

Deaths And Funerals

Janet French

Janet Renee Tigie French, 63, died on Thursday, June 25 at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Newburgh, Indiana.

She was born Feb-



ruary 13, 1963 to Joe and Shirley Teague in Evansville, Indiana. Janet graduated from Henderson County High School and the University of Southern Indiana.

Janet spent 40 years teaching in the Owensboro Diocese. She taught at Holy Name School in Henderson, Kentucky, St. Ann School, and John Paul

II Catholic School. She also coached girls' basketball at Holy Name.

She loved the beach, reading, and her pets. She enjoyed teaching.

Janet is preceded in death by her parents and a nephew.

She is survived by her husband of 32 years, Kevin French; a son, Isaac French of Evansville; three sisters, Karen (John) Dodson and Joella (Steve) Wilson, all of Henderson and Terri Tigie of Huntingburg, Indiana; nieces and nephews; four great-nieces; and two great-nephews.

Funeral service was held on Monday, June 29 at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Uniontown with Fr. Bruce McCarty officiating.

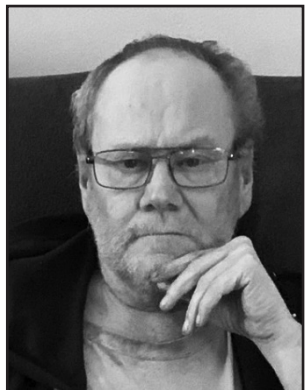
Burial was in St. Agnes Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 250 East Liberty Street, Suite 710, Louisville, KY 40202.

Paul Johnson

Paul Ray "P. R.) Johnson, 60, of Uniontown died on Monday, June 11 at Lucy Smith King Care Center in Henderson, Kentucky.

He was born June



12, 1966 in Morganfield to the late Paul and Virginia Johnson.

He was an over-the-road truck driver for over 30 years. He enjoyed mechanic work, riding four-wheelers, fishing, and being in the outdoors. Paul was a former member of Calvary Baptist Church.

In addition to his parents, he was preced-

ed in death by a brother, Timmy "Kojack" Johnson; and a brother-in-law, Mike Long.

He is survived by two sons, Kendal (Lauren) Johnson and Hunter Johnson, all of Sturgis; two sisters, Jenny (Shane) Gatewood of Uniontown and Paul Long of Elkton, Kentucky; a brother, John Johnson of Uniontown; a sister-in-law, Jamie Johnson of Uniontown; two grandchildren; and nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles.

Funeral service was held on Friday, June 26 at Whitsell Funeral Home in Morganfield with the Rev. Eric Crowley officiating.

Burial was in Uniontown City Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Paul Johnson Memorial Fund at Whitsell Funeral Home, P.O. Box 348, Morganfield, KY 42437.

Julia Robertson

Julia Robertson, 79, of Morganfield, Kentucky, passed away on Monday, June 22, 2026, at Deaconess Union County Hospital.



Born on August 29, 1946, in Indianapolis, Indiana, to Benjamin and Flora Orine Strattan, Julia lived a life marked by loyalty, service, and a deep love for her community.

A proud member of the last class of Morganfield High School, Julia gradu-

ated in 1964 and carried that honor with her throughout her life. She remained one of the class's most devoted champions—an energetic organizer, a keeper of memories, and the steady hand behind countless reunions that kept lifelong friendships alive.

Julia worked for many years as a bookkeeper for Timmons Electric Company, where her reliability and attention to detail earned the trust of colleagues and customers alike.

Her commitment to service extended far beyond her professional life. For more than two decades, she served as Madam Treasurer for the Morganfield Order of Eagles, offering her time, skill, and heart to an organization she cared for deeply. Her diligence and respect for community earned her recognition as a Kentucky Colonel.

Those who knew Julia will remember her warmth, her humor, and her unwavering dedication to the people and places she loved. She leaves behind a legacy of community, connection, and quiet strength—one that will continue to be felt by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A special thanks is extended to Union County Hospital nurses, lab, coordinators, and staff.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Flora Orine Strattan and daughter, Nancy Ann Stevens

Survivors include her husband, Donnie Robertson (a US veteran) of Morganfield; her daughter, Karen Elaine Robertson (Dr. Deb Stark) of Morganfield; her step-son, Sammy Dale Robertson of Sturgis; her brother, Ben (Nancy) Strattan, a US veteran of Pella, Iowa; four grandchildren, Derek (Sara) Omer, Julia Blayr (Travis) Jackson, Dillon Robertson, and Sydney Robertson; five great grandchildren, Bella Bailey, Ryker Bailey, Kenton Jackson, Kaelyn Omer, and Liam Robertson

Funeral service was held Thursday June 25, 2026 at Whitsell Funeral Home in Morganfield. The Rev. Don House officiated.

Burial was in Odd Fellows Cemetery in Morganfield.

Memorial donations may be made to a designated Julia Robertson Union County High School Scholarship, presented by Ladies Auxiliary Fraternal Order of Eagles, 433 N. Townsend Street, Morganfield, KY 42437.

Paid

Be An Encourager

By Tommy Druen

We've all been there. You're in a public restroom and you go to dry your hands under an automatic dryer. The thing roars to life like a jet engine and, in the minute you stand there moving your hands, you wonder if your eardrums are going to survive the experience. You don't know if you're still in a restroom or suddenly in a Maxell tape commercial.

