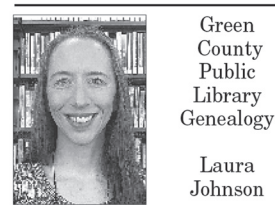


Old age hadn't conquered her



Green County Public Library Genealogy
Laura Johnson



Susan Barnett Garrett, photographed at age 105, was a Green County native.

Born a slave at Summersville in Green County, Kentucky, circa 1849, Susan Barnett Garrett lived long enough to witness five wars, the America Industrial Revolution, and Elvis Presley on the Ed Sullivan Show.

On several occasions, she vividly recalled seeing the long lines of soldiers marching past her home during the Civil War. She stated, "My mama was free even before Abe Lincoln freed the colored folks. Grandpappy and mama worked for Andy Barnett and he freed half his slaves before the war and his wife freed the rest later."

On April 6, 1873, Susan Barnett married James R. Garrett in Green County. The ceremony was performed at J. A. Garrett's home by R. G. Garrett, with witnesses W. T. Campbell and Miss F. C. Garrett.

She and James had 13 children born to them, 11 of whom were still living by 1910. That year's census recorded her as a widowed laundress living in Larue County, heading a household that included children and grandchildren. James had passed away in 1904.

Susan's long life eventually produced five living generations, and until her death she remained the matriarch of the large family.

By the late 1940s, Susan Garrett, known affectionately as "Aunt Susan," had become a local legend of sorts. At age 100, the Larue County Herald News described her as "quite active for her age... She has never worn spectacles and is yet able to thread a needle."

Fishing was her favorite pastime, and she continued to garden, quilt, and raise chickens well past her centennial year. Even at 105, she detested the thought of a cane.

"She likes to go to fairs and in this area, she never pays to enter a fair and they let her play the wheels free. You should see the souvenirs she has," said Hubert Donaldson, a friend of Susan's.

Susan's vitality was matched with a great sense of humor. At age 103, her neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Less Heady took her to the county fair daily. On the last day she joked: "I was just thinking and wondering who would be kind enough to take me to the fair after you all are old and gone."

In 1957, at age 108, Aunt Susan expressed a simple wish: "I would like to see myself a tank, and a general, and the Flag coming down before I die."

Fort Knox responded with a special invitation. She toured the Patton Museum, climbed atop a new M 48 tank, enjoyed ice cream and lemonade with Maj. Gen. J. L. Ryan, and watched the evening retreat ceremony. A special drill was put on for Aunt Susan who carried with her a quilt she had finished the day before as proof, she said, that "old age hadn't conquered her."

Susan's review of the day: "It'll take me a week to tell them about it back at home." In 1959, during Hodgenville's Sesquicentennial Celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birth, Aunt Susan, then 109 years old, placed a wreath at the base of the Lincoln statue as thousands looked on. Her presence linked Kentucky's Civil War past to its modern commemorations, a living bridge between eras.

That day, she left quite an impression on a young Mickey Cowherd. As a member of the Greensburg High School band, he was invited to play at the event. Cowherd remembered, "I thought, this is history standing right there. She was one of the last slaves, and she was from Green County!"

Always the devoted mother, she traveled in 1961 from Tonieville to New Albany at age 112 to be at the bedside of her eldest daughter, Mary, who lay seriously ill in an oxygen tank.

Even into her 110s, Aunt Susan continued quilting, reading without glasses, and tending her garden. She remained active until just weeks before her death.

Her will, signed with an "X" on September 1, 1962, distributed her belongings among her five living children and requested a grave marker for herself, her husband James, and her daughter Elizabeth Brown.

On September 1, 1963, Susan Barnett Garrett died at her home in Tonieville at the age of 114. Funeral services were held at the Second Baptist Church in Hodgenville, with burial in the Hubbard Cemetery.

Aunt Susan Garrett's life stretched from slavery to the Civil Rights Movement. In fact, just four days before her death, the March on Washington took place, where Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech to the nation.

She endured, worked, raised generations, and became a cherished symbol of resilience. Her stories of soldiers marching past her childhood home, of fishing poles and quilts, and of tanks and county fairs, form a remarkable portrait of a woman who lived history and never stopped looking forward.

Greensburg-Green County A proud past — A promising future Way Back When

1930— The hottest temperature in the state, 114 degrees, was recorded in Greensburg in July 1930

BY CAROL DIAL
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

July 10, 1996
Hwy. 68 work continues - The renovation of Hwy. 68 between Greensburg and Campbellsville is expected to be complete early next year according to a Rose Construction Company representative.

Scouts camp at river - Boy Scout Troop 474 from Columbus, Ohio, camped at Green River on the Todd Gardner farm near Highway 88. The group are on a five-day 90-mile trip on Green River.

Balloon lands at Ranch - The Red Baron balloon piloted by Brian Trapp of Ohio, landed at the Green River Ranch after a fifty minute flight from Campbellsville.

