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Oct. 14-27, 2021

For the Love of the game

BY JIM HARRIS

A local man has turned his love of a sport into a passion project that will provide a bright spot for young people in the Anderson area.

Brock Elder loves soccer. He played in college at Cleveland State and then the University of Cincinnati. Later, residing in Asheville, N.C., he met his future wife and moved to Anderson in 2010. Brock is a member of the American Outlaws, a non-profit group that, among other things, chooses and promotes a designated loca-

tion in major cities for fans to watch U.S. National soccer games.

For years, Brock had to drive to Greenville whenever there were games he wanted to see. He decided to petition to start a chapter locally and began enlisting members. Anderson became official in 2015. The group meets at the Growler Haus and also supports local and charitable interests. One of the early campaigns raised money for suicide prevention in honor of a member lost.

Access to athletic and



Brock Elder

recreational facilities is vital, as studies show that sports and physical activity positively impact young people, especially from lower-income areas. Brock heard about a new program that soccer star and NBC commentator Kyle

Martino had created, focusing on bringing soccer into communities where it was not prevalent. Called the Over/Under Initiative, it also incorporated a new goal design, the "Goalpher," which allows a sports surface to easily switch

uses from basketball to soccer, lacrosse, or street hockey. This improves access to a wider variety of sports for kids in urban neighborhoods.

A study from the Aspen

SEE LOVE ON PAGE 2



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Love

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Institute learned that kids from low-income homes are only half as likely to play a team sport as kids from high-income homes. 30.5% of kids from low-income homes don't participate in any sport, organized or pickup, even one day a year, which is three times the rate of their high-income peers.

A former President of ESPN once said, "Increasing access to safe spaces where kids can learn and play has tremendous societal value. Sports can instill lifelong lessons and values while also teaching the importance of health and wellness at a young age."

Brock reached out to Martino through Twitter messenger and began a dialogue. He kept up the communication and eventually suggested Anderson as an Over/Under Initiative location. His persistence paid off when in the spring of 2020, Martino's project director reached out and said, "We want to do a court in Anderson."

Now facing the logistical challenges of putting his project together, he received a valuable suggestion from Growler Haus owner Craig Kinley. He recommended that Brock create a focus group, enlisting people from the area government, business owners, and the soccer community. This would allow him to gauge

support and expand awareness. The project, known as Shock City Goals, began to take shape.

Brock and Cole Seiler had become friends through a soccer connection. Cole was one of the first brought into the group. Cole has lived in Anderson since his early childhood. Also, a lifelong soccer player, he played at Georgetown University and then in professional soccer. Utilizing his local connections along with his soccer contacts, Cole became instrumental in the project's progress.

Brock remained diligent in his quest to keep up the momentum, searching for locations, even speaking at public governmental meetings. Matt Schell, Anderson County's Parks Department Manager, was an early fan of the project. Soon after, Rusty Burns, the Anderson County Administrator, added his support for the project, and wheels started to turn. After reviewing a couple of different location options, Matt and Rusty suggested a location in Homeland Park. That community was about to get a big boost.

The zip code associated with the Homeland Park area has the dubious distinction of being the second poorest in South Carolina. For kids there to play soccer or basketball, they had to travel elsewhere, which



was often not feasible. There was no doubt that this program could be a game-changer for Homeland Park youth.

Private donations, along with a Homeland Park Community Watch contribution, got the ball rolling. Then came a grant awarded by American Outlaws. The property ownership was secured, plans created, and a schedule set. The project got underway the last week in September and has a November estimated completion date.

Although he shies away from credit for the project, others involved are quick to point out that it would have never happened without Brock's refusal to give up. When asked

to characterize how he made it happen, Brock simply says, "I never stopped bothering people."

More commonly known as the Mayor of Homeland Park, Walt Lanier is a tireless advocate of improvements for the area. He sees the new multi-sport court as not only providing a location for the area's youth to enjoy soccer, street hockey, basketball, and lacrosse but becoming a catalyst for change in the area. He calls the project "a huge positive for the area."

With a grand opening planned for November, the short-term plans include orga-

nizing leagues and clinics, possibly utilizing assistance from the student-athletes from Anderson University. Longer-term goals include improving the baseball field and a small area park that has become somewhat rundown over time.

This location will be the third Over/Under Play multi-sport surface in the U.S. The long-term objective is to construct these multi-use facilities across the country. As a sign that Brock's efforts have generated interest on a broad scope, he has been asked to present the Anderson Over/Under Initiative story to the American Outlaw annual national meeting in Boston this December.

