



Local barber, Hinky Barnett, stood proudly in his shop.

Hinky Barnett A cut above



Green County Public Library Genealogy
Laura Johnson

Henry Luther “Hinky” Barnett, born on October 14, 1907, in Green County, to Keith Gaither Barnett and Gillis Graves Barnett, became one of the most respected African American businessmen in Greensburg during the 20th century.

Growing up in a close-knit extended family, the 1910 census places Hinky as a young child living on Water Street in Greensburg in the household of his grandmother and step-grandfather, Cornelia Wilson Barnett White and Reuben White. His parents and baby brother, Stephen Gaither Barnett, also resided there.

Hinky's early years were marked by change and loss. His mother died sometime between 1910 and 1918, and his father remarried then moved for a time to Boyle County. Hinky and Stephen, however, remained in Greensburg, continuing to live with their grandparents for several more years. They had a stepbrother born in December 1918 named George Earnest Barnett.

By the time he reached adulthood, Hinky had found his calling. The 1930 census lists him as a 22 year old barber, working at a shop in town. This early start in the trade set the course for a career that spanned decades and made him a familiar and trusted figure in downtown Greensburg.

Hinky had entered the barbering profession in the 1920s, working first for Joe Marshall in his well-established barber shop. After five years, he moved to the

shop of Levi White. There he worked for many years, honing his craft and building a loyal clientele.

When Levi White retired in the early 1960s, Hinky became the sole owner of the shop. By then it had moved to the upstairs of the old stone Bank of the Commonwealth building. The shop was a lively gathering place where countless topics were discussed, and the world's problems solved. Hinky himself called his place, “the shop with the Christian Doors,” because the double-door entrance reminded him of the cross and an open Bible.

Hinky's influence extended beyond his barber chair. In 1969, he ran for Mayor of Greensburg, becoming one of the first African Americans in the community to seek public office. Though he did not win, his candidacy was significant. He garnered several votes, paving the way for others to run for public office in the future. Known for his strong opinions and willingness to share them, Hinky was a civic-minded man who believed in participation and representation.

His wife, Nancy Barnett, was also a respected business owner, operating a beauty shop on Scottsville Street next to their home. The couple worked in their respective trades until declining health forced their retirement.

Hinky passed away on February 22, 1975, and was laid to rest at Crown Hill Cemetery in Campbellsville.

Henry Luther “Hinky” Barnett is remembered not only as a long-time barber but as an upstanding community figure whose shop served as a crossroads of conversation, fellowship, and local life.

Greensburg-Green County
A proud past — A promising future

Way Back When

1966- Seventeen-year-old Ronnie Blakeman preached his first sermon at Beech Grove February 6.

BY CAROL DIAL
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

March 1, 2006 Black History Celebration - The 7th annual Celebration of Black History Month was held Feb. 26. Guest speakers for the event were Kimberly Richardson and Diane Woods-Ayers.

No Sunday burials - The parent company of Campbellsville Memorial Gardens, Saber Management, has announced there will be no burials on Sunday or major holidays.

National Field Trials - Hunters from all over the United States attended the National Kennel Club/American Rabbit Hunter's Association Small Pack Division Spring National Field Trials at American Legion Park over the weekend. There were 340 entries.

PES royalty - The king and queen of the Pierce Elementary School PTO Valentine Day Dance were Thomas Yates and Carrie Ruth Davis. The reigning prince and princess were Ethan Pierce and Autumn Bishop.

Feb. 28, 1996 Foster parents honored - Green County foster parents Fred and Frances

Sparks and Joyce and Leroy Patterson were named “Foster Parents of the Year”.

Green County votes - There were 8,158 Green Countians registered to vote during the last General Election.

Fire Hazard season - Local firemen were busy fighting four grass and woods fires during 3 days this week. Spring Fire Hazard season starts Friday.

Summershade, Hazel Kessler - At least five bunches of geese have gone over today. I guess that means winter is over.

Feb. 27, 1986 Altman files for state representative - Ray Altman filed as a Republican candidate for the 51st District State Representative seat.

Church celebrates anniversary - Pleasant Hill Baptist Church celebrated its 120th anniversary with day-long activities and a mortgage burning service.

Farming activity - The farmers of the area are busy planting spring crops and seeding tobacco plant beds.

School make-up days - The Green County Board of Education has ruled that students must make-

up twelve days lost to flu and bad weather.

March 4, 1976 Amos performs - Green County native Nelson Amos performed classical compositions on the lute and guitar before a spellbound audience at a concert sponsored by the Kentucky Arts Council.

Fire destroys home - Fire leveled the home of Thurman Hartfield Sunday night.

Drilling permits issued - The Exie, Mell and Fry areas of the county continue to be the center of oil well drilling in Green County. Interest has expanded to include the Hudgins and Little Barren communities with 66 drilling permits issued in the last three and one-half months.

Pierce, Earlene Atwell - Bruner Judd had a nice visit from an Army buddy, Nor-

man Green of Indiana, who he had not seen in thirty years.

March 3, 1966 First sermon - Seventeen-year-old Ronnie Blakeman preached his first sermon at Beech Grove February 6.

Speech champs - Green County 4-H Club members Stephen Judd, Pat Dunn, Jerry Wright and Allison Lobb were winners of the 4-H Speech Contest.

Business of the Week - D.T. Skaggs and Company, owned by Tommy and Margie Skaggs since 1958, was named the Business of the Week. The business was started by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Shuffett in 1936.

Half-quart Cokes - The new half-quart Cokes are being delivered in Green County by Weldon Gabehart, route salesman for the Coco-Cola Bottling Company.

Auction

BIDDING ENDS
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2026
AT APPROXIMATELY 6:00 P.M.

Located At 1183 Black Gnat Road, Campbellsville, Ky. Auction Signs Posted
GUN - CHERRY & MODERN FURNITURE - GLASSWARE - ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES -
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS - SHEAR - SCALES - SHOP TOOLS & MISC. ITEMS

NOTE: FEDERAL FIREARM RULES AND BACKGROUND CHECKS DO APPLY ON ALL GUNS. PICTURE ID REQUIRED. ALL GUNS WILL BE TRANSFERRED BY A FEDERAL FIREARMS DEALER AND A \$20.00 PER GUN TRANSFER FEE WILL APPLY. ALL GUNS WILL BE TRANSFERRED AND PICKED UP BY THE BUYER AT THE FIREARM DEALER'S LOCATION. ALL GUNS ARE STORED OFF SITE. GUNS CAN BE VIEW AT BIG AL'S.

INSPECTION: THURSDAY MARCH 5, 12:00 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M.
PICKUP: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.
ALL ITEMS MUST BE PICKED UP AND PAID FOR IN PERSON BRING YOUR OWN HELP TO LOAD!

TO BID GO TO: www.kesslerauction.com CLICK ON THIS AUCTION & REGISTER YOU MUST ENTER A CREDIT CARD & CONFIRM YOUR EMAIL PRIOR TO BIDDING
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DID YOU KNOW?

Almost 9 out of 10 newspaper readers vote in local elections.

	Ky adults	Newspaper readers	Non-newspaper readers
Vote in state/national elections	69%	71%	60%
Vote in local/school board/city elections	84%	86%	72%

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Your Local Newspaper

Greensburg Record-Herald

Source: The Kentucky State Study 2023: Conducted by Coda Ventures, Base: Total adults

Have your child's birth announcement published in the Record-Herald for a cherished memory!