It's annoying, sure. But it's one of those minor irritations we all just accept without question. I've been doing it for decades. Never once did I think to complain or investigate or do anything but grimace and wait for it to be over. That's what we do, right? We accept the world as it is, right or wrong, and move on with our lives.

Unless you're Nora Keegan.

Back in 2015, Nora was a fifth grader in Calgary, Canada. Every time she used the hand dryer at her school, her ears would ring afterward. She noticed something else too. Her classmates were covering their ears when

the machine kicked on. Even if they had noticed, most kids would have shrugged this off. Nora decided to do something about it.

With the science fair approaching, Nora grabbed a decibel meter and convinced her parents to drive her to public restrooms around Calgary. You can picture this nine-year-old girl in a bathroom holding what looks like a radar gun, measuring the noise at each dryer. She steps up to each dryer like an OSHA inspector on a mission, with adults glancing over trying to figure out what she's doing.

She measured the noise at 18 inches, the industry standard distance. Then she measured again at 12 inches, because she wisely knew that, because of shorter arms, kids would have to stand closer to reach the dryer.

What she found was alarming. Many of these hand dryers registered over 100 decibels. To put that in perspective, that's louder than a lawnmower and almost the same as a leaf blower. Health experts consistently say

that adults should wear hearing protection when around anything over 85 decibels to prevent hearing loss. And that's for adults, not children with developing ears.

Nora presented her findings at the science fair. She got third place. Most people would have been disheartened and moved on to some other facet of their life. Not Nora. She buckled down on the topic.

The next year, she presented further findings and won first place at the science fair. By 7th grade, she was experimenting with air filters to create mufflers for the machines. At 13, her research was published in Paediatrics and Child Health, a legitimate scientific journal. Then Dyson came calling. She met with their acoustic engineers to discuss quieter hand dryer designs. All before she even started high school!

Many of us think we can't do anything special or make a difference because we weren't born with the right genetics. Talent is rare, yes. But for some things, a lack of talent can be overcome with determination. Determination isn't genetic. You don't have to inherit it. Every single one of us already has it. The only question is whether we're willing to use it. Most of us don't. We're too busy accepting loud hand dryers and a thousand other irritating things we've decided are just the way the world is and will remain.

Nora had determination, and that's what changed everything. Not some rare gift she was born with. Just the stubborn refusal to accept that things had to stay the way they are.

There's a quote from Edward Everett Hale that I love. "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something."

That's Nora Keegan. She was one person, and a young one at that. But she was determined to do something, and she

did it.

Look around your community this week. There's probably a Nora Keegan already there, asking questions the rest of are scared or embarrassed to ask. Pay attention to them. Listen to what they're noticing. Encourage them. Support them. Because that's the person who's going to fix something we've all been accepting for far too long, something that shouldn't be the way it is in the first place.

And if you can't find that person? If you look around and don't see anyone willing to ask those hard questions or challenge what seems universally accepted? Well, maybe it's supposed to be you.

Local Student Named To Honor Roll

Ella Gough, of Morganfield, was named to the University of Mississippi's Spring 2026 Honor Roll lists.

Gough, in the B.B.A. in Entrepreneurship program, was named to the Chancellor's Honor Roll, which is reserved for students who earn a semester GPA of 3.75-4.00.

"These students have achieved at the highest academic level, and we are proud to recognize them on the Chancellor's Honor Roll," Chancellor Glenn Boyce said. "They are

exceptional scholars, and their dedication and achievement is reflected in this designation."

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that UC Processing, LLC, 1146 Monarch Street STE:350, Lexington, Kentucky 40513, has applied for Phase II and III bond release on Increment No. 1 of permit 913-9011, which was last issued on May 19th, 2025. The application covers an area of approximately 40.8 surface acres.

The permit area is approximately 2 miles southeast of the U.S. 60 junction with State Route 141.

The bonds now in effect for the mentioned increments are surety bonds in the amount of \$85,500.00. 100% of the original bonds receiving Phase III release in the amount of \$85,500.00 is included in the application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, regrading, topsoil replacement, and drainage control including soil preparation and initial seeding and mulching in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and a report for the area has been submitted to the cabinet in accordance with 405 KAR 16:200, Section 8 or 405 KAR 18:200, Section 8. revegetation has been established in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and the standards for success of revegetation, successful completion of all surface and reclamation operations in accordance with the approved reclamation plan such that the land is capable of supporting the post mining land use of cropland and pastureland approved pursuant to 405 KAR 16:210 or 405 KAR 18:220; compliance with requirements of KRS Chapter 350, 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24, and 405 KAR 10:020 and release of 40.8 acres.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, 300 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601 by August 10th, 2026.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for 9:00 AM on Thursday, August 13th, 2026 at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Madisonville Regional Office, State Office Building, Third Floor, 625 Hospital Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by Saturday August 10th, 2026.

7/8c

Sturgis Kiwanis Club
COMMUNITY
BREAKFAST
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
July 13, 14, and 15
8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.
at the Sturgis Kiwanis Building

Proceeds will benefit Union County youth and Projects for charities. 7/8c

"Our family serving your family since 1881"

HENRY & HENRY MONUMENTS

We accept appointments for one-on-one consultation.

207 Sturgis Rd.
Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-4514

602 US 62 East
Eddyville, Ky.
(270) 388-1818