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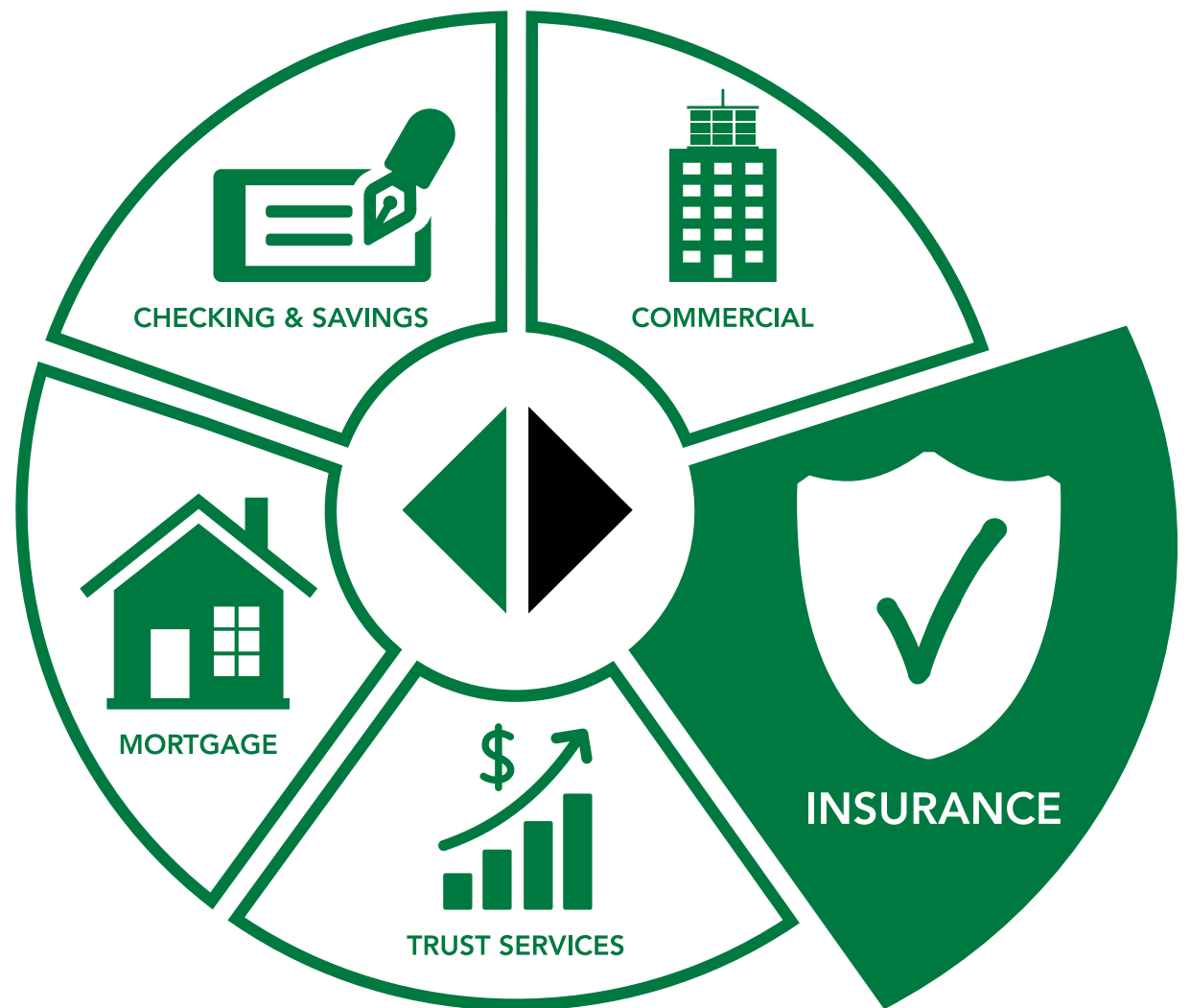


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Vaughn Newman Dance

Vaughn Newman Dance is a one-of-a-kind dance studio in the upstate of South Carolina. Director Vaughn Newman has created a space that offers a blend of African, Contemporary, Jazz, Modern, Ballet and Theatre. His mission is to educate people about their origins and spirituality while exploring universal themes through movement. Newman provides training and performance opportunities for his students and dancers. His performances foster cultural and educational dialogues among audiences while instilling a sense of curiosity and appreciation for the live arts experience.

