

Life's Butterfly Bridges Brighten Days

By Becky Greenwell
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Life is full of storms and rainbows with no promises of life always being a rose garden.

Some days seem to have more storms than rainbows, but when the rainbows appear the storms are long forgotten.

I love those feel-good days when all is right with the world, but most especially when there are surprise moments.

My happy place is my flower garden. I enjoy the nature right out my back door. I call it my birds, blooms, bees, and butterfly sanctuary. Whenever it is all in bloom and weed free, I am ecstatic.

I take so many more pictures of my backyard than I do of people. I love it whenever I get a few surprising picture-frame-worthy shots. One year I added wildflower seeds and turned it into a chaos garden. It was favored by the butterflies and hummingbirds. The flowers grew beautifully and filled my garden with more rainbow days.

My hummingbirds have come back to stay. They were around sporadically, but now I have three of them that are here every day all day long. My flowers are boldly blooming. The birds are everywhere and the squirrels are behaving.

My biggest rainbow was all the butterflies my chaos of wildflowers brought to me.

A few years ago, a friend of ours introduced me to his butterfly garden. He had so many monarchs flying around, but whenever he showed me pictures of the emergence of a butterfly from a chrysalis I was intrigued.

The very next year I planted my own milkweed plants, but was sorely disappointed;

I had no butterflies. The year after that the plants grew back and the wildflowers brought several butterflies to my garden.

The day I saw caterpillars on my plant I was in a new euphoria. I was as excited as I was when finding out I was going to be a first-time grandmother. There was anticipation and so many photo ops.

Every day I checked on the caterpillars and watched them eating the leaves of the milkweed. When the day came that I saw them spinning their silk on the underside of a leaf I knew the time was getting closer. It wasn't long before I found three hanging chrysalises.

I documented their progress every day with pictures. In order to find them easier I tied white ribbons near each one.

My grandchildren were here for a few days and each day they were out checking on the babies to make sure they were doing okay. They gave each of the butterflies a name so we could refer to them and know which one we were talking about. They were named Mary, Mac, and Marty Monarch.

When the kids left for home, they made me promise to check on them every day and let them know of the changes.

Early one morning I found a beautiful Monarch sitting on a leaf drying his wings. That was Mac, my first born. Mary was close to emerging as I could see her wings through the transparent chrysalis.

I wanted to get this emergence on video so I sat on the top step, trying to hold on to my camera, while balancing an umbrella in the falling misty rain. Then, I decided to cut the branch and take Mary into the house where I could get every-

thing on film.

I put the stem in a vase and patiently sat watching and waiting. At the slightest movement I put my camera on time lapse and caught the whole emergence cycle. It was a first for me and was breathtaking.

I took Mary on her branch back to the bush and gently placed her there. She started moving and climbed up the stems until she was beside Mac and together, they sat and dried their wings.

About midmorning I went out and Mac had flown. I missed his departure, but I knew Mary wouldn't be far behind. I sat with my camera poised and ready to capture the moment. Every time she fanned her wings to check the drying I pushed video. When she stopped, I stopped filming.

In about 15 minutes she started fanning more and then she stopped, so I stopped. Then she flew away. I was so disappointed I missed her flight on video, but still excited about the births of my first butterflies.

I was sending videos and updates to my husband and asked him if this meant I was officially a great-grandmother. He said I was since I had spent more time with those butterflies than I did with my grandchildren.

I sent videos to all the grandchildren and they were as excited as I was to see this miracle of nature.

Marty was still in his chrysalis, but a few days later I witnessed another natural birth and another first flight.

This year my garden is a sanctuary for the hummers, the finches, the bees, and black swallowtail butterflies. I haven't seen any monarchs yet, but the milkweed is growing and it is getting closer to the time when the butterflies show up to lay their eggs. I'm on butterfly watch now. Just quietly waiting and waiting.

Did You Know?

Board games are popular ways to pass the time and socialize with family and friends.

Board games have been played for centuries. The oldest board game is believed to have originated in the Middle East. It was discovered at the Royal Cemetery of the Sumerian city of Ur in 1928 by a British archaeologist.

Highly decorated boards made of wood and inlaid shell and lapis lazuli were found and believed to be made between 2,600 and 2,400 B.C. The game was dubbed the Royal Game of Ur since its original name wasn't known.

Deaths And Funerals

Cindy Sutton

Cindy Lea Sutton, 66, of Morganfield died on Sunday, August 10 at her home.

She was born on Jan-



uary 16, 1959 to Robert and Ruth Ann Alvey.

She was active at Grace Fellowship Church. She enjoyed gardening and caring for her flowers.

She was preceded in death by her father and a grandson.

Cindy is survived by her husband, David Sutton of Morganfield; two daughters, Sarah (Brian) Ricketts of Morganfield and Cali (Greg) Henshaw of Sturgis; two sons, Andy (Morgan) Sutton of Henderson, Kentucky and Matthew (Carrie3) Sutton of Dixon, Kentucky; her mother, Ruth Ann Alvey of Morganfield; a brother, Bobby Alvey; and a grandson.

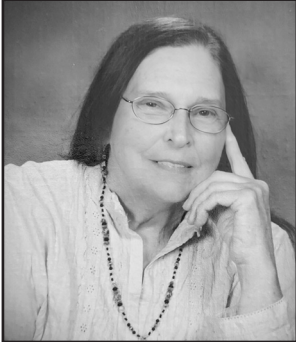
Funeral services will be at 1:00 P.M. today (Wednesday, August 13) at Whitsell Funeral Home in Sturgis with the Rev. Dwight Jackson and the Rev. Geoffrey Deibler officiating. Visitation is 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. today (Wednesday) at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions can be made to Grace Fellowship Church in Morganfield.

