



Friday, January 02, 2009

## **Author to share inspiration story at Hamilton County Jr. Leader meeting Wednesday**

**The Times**

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On Wednesday, nationally recognized speaker and author Darcy Keith will share her inspirational story of overcoming life-threatening injuries from a fatal car crash with the Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders.

Keith will talk about how to survive and thrive through life's challenges when a teen.

As the only unbuckled backseat survivor in her crash, the 22-year-old had to learn how to begin life all over again - mentally, physically, and emotionally. Injuries she sustained left her in a coma, with paralysis to half of her body and relying on life support to help her breathe.

Over the years, Keith has overcome many life-altering experiences with success and has emerged as an expert on surviving and thriving through life's challenges and trials.

As a 10-year member of 4-H and Junior Leaders, Keith has used her platform of overcoming her injuries to help others within several leadership roles in providing inspiration, legislation, education, and prevention.

She was selected as an Indiana Hero by the Indiana Pacers in 2008 for her testimony in the passage of Indiana's seatbelt law requiring seatbelt usage in every position of a vehicle.

Keith has been featured on various radio stations and television outlets around the country including ABC, CBS and FOX.

She has received numerous awards and honors including a 2000 Ball State University Graduate of the Last Decade award and the 2006 ThinkFirst National Speaker of the Year.

The Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders will be holding their meeting at the Hamilton County Fair Grounds from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

For more information on joining 4-H and the Junior Leaders, contact the Hamilton County Extension Office at 776-0854.

For more information on Keith, visit her Web site at [www.DarcyKeith.com](http://www.DarcyKeith.com).

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