

# Iredell CITIZEN

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At Mac Gray Auditorium, there was a musical gathering of...



Neil Furr/CITIZEN

**KATIE SIGMON**, COMATOSE FOR MONTHS but now awake, displays a smile for her mother Rocky Sigmon, photo at right, who is on stage during a "Katie's Hope" concert at Statesville High School. At Katie's right are younger sister Emmy Lou and father Jack Sigmon.

**Neil Furr**  
IREDELL CITIZEN

**KATIE SIGMON** ALWAYS HAD THE SWEETEST SMILE. She had it when just a little thing in Christmas plays at Race Street Methodist Church. She took it with her to grade school to charm her teachers.

As a cheerleader for the Statesville Greyhounds, she took it to football games and never allowed it to dim whether her team won or lost. In 1999, for her mom and dad, Jack and Elaine (Rocky) Sigmon, her smile beamed brightest among the graduates awaiting diplomas on a bright June morning on the football

field in Greyhound Holler.

As those alumni went their separate ways, they never thought Katie's smile could ever, would ever vanish. But one day, it did.

She caught a cold and then pneumonia. She spent weeks

recovering and then one night, doctors' figure, threw up in her sleep and aspirated. Doctors say her brain was deprived of oxygen too long and caused the condition, "Apoxia."

**See Katie page 6**