Newman was born in Philadelphia and began his dancing journey at the William Penn Arts Charter. He continued his training at the Freedom Theatre and the Philadelphia Dance Company and the New World School of the Arts. Vaughn also performed with the Momentum Dance Company in Miami, Florida.

Vaughn Newman Dance debuted in 2017 with a performance on the Ted X stage fusing spoken word with Contemporary dance. In 2018, Vaughn Newman Dance, a 501(c)(3), opened its studio doors at 3906 Augusta Road in Greenville. Beginning with a few classes, dancers at all stages began filling the rosters. Three months later, the studio was growing so rapidly that they soon had to expand the studio into the adjoining space.

All three components of the Vaughn Newman Dance orga-



nization – VND Professional Company, Zaki West African Drum & Dance Ensemble and the Youth Program merged to perform at the half time event of the Harlem Globe Trotters at Bon Secours Wellness Arena. Two years in a row, his dancers performed at the Martin Luther King Gala hosted by the City of Greenville.

Newman has been the head choreographer for the annual high school productions performed by the students at Greenville High and Wade Hampton High. He continues to lend his talents

through his outreach program that provides interactive visual and performing arts experiences for the underserved youth in the surrounding communities. Newman's inclusion of African Drum and Dance bridges traditional folkloric opportunities through West African Drum, Dance and Culture.

The 2020 performance season was curtailed to the COVID 19 limitations necessary to preserve the health and well-being of performers and patrons. However, the 2021 performance season prevailed with "Anchored and

Deeply Rooted" speaking the resilience while persevering through COVID 19. Additionally, ZAKI West African Drum & Dance Ensemble made its debut with their inaugural concert. As the studio doors begin to slowly open again, Vaughn Newman Dance renews its vision to create a space that welcomes African American dancers who may have hesitated to be a part of other dance studios. VND is a safe place for all dancers to express themselves through movement.

As an artist, Newman combines spirituality, life experiences, spoken word and movement for higher consciousness through the arts. As a unique art form in the Upstate, this movement of contemporary dance and African culture is an important outlet for the youth as well as adults of today.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Vaughn Newman Dance relies on support from individuals, businesses, and grants to fund their programs. Tax deductible donations directly enhance the fundraising efforts and aid sustainability through the present COVID 19 season.

For more information on their classes and events and to make donations, visit the website at Vaughnnewmandance.com.



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THE GARDEN SHOP

LION'S EARS AND LION'S TAILS, OH MY!

**SUSAN
TEMPLE**
master
gardener

Greenville Garden Council's fall garden tour was last week. Mama and I go every year. Until last year, the tour was always around Mother's Day. It has been very nice to see gardens in fall. One garden was on the tour in 2016 so it was really nice to see it in the fall. Mrs. Homeowner, also the gardener, was out greeting visitors. We had met her a few times at garden club meetings and it was nice to see her garden.

The booklet that gives information on the gardens mentioned lion's tail as one of the plants to be sure and see. Having never heard of lion's tail (*Leonotis leonurus*), I wouldn't know it if I stumped my toe on it. There was a group of us talking about it and a very quiet man came and joined the group of women. Most were guessing bee balm. Some of us knew that wasn't right. One

used a garden app, with no success. I've tried several different apps, just out of curiosity, and none have ever been helpful. They've only helped me rule out what I know a plant is not. The man said it was lion's tail but I somehow missed that he knew it. I thought he was guessing. I guessed Phlomis, Jerusalem Sage. But I only know that to have yellow flowers. When we got to talk to Mrs. Homeowner, I asked her the name of the plant. It was in several different areas of her very, very large yard. Just so happened the man was standing nearby when she said lion's tail. I made fun of myself for not listening to him and for him being so quiet about his answer. He just politely smiled.

Lion's tail has orange flowers that come out of the middle of the stems in several spots. The stems are square. Remember, all mints have square stems but not all square stems are mints. I've heard people say over the years that if a plant has square stems it will really spread. I don't know first-hand of that being true. Lion's tale would most likely be best in less formal gardens. It is tall, about six feet, and it did sort of bounce and flop around a bit. It was definitely an

eye catcher growing in sunny spots of her garden.

