules. Bending bluegrass, rock and countless other influences, Yonder has pioneered a sound of their own. With their traditional lineup of instruments, the band may look like a traditional bluegrass band at first glance but they've created their own music that transcends any genre.

The event will take place Thursday through Saturday (June 28 through June 30). The Arrowhead Campground is located on Highway J near Grassy Missouri.

Arrowhead Campground is a beautiful camping park situated on the banks of the Castor

River in Southeast Missouri. Camping facilities are complete with both electric and non-electric camp sites, two showerhouses, a concession stand that is open on the weekends, a playground area for kids as well as the cool waters of the Castor River.

Arrowhead Campgrounds hosts multiple events throughout the year like the Boom Hollow Bluegrass River Romp Festival. The Root Hog Rally is a very popular event with local motorcycle riders on the third weekend in August.

If you are looking for something to do this weekend, the Boom Hollow Bluegrass River Romp Festival is the perfect ticket for great music filled and a relaxing weekend. More information about Boom Hollow activities, visit their website at <http://www.bloomheavy.com>.

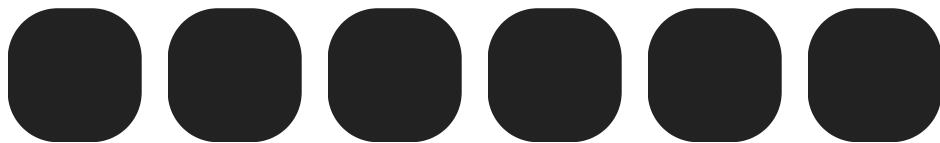
For more information, you can contact Arrowhead Campground at their office number of 573.495.2137. You can visit their website at <http://www.arrowheadcampgrounds.com> or their Facebook page of <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Arrowheadcampgroundsinc/>.

Direction: Take Hwy 25 North from Dexter to Advance. At Advance, Turn West and then take Hwy 91 North toward Marble Hill, MO. From Marble Hill, take Hwy 34 West approximately 15 miles to Hwy Y. Turn Left (South) on Hwy Y and you will find Arrowhead Campground.

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Girls Gather For Fun Day Camp

JUNE 25TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Girls Gather For Fun Day Camp

It was a fun “blast from the past” together as Dexter Girl Scouts had “Retro” Day Camp.

Day Camp Director, Sarah Miller, and other volunteers planned a full day at the park for the Daisy, Brownie, Junior and Cadette Girl Scouts.

The day started with a flag ceremony and then the girls learned some new games. The girls then rotated through a number of stations for fun and activities, including a camping/first aid station, a wood craft station, a leather working station, a nature station, and a knife and knots station.

The girls dined on sack lunches midday before participating in a scavenger hunt and learning a little Girl Scout history in the afternoon. This year marks 100 years of Girl Scouting in America.

At the end of the day, after a dinner of grilled hotdogs, the Girl Scouts jumped in the Dexter Aquatic Center to cool off!

Photo Above: Girl Scouts had an awesome time at Day Camp recently. Girls ready for the day included (from left) Maddie Glaus, Callie Whitake, Jayci Holcomb, Gracie Jones, Elizabeth Arnold, Destiny Gifford and Marie Christian. (Photos by SMT reader and Girl Scout mom Willa Fees)

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Local Carnival Delights, Helps Foundation

JUNE 14TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Local Carnival Delights, Helps Foundation

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

Giggles and squeals of delight, combined with the music and sounds of the First Annual Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Carnival on Wednesday evening, as kids of all ages enjoyed the rides and action at the carnival.

Wednesday was Bracelet Night at the carnival, and folks took advantage of the event to ride the great rides. From the kiddie Ferris wheel and merry-go-round, to bumper cars and the Scrambler, folks enjoyed the fun and action. Carnival games along the midway test skills and offer ladybugs and teddy bears, princess crowns and over-sized bubble wands. The weather cooperated on Wednesday, with a cool breeze as the sun set for a perfect June evening.

Thursday night is a second Bracelet Night at the carnival. For just \$20, carnival-goers can ride all the rides from 6 until 10 p.m. Bracelets are good for one night only, and may be purchased at the ticket booth on the carnival grounds.

