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## Adventures At Grandparents' House

By Becky Greenwell  
bgreenw2@bellsouth.net

"Over the river and through the woods to Grandma's house we go!"

Whenever we lived in Illinois and visited grandparents in Hitesville, a small farm community in Union County, that's what we sang. It would take us maybe seven hours to drive, but since we left at midnight and arrived in time for breakfast we always thought it took us a day to drive that distance.

On our trip to Grandmother and Granddaddy's house we went over two rivers. We left home and crossed the Illinois River and went over the Ohio River when we entered Kentucky.

In between the two rivers we went through Decatur, Illinois. It didn't matter what time we went through the town or how many of us were sleeping in the back seat we would make our dad promise

to wake us up.

In Decatur there was this huge overpass hill we drove over and below the overpass to the side was a factory. I never knew what the factory was but it smelled terrible. It had the aroma of burnt Navy beans that would make us gag. We called it Stink Hill.

Daddy would wake us and say Stink Hill was coming up. We all got as close to the windows to see the lights of the building as he rolled the windows down and let the stink in just to hear us holler.

Stink Hill meant we were closer to Grandmother's.

By the time we were crossing the Ohio River and paying our toll we were excited. Going through the woods and driving on the dirt road to Hitesville we were wound up. I think driving through the night kept sanity in the front seat.

Breakfast was ready for us when we walked in and after a good night's sleep we were

ready for summer vacation.

My other set of grandparents lived about 15 miles from us in LaSalle, Illinois. We didn't have to go over a river or through the woods, conquer a Stink Hill or drive on any dirt roads.

Grandma and Grandpa didn't have to have breakfast ready for us, but there was a race to see who got the leftover cold biscuits sitting on top of the stove. There was also the bread, butter and sugar sandwich she made for us. The best ever.

Grandma taught me to iron Grandpa's bandana handkerchiefs. Grandpa showed me how to push an electric lawn mower without running over the electrical cord.

Sometimes we could have an impromptu sleepover. Of course we wouldn't have pajamas so Grandma would get us one of Grandpa's undershirts. They made perfect sized gowns for little girls. Every trip there I hoped it would become a sleepover in Grandpa's undershirt gown.

My grandkids come here and I have a drawer full of clothes they might need or some they have left behind. For impromptu sleepovers they don't get too ex-

cited about sleeping in G-daddy's undershirts though. They prefer going shirtless. It's hot they say.

My 10-year-old granddaughter was just weird. She wouldn't wear a pair of shorts, boxers or jeans that a boy would wear. She would rather sit on the couch wrapped in a blanket until I wash her pants and shirt she got dirty playing in the mud. A tomboy in the yard, but a princess at heart, I guess.

One weekend they made the trip to Mackey and G-daddy's—down the Expressway and over the river, but no dirt roads involved.

Before they arrived she had called ahead and asked if I would set up the kiddy pool for them. I dragged out the pool, aired it up and had it filled by the time they arrived. As soon as she saw it she exclaimed she forgot her bathing suit.

There were none in the drawer of clothes, but I told her maybe I had one I couldn't wear anymore. She looked skeptical when she asked, "Are you crazy?"

I pulled one out and she loved it. She tried it on and after using a rubber band around the straps to fit tighter she thought she was beautiful. She had a womanly shape now, but a saggy

bottom. It was perfect for her to play in the kiddy pool anyway.

My son came in and she told him, "Look at my bathing suit. Mackey and I can share clothes now!"

He looked at her and commented that was scary. That Mackey could wear that. I told him it had been a few years since I wore it

though.

Her younger 8-year-old brother looked at the saggy bottom and said, "You don't even have a butt!"

Oh, well it is a memory made about going "over the river to Grandma's house!"

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### -- PUBLIC NOTICE --

#### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Sturgis until 11:00 a.m., local time, and to be opened at 11:00 a.m., local time, on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at City of Sturgis City Hall, 106 West 6th Street, Sturgis, Kentucky 42459, for furnishing all material and completing all the work necessary and required for:

#### WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS CITY OF STURGIS PROJECT NO. S11325002

Replacement of approximately 8,500 linear feet of existing water line downtown Sturgis with new 7,600 linear feet of 6-inch PVC water line, 900 linear feet of 6-inch ductile iron water line, fire hydrants, approximately 100 meter assemblies, gate valves, and appurtenances.

All in accordance with the Contract Documents, including plans and specifications, on file in the office of the City of Sturgis, Sturgis, Kentucky, where the bidding documents may also be examined.

Plans and Specifications may be obtained from Lynn Imaging (www.lynnimaging.com), 328 Old Vine Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507 (Issuing office). Contract Documents, including Plans and Specifications, are available for purchase or download for a non-refundable fee of \$200.00.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified or cashier's check or bid bond made payable to the City of Sturgis in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid price as a guarantee that if the bid is accepted, the bidder will execute and file the proposed contract within ten (10) days after the award of the contract.

In case the successful bidder fails to execute such contract and provide the required bonds and insurance certificate within the time specified the amount of the check or bid bond shall be forfeited to the City as liquidated damages.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after the scheduled time of bid closing.

Bids and proposals must be sealed and addressed to the City of Sturgis, Kentucky. There shall appear on the envelope of each bid and proposal, the name and address of the bidder and the purpose for which the proposal is intended. No proposal will be considered which is not made out on the regular forms furnished by the City.

Construction time shall be 120 days to Substantial Completion and 150 days to Final Completion. Liquidated Damages shall be \$750.00 for each day that expires beyond 120 days until the work is Substantially Complete. After Substantial Completion, liquidated damages shall be \$250.00 for each day that expires beyond 150 days until the work is completed and ready for Final Payment.

Funding for the project is provided by KY WWATERS. The requirements of KY WWATERS must be met by the bidder and all subcontractors.

Contract award will be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. The City of Sturgis reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive any defects or informalities in proposals received and to accept the proposal most advantageous to the City.

The Plans and Specifications for this project were prepared by Clark Dietz, Inc.

City of Sturgis  
Billy Adams, Mayor

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### - PUBLIC NOTICE -

#### NOTICE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Sturgis City Council has approved the surplus sale of a 2006 Chevy Silverado, 4WD, 8-cylinder, single cab ½ ton pickup. VIN#2GCEK13T061180492, mileage 201,055.

Sealed bids will be accepted until close of business (4:30 pm CST) July 7, 2026, bids will be opened at the regular scheduled city council meeting July 8, 2026.

Mail seal bids to:

City of Sturgis  
PO Box 98  
Sturgis, KY 42459

Or hand deliver to:

Sturgis City Hall  
106 W 6th St  
Sturgis, KY 42459

6/24c