Still making it through Mama's collection of vintage Southern Living magazines, and reading August, 2003 issue, there it was, an article on what they called Lion's Ear. The article was titled "Pride of the Border". What are the chances? The article said blooms summer into fall and needs a lot of space, even if kept clipped, and it gets big. Back to the square stems maybe? I didn't find it overly aggressive though in the garden on our tour. It seemed each branch was a single plant, sort of how bee balm grows. The article also said it makes a great cut flower and dries wonderfully to a dark orange. In full bloom, it was Clemson orange. Described as easy to grow, drought tolerant, no pests or diseases, it said for our area it can be grown as an annual. Propagation is either by cuttings in early spring or by seed. Maybe it is a re-seeding annual. Maybe it really is a perennial for us. I searched online for a source but they were expensive by the time shipping was included. Knowing a gardener who knows the homeowner, I think I'll offer a trade and see if I can get a piece.



Lion's tail

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Annual 'Hats Off to Women' Luncheon set for Oct. 21

Anderson Interfaith Ministries (AIM) will host its annual Hats Off to Women Luncheon. This themed table luncheon and fundraiser will be at the Anderson Civic Center on Thursday, October 21, 2021 from 11am-1pm.

The annual event includes a decorated table luncheon and a guest speaker and panel discussion spotlighting AIM's Women and Children Succeeding Program (WACS). This year's guest speaker will be Donna McAbee. With a background in Christian ministry and serving with many music ministries through the years, she has been featured on both local and national television/radio stations. Her love for service and the community began when she spent her summers volunteering with MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association – Jerry's Kids) and multiplied as she has been honored to sit on nonprofit boards; being most proud of her work with Safe Harbor (a Domestic Violence Shelter/Victims Advocate/Community Educator in Greenville SC) for 7 years, 3 years as chair. Growing up all over the country, Donna has called the Upstate home for over 30 years, where she raised her three sons. Being a mom and a Nonna to three beautiful grandchildren, has been the most fulfilling opportunity of her life. She is celebrating her 20th year with Kravet Inc this year, where developing leaders has been her focus for most of her career. It is her hope that by sharing her knowledge and experiences, that the load others carry will be lightened. That she can help equip them to champion their own lives, exceed all expectations and achieve a life to be proud of.

South State Bank is sponsoring the event to help raise funds and awareness for AIM's WACS program. The goal is to serve and support under-resourced participants by assisting with childcare, transportation, and more as they transition toward an independent, self-sufficient, and successful life.

For further questions about vendor opportunities at the event, making a donation, or having a table at the luncheon contact Susan Anderson at susan.anderson@aimcharity.org or (864)965-9082.

For more information about AIM please call 864-226-2273 or visit AIM's website ataimcharity.org.

Transportation CHAOS ... and how to fix it

It's been a while since I traveled — lately, the hike from the kitchen to the family room is about as far as I get — but a couple of weeks ago, my husband and I went to Orcas Island, Washington, for a much-anticipated vacation. This necessitated two hours in the airport, a five-hour flight to Seattle, a 90-minute drive to Anacortes, and an hour-long ferry ride, which gave me a lot of time for people-watching. Since everyone was wearing face masks, I could only concentrate on their clothing, but before you start thinking that this is going to be some kind of E! Fashion Police hatchet job on the wardrobes of everyday people, think again. I actually don't care what people wear when they're out in the world alone. I do, however, notice a disturbing, discordant trend among people traveling in pairs: CHaOS, or Couples Having Opposite Styles.

Even though this irks me to no end, I'm not advocating for couples to dress alike. When I was in college, the parents of a friend decided that square dancing was a terrific empty-nest activity, and they became part of a championship team. They also became champions at embarrassing their daughter when they went EVERYWHERE in their matching cos-

tumes. I would only like to suggest that at the very least, couples put in the same degree of thought and effort — or lack thereof — so that they look like they belong together.



Kim von Keller

Case in point: At the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Starbucks, I noticed a woman who had put a lot of thought into her outfit. She wore a short silk kimono over a white tank top, a pair of jeggings, and heels that were high enough to be fashionable without causing her to break an ankle. Her hair was pulled up in a clip, and she carried a leather handbag. The man accompanying her wore baggy basketball shorts, a wrinkled, oversized t-shirt, and a pair of flip-flops. He had a serious case of bed hair, and he was carrying a paper bag that read "Beecher's Handmade Cheese." In other words, she looked like she had just come from Nordstrom, and he looked like he had come from a dumpster dive.

And this isn't a male-female thing. At the same airport, an older man in a tweed sports coat, a checked shirt, and straight-legged jeans was traveling with a woman in a sweatsuit.

This is the conversation I imagined in the days before their trip. Him: "Honey, I'm going to the cleaners this morning. Do you need me to drop anything off for you?" Her: "No, I'm good. I'm just gonna dress out of whatever's in the dryer."