Cornett has champion mule - Vernon Cornett had the Grand Champion mule at the 1996 Green County Fair and Horse Show. Cornett has 48 mules at his Blue Springs Branch farm.

July 10, 1986
Car crashes, burns barn - A Mt. Sherman man lost control of a car he was driving on Hwy 61. The vehicle crashed into a barn owned by J. T. Stearman, destroying the barn, hay, tobacco and a truck and tractor.

Frost in three months - Stanford Pickett reports that he has heard Katydid on Mell Ridge since July 3. Folklore predicts frost in three months from the date of the first Katydid call.

Wreck at intersection - A two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy. 88 and Hwy. 61 caused injury to Rebecca J. Davis and Clell R. Mears.

Jobless rate drops - The Cabinet for Human Resources reports that the jobless rate for Green County is nine percent. That figure is down from the April count of 9.1 percent.

July 15, 1976
New bookmobile for county - Gov. Julian Carroll was in Greensburg recently to present bookmobile librarian Lottie Marr with the keys to a new \$24,000 bookmobile.

Local food market - A survey shows that Green County residents spent \$5,118,000 for food in 1975.

Meadows wins feature - Anthony Meadows, local race car driver, won the

Mid-Season Championship feature race at the Barren County Speedway July 10.

Pierce, Earlene Atwell - Bonnie and Teresa Wallace came by with fresh green beans and cabbage.

July 14, 1966
New football coaches - The Green County Board of Education has hired Coy Pigman as the new GHS football coach and Douglas Bowlin as the new assistant coach.

Four-legged chicken - Bruce Clark has a four-legged chicken on display at the Clark Feed Supply Store on Columbia Avenue.

Record high - The local temperatures have been in the nineties this week. The hottest temperature in the state of 114 degrees was recorded in Greensburg in July 1930.

Lawn of the Week - The Greensburg Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee has selected the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bradshaw on Hillview as the Lawn of the Week.

NOTICE
The Green County Ambulance service will be holding the monthly Board Meeting on July 15, 2026 at 4:00 cst in the EMS classroom.

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
GREEN CIRCUIT COURT
CASE NO. 25-CI-00075
DIVISION II**

Tax Brake KY, LLC PLAINTIFF

VS. **NOTICE OF MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE**

Janice Mays, et al DEFENDANTS

By virtue of orders of the Green Circuit Court in the above referenced civil action, entered on June 16, 2026, I shall proceed to offer for sale, at public auction, the real estate described herein to the highest and best bidder:

PLACE OF SALE: District Courtroom, 2nd Floor, Green County Judicial Center, 200 West Court Street, Greensburg, Kentucky.

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: Friday, July 17, 2026, at or about 10:00 a.m. CT, 11:00 a.m. ET.

AMOUNT OWED: \$7,662.46 with interest accruing at the statutory rate until paid, together with amounts for late fees, costs and penalties, and other levies, costs and fees paid by Plaintiff, including attorney fees and court costs incurred herein.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 3140 Highway 88, Greensburg, Green County, KY
PVA Parcel No.: 52-01-03

SOURCE OF TITLE: Being the same property conveyed by Deed dated August 14, 2024, to Logan C. Smothers, unmarried, which is found of record in Deed Book 269, Page 679, in the Office of the Green County Clerk, Kentucky.

TERMS: (a) The foregoing parcel of real estate shall be sold as a whole on terms of cash payment in full, or a bond with good and sufficient surety(s), bearing interest at the rate of 12% per annum from the date of sale and payable to the Master Commissioner within 30 days from the date of sale. If bond is given, the sum of ten percent (10%) shall be paid on date of sale by either cash, certified or cashier's check and said bond shall have the force and effect of a judgment and shall be and remain a lien on the property sold as an additional security for the payment of the purchase price. Surety on said bond must be acceptable to the Master Commissioner and pre-approved by the Master Commissioner at least by noon, two (2) business days before the sale date, to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price. The bond surety must be present at the sale and execute the Sale Bond and the Affidavit of Surety;

(b) The purchaser of the subject property shall be responsible for satisfaction of any current year real estate taxes not yet delinquent affecting the real estate, any delinquent State, County and/or City real estate taxes sold pursuant to the provisions of KRS Chapter 134 to any private purchaser during the pendency of this action, and shall take said property subject to all other city, state, county and school ad valorem taxes not due and payable on the date of the sale, easements, restrictions, covenants of record, applicable zoning ordinances, assessments for public improvements levied against the property, and any matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or inspection of the property;

(c) The risk of loss shall pass to the purchaser on the date of this sale;

(d) The Master Commissioner does not warrant title nor the physical condition of the subject property and any prospective purchaser shall satisfy themselves of the title and physical condition before the sale; and

(e) The sale is subject to easements, covenants and restrictions of record, and to any right of redemption which may exist. For additional information, please go to www.jdhpsc.com and select "Master Commissioner, Upcoming".

For additional information, please go to www.jdhpsc.com and select "Master Commissioner, Upcoming".

John D. Henderson,
Green County Master Commissioner

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