



Gabby Barrett and Cade Foehner on the set of her new music video, "Pick Me Up." (Image courtesy of Sweet Talk Publicity)

## GABBY BARRETT

Though no one knew who Gabby Barrett was five years ago, she knew herself – what she believed in, what she was capable of, and what she could accomplish if given the right platform.

When she auditioned for ABC's 2018 reboot of "American Idol," she immediately became both a favorite with judges Luke Bryan, Katy Perry and Lionel Richie, and with the millions watching at home. With her dad by her side – sporting a "GB" hat – and remarkable stage presence, Barrett was arguably the show's most ready-made contestant. Wherever she would finish – ultimately in third place – it was obvious Barrett was going to be a country music megastar.

Sure enough, upon leaving the show and heading to Nashville, Barrett quickly found success.

In November, she performed as part of the 96th annual National Christmas Tree Lighting. The following summer, Barrett was named Radio Disney's NBT (Next Big Thing) Featured Artist.

Her 2020 debut album, "Goldmine," just about knocked country radio on its head. The Platinum-selling record was highlighted by the six-times-Platinum hit "I Hope" – the genre's most-streamed song of the year, which also topped Billboard's 2020 year-end Hot Country Songs, Country Digital Song Sales and Country Streaming Songs charts. Barrett's team said the song, "after reigning at No. 1 for 27 weeks, made history with the longest-running No. 1 by an unaccompanied female artist since the chart's 1958 inception, and the third-longest-running No. 1 of all time."

"The Good Ones," which Barrett sings about her husband – fellow "American Idol" finalist Cade Foehner – went two-times "Platinum." By popular demand, Barrett released a stripped-down wedding version. You've probably heard it at one or two or several-dozen ceremonies.

Barrett has taken home so many awards for "Goldmine" that her house practically is one. A 17-song deluxe edition has no less than 15 songs in which Barrett has writing credit.

She co-hosted the 57th Academy of Country Music Awards alongside Dolly Parton and Jimmie Allen, and returned to "American Idol" last spring to serve as a mentor to the top 14.

Barrett, now 22, and seven months pregnant with her and Foehner's second child – following Baylah May, who was born 19 months ago – is touring with Jason Aldean. She performed at Darien Lake on Saturday.

•Read our Q&A at [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com).

## KATY NICHOLE

'I Still Believe Tour'

None of this was supposed to happen to Katy Nichole. Not a chart-topping hit. Not performances at legendary venues. Not opening for Chris Tomlin or Jeremy Camp. You see, Katy was ready to embark upon a career in the medical arts. She not only set her mind on this profession, but went to and completed school to become a certified assistant.

That she was able to do that was somewhat unexpected, as well.

Just a few years earlier, at the age of 15, Katy underwent surgery to correct her spine – something deemed necessary to treat her scoliosis. Metal rods and screws placed in her back resulted in lingering bouts of extreme pain – and, even worse – extreme depression. Things got to a place where, as Katy recalled in her biography, "At one point, I looked at a bottle of pills I was given, and I was like, 'It would be that easy.'"

It was then, she said, "I remember picking it up, and I heard the voice of God say, 'Hold on. I'm not done yet.' Every time I would hit that low point, I would hear that same voice."

Katy had another operation – this time to take out the implants – and "When I came out of the second surgery, that smoke cloud was gone. I encountered the Lord in that moment. My x-rays after the surgery showed that my spine was actually straighter than when the rods had been in it. So, when I say that God can do miracles, I mean it, because I've seen it."

She started singing in church – not remotely thinking it would amount to anything other than leading people in worshipping God.

She caught the attention of The Afters lead singer Josh Havens, who invited her to perform at his church, The Grove in Phoenix. Soon after, Katy started releasing original songs online, and wound up receiving a recording contract from Centricity Music.

Her self-titled, debut EP features six songs, including a collaboration with Big Daddy Weave frontman Mike Weaver ("God Is In This Story").

It's the self-reflective "In Jesus Name," however, that has become an anthem and a rallying cry for the millions of people who have streamed the song, watched it online or heard it live in concert.

"Holding the most consecutive weeks at No. 1 for a debut single from a female artist ever on both the Billboard Hot Christian Songs (14 weeks) and Christian Airplay (nine weeks) charts, 'In Jesus Name (God of Possible)' also continues at No. 1 on the iTunes Christian and Gospel Songs chart, occupying that top spot virtually every week since it released Jan. 26," a press release noted upon the EP's release. "Nichole further breaks into the Top 5 on the Billboard Emerging Artist Chart and was named a YouTube 'Trending Artist On The Rise' for the song's concept video that has been streamed nearly 6 million times."

As of this writing, "In Jesus Name" has only dropped one spot, to No. 2 on the first Billboard chart. "God Is In This Story" is No. 10 on the second rankings list.

Katy will share her songs locally when she visits The Chapel on Thursday, Sept. 15. She is part of Jeremy Camp's "I Still Believe Tour."

•Read our Q&A at [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com).



## JEREMY CAMP

'I Still Believe Tour'

The story of Job has been shared over the years in myriad church and Sunday school sessions. For many, that's all it is – a story. But for Jeremy Camp, a key question within the 42-chapter book became all too real when his 21-year-old wife died 21 years ago.

Would he trust God on his darkest day?

After Job lost his children in a tragic accident, his wife asked, "Why don't you just curse God and die?"