Over the course of our trip, I did see a few couples who looked like they belonged together, like the ones who looked like they were attending a business conference together or going to a CrossFit class. At the ferry terminal, a woman was in a University of Wisconsin football jersey while her male companion was wearing a Green Bay Packers football jersey. On the ferry, a young man with a LOT of facial hair was traveling with a young woman in yoga pants. Her shirt read, "I like his beard." His read, "I like her butt." Not exactly Shakespeare, but at least they were cohesive.

Which is what I'm looking for in an otherwise chaotic world. All it takes is a five-minute conversation between traveling companions to decide, not on the outfits themselves, but on the style of travel attire. Broad categories could include Job Interview, Casual Birthday Party, Sick Day, Grandchild's Dance Recital, or Yard Work. How you put your outfits together is up to you, and should we meet at an airport one day, the Starbucks is on me.

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Improve Sleep Quality. Sleep enables your body to restore and repair itself. Squeezing in more sleep is a simple way to improve energy. For better sleep try going to bed and waking up at the same times each day. This will regulate your internal body clock.

Try Herbs. Specifically, ginseng and basil can help balance and restore your body's natural ability to handle stress, anxiety, and fatigue.

Reduce Carb Consumption. They can

leave you feeling sluggish. This includes sugary drinks and processed foods (white bread, pasta), which burn through your body quickly. Choose whole foods that take longer to digest to avoid the crash and burn effect. Nuts, legumes, sweet potatoes, oats, and brown rice provide the body with a steady stream of energy.



Dr. Gabrielle F. Cannick

Eat Chia Seeds. Be prepared for a pleasant surprise. This natural energy food will boost energy levels and enhance sleep quality, plus boost brain power and combat inflammation.

Stay Hydrated. Not drinking enough water can impact your energy level and make you feel tired. Our bodies are mostly made up of water. Even small dips in hydration are enough to affect your metabolism. Try coco-

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B Vitamins. Known as the “energy vitamin”, B12 supports energy production -- and -- it keeps blood cells happy and healthy. NOTE: Your body cannot store B12. Best sources of B12 in a well-balanced diet include beef, tuna, salmon, and eggs.

Herbal Teas. Sipping herbal tea can provide an all-natural temporary boost in energy levels.

Green tea in particular provides additional benefits, such as anti-aging and free radical-fighting properties.

And don't forget the obvious -- regular exercise. It burns calories sending oxygen and nutrients to your body's cells, helping your heart and lungs work more efficiently and boosting energy levels. A brisk 30-minute walk is ideal. If you are still struggling with low energy levels even after trying some of these natural remedies, there may be other factors involved. In that event, it is best to

check with your doctor. As always, we are here to help. Think of us as your hometown resource for guidance and support.

Dr. Gabrielle F. Cannick is the owner of Grand Oaks Dental, located at 3905 Liberty Highway in Anderson. A strong believer that dental fear and anxiety should not prevent any patient from receiving the highest quality dental care, Dr. Cannick has received extensive training in Sedation Dentistry and is a certified member of the Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation. She is also a member of the South Carolina Dental Association, the American Dental Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, and the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine.

For more information about Grand Oaks Dental and the services provided, please call 864-224-0809, or click to grandoaksdental.com or visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GrandOaksDental>



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CAA also provides educational and survivorship classes and referral to additional cancer-related resources for patients and their families as well as numerous support groups

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NIBBLE & SIP

TWO GREAT TASTES THAT BELONG TOGETHER

The thing I love about a weekly Nibble and Sip is that there are no rules, other than to treat yourself and your friends to a delicious snack and a delicious beverage. After that, it's up to you.



Kim von Keller

It could be a snack mix and a cold beer, or it could be caviar pie and iced vodka. The important thing is that both the snack and the

beverage match each other in terms of style and complement each other in terms of flavor. I like all four of the above items, but Chex Mix and Grey Goose are probably not the best pairing.

That's why, when I'm feeling like something a little fancy, I prepare a batch of Hot Cheese Olives and a 50-50 Martini. Hot Cheese Olives are a cocktail party staple because they're easy to make, but their briny,



cheesy goodness is a perfect partner to the 50-50 when it's made with the best gin and dry vermouth you can afford. They're simply two great tastes that absolutely belong together.