Earlene White

Earlene Syers White, 83, of Sturgis died on Tuesday, August 5 at Valhalla Post Acute in Louisville, Kentucky.

She was born May 7,



1942 to Earl and Jennie Syers in Sturgis.

She was a homemaker and later retired from the Union County Public Schools. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends, gardening, and loved animals.

Barbara Starkey

Barbara Dean Starkey, 89, of Sturgis died Wednesday, August 6th at her home.

She was born June 16th, 1936 to Carroll



and Estine Edmondson of Sturgis. She was a graduate of Sturgis High School and a member of Grangertown Baptist Church. She was general manager of The Union County Advocate, retiring in 2001.

Barbara was preceded in death by her

parents, Carroll and Estine Edmondson; husband, Roy R. Starkey; brothers, Carroll Edmondson, Jr., and Roger Edmondson; as well as daughter in law, Tonya Starkey.

She is survived by two daughters, Susan Hall (Dan) of Lee's Summit, Missouri and Milinda Glass of Sturgis; two sons, Scott Starkey (Dara) of Providence, Kentucky and Patrick Starkey of Sturgis; nine grandchildren, Patricia Woodard (Paul) of Sturgis, Jonathan Glass of Morganfield, Talon Hall (Bri) of Lee's Summit, Cheyenne, Landon, and Glenn Starkey of Providence, Amber Wolfe of Sturgis, Haley Carver (Trevor) of Indianapolis, Indiana, and Paris Starkey and Fiancé, Dalton Cornwell of Clay, Kentucky; six great-grandchildren, Katarina Stevens of Sturgis, Lestat Stevens of Sturgis, Parker Mae Glass of Morganfield, Zoey Wolfe of Sturgis, Stella Hall of Lee's Summit, and Stetson Hall of Lee's Summit; one sister, Paula Edmondson Smith of Sturgis; one brother, Phil Edmondson of Sullivan; two sisters-in-law, Bonnie Edmondson of Sturgis and Pam Burchfield of Sturgis; and a host of step grandchildren and step great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

A special thank you to Saint Anthony's Hospice for their compassion and care.

The graveside service was held on Friday, August 8th at Pythian Ridge Cemetery in Sturgis. Cody Crowell officiated.

Burial was inPythian Ridge Cemetery in Sturgis.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Saint Anthony's Hospice. Paid

She was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Elizabeth Anne Crowdus; a son, Edwin Earl White; and a sister, Mary Ann Rutherford.

She is survived by two daughters, June White of Louisville and Jennifer Mayberry (James) of Morganfield; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held on Saturday, Au-

gust 9 at Whitsell Funeral Home in Sturgis with Bro. Jeff Paris officiating.

Burial was in Pythian Ridge Cemetery in Sturgis.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Anthony's Hospice, 2410 South Green Street, Henderson, KY 42420 or Union County Cause for Paws, P.O. Box 60, Morganfield, KY 42437.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING ESTATE HAVE BEEN PROBATED IN UNION DISTRICT COURT. PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS TO FILE AGAINST SAID ESTATES MUST FILE SAME NOT LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FIDUCIARY.

Estate of Kevin Michael Quinn, 516 North Townsend Street, Morganfield, KY 42437. Executor Jamika Deibler, State Route 130-North, Morganfield, KY 42437. Date of appointment August 7, 2025.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The Union County Fiscal Court is accepting applications for a full-time Custodial/Maintenance position at the Union County Expo Center. This is a full-time position with benefits, including health insurance, retirement, and vacation.

Applications can be picked up and turned in at the Union County Judge/Executive's Office located at 100 West Main Street, Morganfield, KY 42437 or on the County's website at www.unioncountvky.org.

Applications will be accepted until Friday, August 23, 2025.

The Union County Fiscal Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer: All applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

8/20c

-- PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given by the Union County Planning Commission that they will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** at the Union County Central Building, 510 South Mart Street, Morganfield, Kentucky 42437 at **7:00 P.M. on MONDAY AUGUST 18, 2025.**

Reason: To consider a request by Samuel and Gayle McLeod, Red Hat Realty, 213 E Main St., Morganfield to rezone a tract of land containing approximately .30 acres at 304 North Main Street in Sturgis. The present zone classification is B-1, Central Business District. The proposed classification is R-2 Medium Density Residential.

All parties wishing to be heard are requested to be present.

Union County Planning Commission
William Rose, Chairperson
8/13c

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE OF THECITY OF UNIONTOWN ALLOWING THE OPERATION OF STREET-LEGALSPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES ON HIGHWAYS

Pursuant to KRS 186.077 and KRS 186.078, the City of Uniontown has determined it is appropriate to allow the operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles on highways in the City of Uniontown and hereby repeals Ordinance 23-02. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish rules and regulations to allow for safe and lawful operation of street-legal special purpose vehicles on certain highways within the city limits of the City of Uniontown, Kentucky.

The definitions of KRS 186.077(1) are adopted herein. Street-legal special purpose vehicles must be insured, have equipment set forth in KRS 186.077(1)(c)(1), be inspected, be registered, and must have a motorcycle registration plate. Operators must have a valid operator's license in their possession. Operators are prohibited from traveling a distance greater than twenty (20) miles on a highway displaying centerline pavement markings. Minitrucks shall not be operated as street-legal purpose vehicles on a highway.

Violators can be fined up to \$250.00 per violation and are also subjected to penalties as provided by state or federal law.

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MONUMENTS

We accept appointments for one-on-one consultation.

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