The weeklong carnival is a great way to kick off the summer and to support the Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Foundation. The carnival is sponsored by County Wide Insurance, Montgomery Bank and the ShowMe Times news journal. A portion of the proceeds from

the weeklong event will be donated to the foundation.

The carnival rides and fun games – as well as that traditional carnival cotton candy and other treats – are provided by Miller Extravaganza Shows. The events in on Business Highway 60 in Dexter, in the field between Dexter Barbecue and The Liberty Center. The carnival will continue nightly through Saturday, June 16.

Photo Above: A pair of young riders didn't quite know what to make of the Ferris wheel on Wednesday evening at the Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Carnival. A second Bracelet Night is scheduled at the carnival on Thursday evening. The community carnival continue through Saturday evening. (ShowMe Times photo by Annabeth Miller)

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Summer Means Vacation Photo Time

JUNE 13TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Summer Means Vacation Photo Time

By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor

Summer is upon us. That means cameras will be preserving precious memories from family vacations, get-togethers, weddings, graduations, and so much more.

However, when the perfect photographic moment comes into view, a great many find themselves frustrated with their ability to capture the moment with a great photograph.

Here's five simple tips from AAA that will go a long, long ways to helping you be prepared to get that great family vacation photograph.

5 Simple Tips for Great Vacation Photographs

Practice before you leave home – This is quite likely the most important tip of all. Get your owners manual out and practice some of the lighting and subject situations that you are likely to find yourself with. You're likely to have family members posing in front of scenes and objects. You're likely to be photographing in bright sun, cloudy skies, indoors, in places where flash is not allowed, on beaches, on hiking trails; the various situations are near infinite. Set up these situations as best you can at home and practice, practice, practice.

Memory Cards – Today's megapixel digital cameras can quickly eat up a memory card. This is particularly true if you plan to shoot any video on your vacation. Today's digital cameras will generally tell you how many photographs you can store on your memory card. Take a look at this and determine if your card is large enough to store all the photographs from your vacation. If you happen to witness an elk doing the moonwalk, you'll want to be certain to have enough space on your memory card to capture it.

[/images/AB 2012/6.13.2012 louvre.jpg](#)

Scene Modes - It's a simple fact: many baby boomers have never taken a photograph out of their digital camera's green automatic setting. Come on...live large...explore the scene settings on your camera! If your camera was purchased in the last few years, you are very likely to have quite a number of special scene modes. These might include special settings for portraits, beach/snow, cloudy skies, sunsets, landscapes, museum, close-up, indoors, etc, etc. While your green automatic setting will try to accomplish all things, these special setting will give your camera more information and allow it to do a better job.

Fill-Flash – One of the most common mistakes I see in vacation photographs is shadowy faces in front of a brightly-lit background. Your family is posed in front of the Grand Canyon. The scene is stunning. You shoot the photograph and the faces of your loved ones are dark and shadowy. Believe it or not, you should be using your flash quite a bit in sunny situations where people are standing in front of brightly-lit subjects. Your camera doesn't know that you have loved ones in front of the Grand Canyon. It just sees all that light and compensates accordingly. In situations like these, you need to force your camera to flash and then your loved ones faces will be bright and clear. Practice this at home before you leave!

[/images/AB 2012/6.13.2012 dublin street.jpg](#)

Composition – In photography, it seems to be human nature to stick our subjects smack dab in the middle of a photograph. However, this can result in drab, predictable

photos. Before you get to the subject of your photograph, give some thought to how you will compose it. How can you better tell a story with your photograph? Instead of shooting straight on, can you shoot down on your subjects?

Can you get ground level and shoot up? Type "rule of thirds" in Google and do a little study on composition. A little creativity and study on photographic composition can really make a big difference in coming home with great vacation photographs.

One other suggestion in this day and age of technology and "smart phones". If your phone has a good camera, consider shooting some (don't forgo using your digital camera) using one of the photo aps – like Hipstamatic and Instagram. Hipstamatic applies a number of software [filters](#) to make the images look as though they were taken with an antique [film camera](#). You can choose among a number of effects that can shed a unique and different perspective on your photos.