Hot Cheese Olives

1 stick (4 oz.) salted butter, at room temperature



8 oz. extra-sharp cheddar cheese, grated
2 oz. Parmesan cheese, grated
1½ cups all-purpose flour
¼ tsp. cayenne, or more to taste
¼ tsp. salt
1 large egg

50 small pimento-stuffed olives, drained and placed on a paper towel to dry
Preheat the oven to 350°. Set aside two cookie sheets.
In a mixing bowl, beat the butter until light and creamy. Add the cheeses

and blend well. Add flour, cayenne, and salt, and mix until smooth. In a separate bowl, beat the egg with 2 tablespoons of cold water. Add to the dough and mix until just incorporated.

Form the dough into 50 balls of equal size. Place an olive in the center of each ball and shape the dough completely around the olive, repairing any breaks. Place on the ungreased cookie sheets and bake for about 15 minutes. Let rest for a couple of minutes and remove to a serving tray to pass at once.

50-50 Martini

1 ½ oz gin (I like Hendricks)
1 ½ oz. dry vermouth (I like Noilly Prat)
2 dashes orange bitters
1 strip lemon peel, to garnish
Place a martini glass in the freezer to chill.
Add the gin, dry vermouth, and bitters to an ice-filled glass. Stir until well chilled, then strain into the chilled glass, garnish with the lemon peel, and serve.

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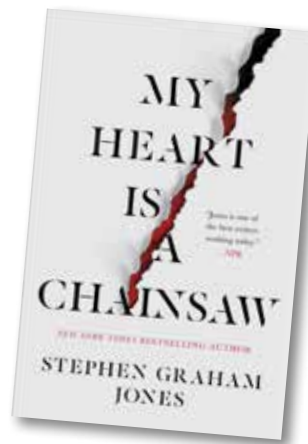
'My Heart is a Chainsaw' by Stephen Graham Jones

As Halloween season is my favorite, I need to pay homage to a writer of the horrific and creepy. Stephen Graham-Jones is one of the most celebrated horror writers today; he's up there with King and King's son, Joe Hill. Last year, Entertainment Weekly dubbed him the "Jordan Peele of literature" in their feature of *The Only Good Indians* (another excellent book by him.) This comparison is so astute because, like Peele, Graham-Jones uses the horror genre to dissect and lay bare (sometimes literally) current social issues.

By picking *My Heart is a Chainsaw* for this review, I wanted to also highlight an American Indian author for Indigenous Peoples Day, which is October 11. Graham-Jones is a member of the Blackfeet tribe and a lot of his writing ties back to his heritage or his experience

of having lived on reservations. While some of his titles focus more on his heritage than others, all I've read so far have references or tie backs to either American Indian myths and folklore (often Blackfeet specific but he delves into other tribes) or the current experience of the American Indian. Graham-Jones shows the horror of the reality of the history and life of American Indians juxtaposed against horror of a more supernatural or straight crazy kind, kind of like Peele has done with his directing of horror films like *Get Out*.

A few weeks ago the Spartanburg County Public Library System hosted Graham-Jones for a virtual visit and something that he said that really stuck out for me. Graham-Jones asserts that horror and comedy, especially romantic comedy, are essentially the same. Sounds absolutely bonkers, right? However, the explanation he gave is that both genres depend on a buildup of tension that requires a release. The method of release is where the difference lies. One gives release through a punch-line, and



the other gives the release through a jump scare. Graham-Jones went on to talk about how pivotal it is for good horror to also have a balance of humor because it helps create tension.

My Heart is a Chainsaw follows high school senior

Jade who has had a pretty terrible life (abusive dad, absent mom, school pariha, etc.) Jade finds her escape in horror movies, very specifically in slasher films. When violence strikes the tiny mountain town of Proofrock, Idaho, Jade knows with absolute certainty that it's the start of a real-life slasher film, she just has to figure out which style of slasher is coming her way if she wants to survive. Key to survival? Identify the Final Girl and make sure she's ready for the final fight.

The balance of horror to comedy is part of what makes Graham-Jones (and Grady Hendrix) such a skilled author to me. If you can make me laugh while giving me nightmares, it's awfully hard to be mad at you for my lack of sleep. *My Heart is a Chainsaw* strikes this balance in such a perfect way as it pulls threads

of real horror (trigger warning on assault content), with the looming horror of a cursed, blood-thirsty entity, and the absolute hilarity of how Jade takes all the insanity in such comedic stride. While reading *My Heart is a Chainsaw* I was one moment absolutely appalled and horrified by some slasher violence, to immediately have Jade release a perfectly timed zinger that had me actually laughing out loud.

