



JUDD GOUGH OF Morganfield, pictured above, began his senior and final year of Interscholastic Equestrian Association competition last weekend at Meadowbriar Stables in Newburgh, IN. Judd is off to a great start bringing home a first place, second place, and two fourth place awards.

Agriculture Notes

Submitted by Katie Hughes

Fall has arrived so here are some tips to keep your fall decorations lasting for the season:

Mums: Pick a mum that is about 50% flower or just starting to bloom. Don't let them dry out and wilt. Water them from the bottom, placing the water can near the soil. This will help keep the foliage dry and help fight against any diseases that could occur. Keeping them as part of your landscape try looking for mums that say hardy on its label and plant them as soon as you get them.

Pumpkins: Look for stems that are at least 2 inches long. Pumpkins without stems don't last. Avoid dark marks, soft spots, cuts, or bruises. Try to keep or display in a shady cool place as the sun and heat will cause them to soften and deteriorate. Wipe them off with a 10% bleach solution (1-part bleach to 9-part water) to reduce decay. For carved pumpkins cuts from shriveling is to coat them with petroleum jelly. Match the pumpkins for its purpose carved jack-o-lantern; select a large uniform shaped pumpkin. For pumpkin pie choose small, heavy fruits (pie pumpkins which have more pulps).

KY BQCA: The Kentucky Beef Network and University of Kentucky Extension are pleased to announce that they will be offering

free Beef Quality and Care Assurance (BQCA) certifications in September 2026. The Kentucky BQCA program takes national BQA practices one step further to provide a holistic program for Kentucky producers, by adding cattle handling and animal care components to the training modules. Educational modules provide the best management practices for handling cattle and providing for their well-being, in addition to training on the core principles of BQA. Producers interested in taking advantage of this opportunity can visit www.ky-beefnetwork.com to access the online training platform or can attend a in person meeting on Sept 24 at 5:30pm or Sept 29 at 7AM at the Union Co Extension Office, please sign up by calling 270-389-1400.

Paint and Pot Succulent Workshop: Discover the basics of succulent care, then paint your own fall pot and plant a succulent to take home. Oct 7, 2026 at 1PM at the UC Extension Office. Workshop is FREE but must sign up by Sept 24 as spots are limited call the UC Extension Office at 270-389-1400.

CEC Meeting: The Union County Extension Council will meet on Oct 13,2026 at 12PM at the UC Extension Office.

Sturgis City Council Approves Tax Rate

The Sturgis City Council met in a called session on Thursday, September 17 with Mayor Billy Adams presiding and all council members present. Also in attendance were City Clerk Sandra Germane and City Attorney Vickie Davis.

Prior to the business session, the a public hearing was held to allow local citizens to comment concerning the 2026 property tax rates. There were no public comments, and the public hearing was closed.

Council members approved the 2026 tax rates for both real property and personal property. The rate for real estate is set at 0.550 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. The rate for personal property will be 0.6529 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. The tax rate ordinance was passed on a 5-1 vote. Council member John Deibler case the dissenting vote.

According to Mayor Adams, the 2026 tax rate will generate just over \$3,500 as compared to 2025. Revenue from property taxes goes into the city's general fund.

Council members also held first reading of an amendment to the

city's golf cart ordinance. That amendment states that golf carts will be registered at city offices for a \$20.00 annual fee. Golf carts must also be inspected by a member of the Union County Sheriff's Department before a registration sticker can be obtained. Previously, golf carts were inspected annually. The amendment will change that to a one-time inspection.

Council member Hunter Davis asked that a verification clause be added to the amendment to ensure the same cart is being registered annually, and that was done.

The ordinance amendment passed on a 6-0 vote.

The amendment will become effective after passage on second reading.

No further business was discussed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.

The next meeting of the Sturgis City Council will also be a called session because of a location change. That meeting will be held Wednesday, October 15, 5:00 P.M. at the convention center at the Union County fairgrounds.

THE STURGIS NEWS

PO/PN 423-400

Anthony L. Catlett, Editor

Published every Wednesday and periodical postage paid at the post office in Sturgis, Union County, Kentucky 42459. Address all mail, subscriptions, changes of address and other correspondence to: The Sturgis News, P.O. Box 218, Sturgis, KY 42469. Subscription Rates: Union and Surrounding Counties, \$30.00 Elsewhere in Kentucky, \$32.00; Out-of-State, \$36.00.

Advertising Rates and Other Paid Insertion Rates Available on Request

617 N. Adams Street
P.O. Box 218
Sturgis, KY 42459

Phone
(270) 635-2041
Fax (270) 318-0539

Between You and Me x 2

By Monty Carter

Capable

In his bestseller, “Theo of Golden,” Allen Levi pulls back the curtain on seemingly ordinary people and reveals human complexity. At first, the characters seem simple until he unfolds their unique stories, mostly through conversations with the main character, Theo. Fairly early in the book, Theo and Mr. Ponder have a conversation. Theo says,” Yes, we can be such a terrible race at times, but at the same time, terribly wonderful. All capable of saintliness.”

No spoiler alert! But, Theo was the definition of a saint. Theo’s quote reminded me just how terrible we humans can be to one another. And today, we can do it online and anonymously if we so choose. The evidence of our ability to be ugly to one another (and those we don’t even know) lies no further than the roads and interstates we drive.