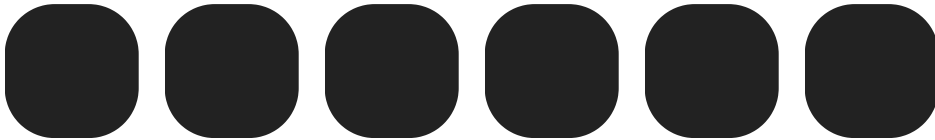
Whether you head 30 or 3000 miles away, you'll want to bring back great photos of your vacation

Photos Above: Top Photo - Warwick Castle framed on a hillside Warwick, England; Middle Photo - An example of being at the right place at the right moment - French soldiers celebrating after a Bastille Day Parade outside the Louvre, in Paris; Bottom photo - A photo of a typical Irish street, free from the tourist and commercial hub-bub. (Photos by Annabeth Miller)

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18 Fore Life Carnival Comes To Town

JUNE 11TH 2012 BY STAFF WRITER

[18 Fore Life Carnival Comes To Town](#)

*Written by
Zach Hedrick, SMT Writer*

Dexter, Missouri - The excitement is growing as the 1st Annual Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Spring Carnival unfolds on West Business Highway 60 in Dexter. The activities will get started Tuesday evening at 5:30 and will run through Saturday evening. Show hours are:

5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Weeknights
5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday
2:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday

With the 12th Annual golf tournament the  previous weekend, it didn't take long for a

new inspiration to hit the group. And as usual, the ideas are spontaneous and creative. But more so, the new activities are an inspired idea that are searches for a way to become involved and make a contribution.

The most recent 18 Fore Life Banquet featured an incredible video highlighting the wide variety of events held by the Foundation to include the long time projects of the golf tournament, the banquet and the 10 Pins for Ben bowling tournament. Also featured were several new events for 2011 such as the 18 Fore Life Crappie Tournament, Julie Dodd's Claus for a Cause event and the T. S. Hill Middle School Inspired "Dig Pink" Volleyball and "Hits For Hope" contests, to name a few.

These events are simply an opportunity where both young and old are given a chance to become involved and contribute to those in need. They are filled with fun and great memories, but participants share in the accomplishments of delivering kindness, love and help to those hurting and in need.

The Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Foundation is in fact *More Than Just a Golf Tournament* - so what happens when a new idea surfaces? A call is quickly made to Scott Kruse who, with an excited tone in his voice says, "What else could I say but yes?".

Sometimes, the opportunity is thrust upon the Foundation at breakneck speed. Miller's Extravaganza Shows hit town last Friday afternoon in search of a location in Dexter. Within a couple of hours, the agreement had been reached that the carnival would partner with the 18 Fore Life Foundation to have an incredible week of big fun, great food and fantastic memories, while raising funds for the charity all in the same event.

Dana Adams, of Montgomery Bank, was quick to capture the idea that this event could become an annual event and broadened in coming years to include other activities. Ideas have been kicked around such as an 18 Fore Life BBQ Contest, an 18 Fore Life Music Festival, and even a dress up Mardi Gras Night. So there is great hope that attendance this year will be an encouragement for future activities that will be planned for 2013.

Even as easy as this event may appear with the support of Miller's Extravaganza Shows, there are always those that kick in a little extra effort on this short of notice. And a special thanks goes out to:

- **Ryan Duley of A Cut Above Lawn Care**: *for quickly mowing and preparing the lot for the Miller team to setup.*
- **Scott Rankin of SEMO Land Design**: *for pitching in last minute to fill the "duck ponds" and deep tire ruts.*
- **Dana Adams & Scott Nelson of Montgomery Bank**: *for their quick planning, promotional activities and willingness to plan for the future.*
- **Alan Hedrick, Jason Comfort & the County Wide Insurance Crew**: *for their willingness to say "Yes" and contribute to the great community of Dexter.*

Celebrate | Give | Remember

The Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Foundations is a lot about having good times with friends, butt it has a pure heartbeat of a driven purpose to serve others in times that their lives face great difficulties.

"One week after one of the largest and most successful events in our history," event organizer Scott Kruse said. "We still have names of people on our list that need help. So yes, yes, yes ... let's have a Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Carnival!"

The weather promises to be great the remainder of the week. This is a great opportunity for you to gather up your kids, your grandkids or your neighbor kids and come to the 1st Annual Ben Kruse 18 Fore Life Carnival. You will be able to ***CELEBRATE a great time, GIVE to a worthy cause and make memories you will always REMEMBER!!***

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