If you're not up on your slasher lore (like me), don't stress because throughout the book, Graham-Jones has peppered in copies of Jade's extra credit homework for history class where she has since freshman year been chronicling the history and evolution of all things slasher (about 150 different slasher films are mentioned throughout the book). These little reports are both hilarious, while also giving a glimpse into how and why Jade views and processes her world.

The book is bloody (honestly an understatement), but you'll seriously be laughing. In that virtual visit Graham-Jones broke the news that a sequel has been written, so we'll actually get more Jade in the future. We might even get her on screen as a few of his books are in various stages of development. They'll make for great watching since they really are funny on top of cleverly written, despite being absolutely terrifying... but I wouldn't expect much less from someone whose go-to karaoke artist is Britney Spears.

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CREATING HOME

A NEW DESIGN OBSESSION

Do you ever get an idea to do something, and then can't sleep until you try it?



Amie Buice

This happened to me recently and has led to a new design obsession. Painted wallpaper!

I live in a 50s home with many wonderful old characteristics, one of which is the old colored tile in the bathrooms. My two little boys share one of the bathrooms with mint green tile, an old sink and cast iron tub. I wanted to design the space in a way that reflected the personality of my boys but was also sophisticated. An idea to

frame bug prints turned into an impatient notion to paint them instead! I dug out my favorite color samples from past clients and used them to paint bugs of different kinds all over the walls. This project, was the beginning of an obsession.

Since painting a wallpaper-like pattern on our bathroom walls I have been thinking nonstop about other patterns that I could paint on walls. This led to the pretty floral motif pictured that I recently painted in an Entry. I will always be a lover of wallpaper, but these projects have opened my eyes to the benefits of hand-painted patterns. It is more affordable, completely customizable, less commitment, and totally original. In the Entry project for instance, I selected a pattern

that would work well with other patterns in the home, and colors that complimented the existing pieces.

So, if you're looking for an update to your home that would be one of a kind, painted wallpaper might be for you. With a little frog-

tape, paint and a ruler, you could create a piece of art on your walls. Or, email me! Now that I've started I'm afraid I won't be able to stop... and I have more ideas than walls in my home!

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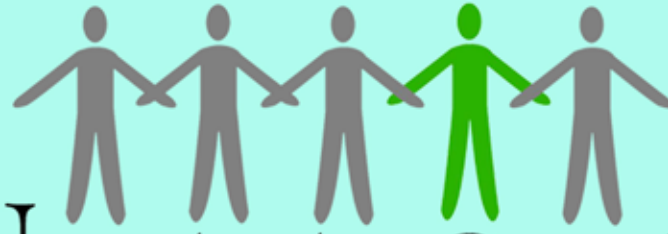


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Creative character costumes

It's that time of year again and Halloween is swiftly approaching. I've come up with some creative dress up ideas that you can pull from your very own closet instead of buying an overpriced uncomfortable costume. I love film



Kristine March

and the costume department. And set designs are so intriguing to me. If you want to watch some of your favorite classics and get ideas, look no further. For example, Alfred Hitchcock is a best-loved in my household. Tippi Hedren's look in the movie *The Birds*

is a really simple look to create. You'll need an olive green pencil skirt and blazer to match. Find a blonde wig that's preferably already styled in a French twist, red nail polish, black heels and a camel colored small handbag. Of course black fake crows must be hot glued all over the suit. Easy and affective. A showstopper at your next costume party for sure.

Another character I thought about creating is Margo Hemingway played by Gwyneth Paltrow from the movie, *The Royal Tenenbaums*. I literally already have everything in my closet. All you would need is a pair of white gloves, a brown fur coat, a cigarette as a prop, a red hair pen and a Lacoste polo shirt and loafers with a brown colored handbag. And there you have it. Chic and so fun. I would go heavy on the black eyeliner as well. If you haven't seen the film definitely check it out.

A really frightening but simple look to try if you're in a time crunch would be Carrie from the 70's cult classic film. All you would need is a long chiffon Maxi dress or gown in a champagne color. A big tiara and a bouquet of light pink roses with a sash and some fake blood. This costume is definitely not for the faint of heart and for those that have a taste for terror but super cool to wear and it will definitely get you in the Halloween spirit.

My final suggestion is the character from the movie *Black Swan* played by Natalie Portman. It's a very dark and eerie vibe but I love it. You would need a black gothic ballerina costume with tulle. A black crown and very heavy white foundation with a dark lip. Then paint your eyes like that of a swan. There are quite a few fairly simple makeup tutorials on how to get the effect. Amazon sells the costume if you can't come up with your own. These are all really fun to do and cost effective.

