



**PRESS RELEASE
GLENVIEW PARK DISTRICT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A visit back home to Glenview nets Texas woman nearly \$10,000

GLENVIEW, Ill., July 19 – Mariah McIntyre’s family moved quite a bit while she was growing up, but she spent several years with her grandparents in Glenview and to her that felt like home. They lived in the Glenview New Church community near Lake and Shermer. She was part of the first sixth grade class when Attea School opened its doors and later graduated from Glenbrook South High School in 2010.

Today, Mariah lives in Texas and married John Hays last year. For their anniversary, the couple decided to do a hometown date.

“I wanted to show my husband and my step kids where I grew up,” said Hays, who thought there couldn’t be a better time of year to do it than the 4th of July when Glenview has so much to offer.

They headed to Gallery Park that night and for fun, John Hays bought one \$20 raffle ticket which gave the young family an opportunity to be big winners while also supporting Mariah’s hometown.

When the numbers were drawn, John Hays held the ticket in his hand.

Mariah Hays recalls, “He’s looking at the ticket with no expression on his face. He says nothing after the last number is called, and I ‘m like, Well did you read it? and very calmly he goes, ‘Yea...you might want to figure out what they do for out-of-state people.’ And I started screaming!”

Thanks to that one lucky \$20 ticket, the family takes home a prize of \$9,734.

Mariah Hays is thrilled. “To be honest, I was freaking out. I’ve never really won anything, a c.d. maybe. My sister won a chocolate bunny once. But this is big!” she said with a huge smile.

The couple recently gained full custody of her two step-kids Brianna and Hunter Hays. Now with two adults and four children including Nova Roberts and Takoda Hays, they have outgrown their 1500 square foot townhouse.

“We’re moving soon, into a larger home. It closes in September or October and my husband and I had been joking about how we couldn’t afford to furnish it. So, we figured we’d just have to have some empty rooms for awhile. Now, we can go furniture shopping!” said Mariah Hays.

Glenview 4th of July Committee member and Glenview Park Foundation board member Kevin Christell said the raffle was such a success, he’s certain it will become a yearly thing.

“Understand that the raffle is not only a chance to win, but also that its contributions are going to many great causes. So, win or lose, you win!”

Since its inception in 1996, the Glenview Park Foundation has raised more than \$2.3 million to build playgrounds, recast Glenview’s Jackman Bear statue, fund the construction of the Wagner Farm Heritage Center, art in the park at both Flick Park and The Grove, and renovate the Willow Park Fieldhouse for use by children and adults with disabilities. The foundation also funds the leisurehip program which pays the fees for camps, programs and events for those who can’t afford them.

Half of the proceeds (after expenses) of the 50/50 raffle go to the winner. The other half is split equally by the Foundation and the July 4th Committee to help pay for the expenses of the day. That includes the fireworks, police, porta potties, bands and cleanup crews.

Other fundraisers for the Foundation include the Glenview 3v3 Summer Soccer Fest and Firecracker Classic Golf Outing.

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About the Glenview Park District

The Glenview Park District serves over 57,000 residents including all of Glenview and Golf, small portions of Niles, Northbrook, Northfield and Skokie, and unincorporated areas beyond the village limits. The District owns, maintains and operates more than 845 acres. Connect with us at

www.glenviewparks.org.