As one who drives a company vehicle 300+ miles a day, I can vouch for the lack of restraint and civility on the road. I must also regrettably admit that I’m not immune to cursing under my breath, or wishing one of these road ragers would have a flat tire. We are all guilty of being mean, sarcastic, hyper-critical, cutting, or ugly to someone. Not just behind the wheel, but at work, home, or among friends.

Theo lives his life rooted in divine love. He’s not perfect, but he demonstrates love for all in his words and actions. Many of them are done anon-

ymously. His life is marked by kindness, encouragement, and charity.

In Romans 13, the Apostle Paul says that those who follow Christ owe a debt of love to everyone. He’s stating that we who have been loved so mightily by God have a privilege and duty to love others. In verse 9b-10 he exhorts us:

“Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.” Paul leans into Old Testament law here by citing Leviticus 19:18-

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.”

As I get older, I seem to have more patience, love, and self-control, and then I can blow it all up in one all-too-human moment. How about you?

I still believe in the nature of human kindness and goodness. I know we see and hear more to the contrary, but one thing “sinner-saints” have is hope. Not in human institutions, but in God. A hope that does not waver, or bolt at the first sign of trouble. A steadfast and proven hope in Christ, Jesus.

I think Theo is right. Despite our bent towards the terrible, we are all capable of saintliness. Jesus thought so when He told a thief (who believed in Him) that He would see him in paradise. Indeed, I believe love wins!

Your Sinner-Saint,
Monty

Nutritional Needs Change With Age

Nutritional needs change as a person goes through different stages in life. For example, older adults typically do not need to eat as much as a younger person.

According to Dr. Sarah Booth, director and senior scientist at the Jean Mayer USDA Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University in Boston, when people age, they need fewer calories to maintain the same weight.

Also, multiple changes occur with age, and those shifts affect how a body digests and uses the food a person eats. According to federal dietary guidelines, women 60 and older require between 1,600 and 2,200 calories per

day.

Men in this age group require 2,000 to 2,600 calories per day. Calories should come primarily from nutrient-dense foods, with an emphasis on vegetables, fruits, whole grains, lean meats, and low-fat dairy.

Older adults need to make every calorie count, and they may need to work with a nutritionist to get the foods they need to stay healthy.

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

SUMMARY OF CITY OF STURGIS 2026 TAX ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION, LEVY, COLLECTION, AND APPORTIONMENT OF REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE CITY OF STURGIS, UNION COUNTY, KENTUCKY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027; FIXING THE DATE OF PAYMENT; AND PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO TIMELY PAY.

This Ordinance provides the 2026 ad valorem tax rate set at \$0.550 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) as assessed valuation of real property located within the City of Sturgis and subject to taxation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is hereby levied for City purposes.

It further provides the 2026 ad valorem tax rate set at \$0.6529 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation of personal property (other than motor vehicles and motor boats) within the City of Sturgis subject to taxation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky is hereby levied for City purposes.

This Ordinance also provides that the taxes shall be due and payable on or before December 31, 2026, to avoid any penalties or interest. If paid prior to November 1, 2026, a two percent discount will be deducted from the total tax. Taxes paid after January 1 but before January 31, 2027, shall be assessed a 5% penalty and thereafter a penalty equal to 21% of the assessed value will accrue. Any and all unpaid taxes shall accrue interest at the statutory rate until paid in full.

The 2026 real property rate is four percent (4%) greater than the 2025 tax rate of \$0.524 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation and has been determined pursuant to KRS Chapter 132.027 with the assistance of GRADD. The monies so collected shall be deposited in the general fund of the City.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication.

BILLY ADAMS, Mayor
City of Sturgis

The full text of this Ordinance is available upon request at City Hall, 106 West 6th Street, Sturgis, Kentucky, Monday thru Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE RELATED TO THE COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE CITY OF WAVERLY, UNION COUNTY, KENTUCKY IN ACCORDANCE WITH KRS 91A.070(1), BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAVERLY, KENTUCKY AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The assessment made by the Union County Property Valuation Administrator for state and county purposes is hereby adopted as the assessment for City ad valorem tax purposes.

SECTION 2. The Union County Clerk is hereby authorized to prepare tax bills for all persons and organizations in the City of Waverly, Union County, Kentucky, against whom ad valorem taxes have been levied in accordance with the City's tax ordinance for the applicable year.

SECTION 3. The Union County Sheriff is hereby authorized to collect tax bills for all persons and organizations in the City of Waverly, Union County, Kentucky, against whom ad valorem taxes have been levied in accordance with the City's tax ordinance for the applicable year.

SECTION 4. All payments of ad valorem taxes provided for herein shall be made to the Union County Sheriff, P.O. Box 30, Morganfield, Kentucky 42437.

SECTION 5. All city taxes for the 2026 tax year which are paid in October 2026 will be given a 2% discount. Taxes paid November 2026 through December 2026 shall be paid at face value. A five percent (5%) penalty shall be added to all taxes paid January 2027. A twenty-one (21%) penalty shall be added to all taxes paid February 2027 until the end of collection in the Sheriff's Office April15, 2027.

SECTION 6. The Clerk is hereby directed to advertise this Ordinance as provided by law.

SECTION 7. Any ordinance or parts of any ordinance in conflict with this Ordinance or any part of this Ordinance is hereby repealed.

Publicly read and passed on first reading September 1, 2026

Publicly read and passed on second reading September 8, 2026

CRIS PAYNE, Mayor
City of Waverly

ATTEST:
MADISON TURNER, City Clerk