

Fear

By Sandy Hamilton, Nicholas County

Fear will make you do crazy things and sometimes they're out of character for you. Taking a walk in the woods seemed easy enough. I'd not been in this part of the county for bit and decided it would be nice to take a walk on a beautiful fall day.

I walked a short way, encountering a squirrel family who weren't so happy to see me. I made a wide swath around their nest and moved on. I saw a black bear and decided not to go any closer as it had three babies. I kept walking and looking at the beautiful fall colors only to realize that I was lost. I didn't know which direction I came from or where I needed to go. I was frightened.

I decided to walk somewhere as staying here wasn't an option. It was early afternoon and I should be back to where I started in an hour or two. I walked for what seemed like hours. I was no closer to anything I recognized. I continued on. I climbed a steep hillside and a river flowed below. I didn't know there was a river in this area and I'd lived near here all my life.

I started down the steep incline toward the river and heard voices; an argument it sounded like. I was even more afraid. I continued slowly. I was a couple, trying to get their boat out of the water and neither thought the other knew what they were doing. I stayed hidden in the trees. Or so I thought. The woman spotted me and called out to come on down to them. I was scared as they were yelling at one another and I've never seen a couple act in such a way. I moved toward them and asked if they were okay. They said they were having trouble getting their boat out of the river. I offered to help, but was written off as a kid who didn't know anything about it. I did learn that the husband was very hard of hearing and that was the reason for all of the yelling. I helped them get the boat on the trailer. They offered to take me home. When I told them where I lived they looked at one another in surprise. They told me we were neighbors and proceeded to include me in their ride home.

Fear is powerful. I kept thinking, that I hope these people aren't ax murders. I rode in the back seat where there where multiple defensive tools should I need them!

When we drove down my driveway, my dad was working in the yard. He said hello to the couple and asked what he could do for them. They then shared my predicament and how they rescued me from certain death. Oh and how I had rescued them from certain divorce!