Camp could've done just that – blame God for Melissa's cancer, get mad, rip up his Bible and erase his pastor's phone number. But instead of running from God, Camp ran to him – just like Job did.

He wrote "I Still Believe," and proclaimed, "I still believe in Your faithfulness/Cause I still believe in Your truth/Cause I still believe in Your holy word/Even when I don't see, I still believe."

The song made Camp a star. More importantly, the message would provide strength and hope for millions around the world listening on the radio, or watching online or in concert. "I Still Believe" also spawned a book and an autobiographical movie.

Indeed, it's even served as a reminder to Camp, whose past four years were filled with extreme peaks and valleys.

Camp had remarried, become a father and one of Christian music's biggest and brightest stars when, in 2018, the Erwin Brothers (producers of "I Can Only Imagine") approached him about turning his life into a motion picture. The exciting news was soon met with personal struggles, as Camp wrestled with feelings of mistrust, panic and fear.

Through prayer and reflection, Camp overcame those emotions. His journey was captured in material for a 2019 album, "The Story's Not Over."

The filmmakers, meanwhile, put together an all-star cast, with "Riverdale" star K.J. Apa in the lead role. "I Still Believe" was released March 13, 2020 – and nearly made back its production costs on opening weekend. The film was poised to be a smash ... until movie theaters were shuttered.

Subsequently, Camp was forced off the road and away from the public for months. While this was not ideal, the break did help him catch his breath – and it allowed Camp time to put together songs for an album titled "When You Speak."

At the end of June, Camp announced he was expanding his "I Still Believe Tour" into the fall. The 18-city trek would begin with a Sept. 15 concert at The Chapel in Getzville.

•Read our Q&A at [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com).

## HELP WANTED

### Classified Coordinator/ Designer

Niagara Frontier Publications has an opening for a qualified individual to fill the position of a Full-time Classified Coordinator. Duties will include answering classifieds calls, writing orders and typing. Assisting design department with ad design if needed. Good typing, spelling, grammar, organizational and phone skills are essential. Knowledge of InDesign is necessary.



Please send resume to:  
Niagara Frontier Publications  
1859 Whitehaven Road  
Grand Island, NY 14072  
or E-mail resume to:  
[nfpassist@wnypapers.com](mailto:nfpassist@wnypapers.com)

**DON'T MISS A THING! Go to our web site [www.wnypapers.com](http://www.wnypapers.com)**

### Top Notch Removal

We remove all unwanted junk and debris from houses, garages, sheds, yards, commercial buildings, storage units, warehouses.

We also tear-down and remove unwanted decks, sheds, garages, pools, hot-tubs, sidewalks, small trees/bushes.

No job is too big or too small

Call, Text, or Email for a FREE ESTIMATE

716-216-4602 - office • 716-374-5457 Lisa  
[topnotchremoval@gmail.com](mailto:topnotchremoval@gmail.com)

Rated Number ONE  
In Junk Removal



## OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

1859 WHITEHAVEN RD., GRAND ISLAND, NY  
(RIGHT OFF NYS THRUWAY)

Approximately 450 sq. ft. divided into two rooms. Common waiting area. Some office furnishings. WiFi. Just move in! Triple net lease. Loading dock and handicap accessible.

716-773-7676



## Live music at The Isle View

The Isle View welcomes you to its live music series, running from 7-10 p.m. Saturdays at 791 Tonawanda St., Tonawanda.

Sept 3: Bob Folk  
Sept. 10: Slim Chance & The Cant Hardly Wait Play Boys  
Sept. 17: NY TO LA

### WXRL CLASSIC COUNTRY 1300 AM & 95.5 FM WXRL RAMBLIN' LOU TOURS Join your hosts: Joanie & Linda Lou

Sept. 14 - Seneca Alleg. Casino & Sprague's Maple Farm (turkey dinner) (\$25 Casino Bonus)  
Sept. 16-20 - Vermont/N. Hamp/Maine-Many highlights!  
Sept. 27-Oct 3 - Great Smoky Mts./Nashville/Pigeon Forge/ Dollywood  
Oct. 12-14 - Trains & Trolleys of Pennsylvania  
Oct. 19 - Seneca Alleg. Casino & Sprague's Maple Farm (turkey dinner) (\$25 Casino Bonus)  
Oct. 21 - Lucy Tour - Nat. Comedy Ctr./Museums/ Lunch - Jamestown  
Nov. 7-9 - SOLD OUT - Amish-Lancaster, PA - "DAVID" & Christmas Show - Call to be placed on a "Waiting List"

It's the 53rd Annual Christmas Show & Live Radio Broadcast with the

RAMBLIN' LOU FAMILY BAND  
"WNY's First Family of Country Music"

Featuring 3 Generations of Family Entertainment  
Saturday, December 10th  
2 Hr Christmas Show from 11am-1pm, followed by a delicious turkey meal at 1pm. Classics V Banquet Ctr-Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst, NY Tickets \$40 each. For tickets, send a check to: WXRL Radio, P.O. Box 170, Lancaster, NY 14086  
Don't miss this WNY Family Tradition!!!

Visit [WXRL.com](http://WXRL.com) for more details  
Listen to WXRL 24/7 on 1300AM/95.5FM & Streaming LIVE @ WXRL.com  
For a FREE brochure, call 716-681-1313 Mon-Fri 9am-4pm



Listen to  
80's Escape  
John Anthony  
Every Saturday  
4pm to 6pm  
[WEBRRadio.com](http://WEBRRadio.com)