Who are you going to be this Halloween? I hope it's your best one yet. So, make the sidewalk your runway and get spooky y'all. Kindness always matters. Happy Halloween.

Sweeping the yard

BY RICH OTTER

It is said the tradition was actually brought to this country by slaves from West Africa but the practice was widely adopted in the southern United States. It was not just practical. It was considered good housekeeping.

Yards were kept free of grass eliminating weeds, bugs and other creepy-crawly critters that could easily access homes. A cleanly swept dirt yard was a source of pride for the family. In any event, none of those horribly expensive riding lawn mowers, power push mowers, or even the push mowers dependent only upon muscle power were available. There was no cost for gas, let alone expensive repairs and maintenance or the constant fight against weeds. It was a very practical solution at the time when the "modern conveniences" were not available.

Grass was despised. It is said all weeds were actually known as grass. The only desirable growth in the yard came from cooling trees and a garden. There was just pristine earth. In the days before mowers and weed killers it was very difficult to keep a grass yard under control and any weeds could easily spread to the garden or in the fields were crops were necessary to support the family. It was particularly important not to let weeds invade cotton fields.

Many of the early domestic chores had to be performed outdoors and didn't need the interference of that green stuff. In the early days washing and cooking were often done outside as well as were other routine tasks.

Their dirt yard maintenance tools were easily accessible. Anderson native Curtis Reed



Davis remembered: "We had to sweep our dirt yard. Most people would go to the woods and cut down dogwood trees, twist the limbs together, and make what we called a big brush-broom to sweep the yard. They said people would talk about you if grass grew in your yard. They would say, 'Lazy people, the grass grew plumb up to the door.' I can remember hearing people say that."

In establishing the scene for the introduction of the mysterious Boo Radley in her Pulitzer Prize winning *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee described "the Radley Place" saying "The remains of a picket drunkenly guarded front yard – a swept yard that was never swept – where Johnson grass and rabbit-tobacco grew in abundance." She continued that inside the house lived what was considered "a malevolent phantom" that "people said... went out at night when the moon was down,

and peeped in windows." The un-kept swept yard certainly helped set the tone.

Cleaning the yard could constitute a social event with a neighbor. There were no noisy machines and if you got tired you could just lean on the broom and enjoy a little breeze underneath a yard tree and possibly a chat.

Anderson residents Nathan and Dorcas Evans maintained a typical dirt yard on Lyons Street in Orr Mill Village along with a peaceful garden and shade trees.

Because "You didn't want your neighbor's yard to look better than yours," Charles B. Timms, Sr. discovered a business opportunity. "I would go into the woods and cut what I needed and make brush brooms and sell them."

Barbara W. Sarudy in a Colonial American Gardens blog quoted a 1791 statement by William Bartram describing a typical house in Cuscowalla, Georgia: "The dwelling stands near the middle of a square yard, encompassed by a low bank, formed with the earth taken out of the yard, which is always carefully swept."

For those living out in the country, the dirt yard was like a morning newspaper. They could read in the earth what had been prowling or slithering around during the night.

Hmm. Maybe a nice swept dirt yard isn't such a bad idea after all.

CAA honors breast cancer victims and survivors

During the month of October, Cancer Association of Anderson (CAA) proudly stands with all the courageous women as well as men who have been diagnosed with Breast Cancer. We honor all Survivors and Remember all those we have lost to this devastating disease as well as the families who have been forever changed by their loss. Breast cancer strikes an estimated 1 in 8 women during their lifetime and is the most commonly diagnosed cancer affecting women in South Carolina. Approximately 40,000 women die each year in the United States.

Early detection is the key to breast cancer survival. Due to screening/early detection, long-term survival rates have improved over the past several

decades. In collaboration with the DABO ALL IN Foundation, AnMed Health and Diagnostic Radiology, CAA has developed a program called FOOD FOR THOUGHT, which helps women in underserved areas of the county receive mammograms at NO COST.

CAA is the only LOCAL cancer charity, supporting Anderson County cancer patients financially with treatment-related expenses as well as physically and emotionally. CAA is not affiliated with nor receives any funding from the American Cancer Society or any Relay for Life events. Generous donors, grants, and proceeds from events throughout the year allow CAA staff to assist, on average, 60 newly diagnosed cancer patients each month with more than 500

total patient contacts monthly.

CAA's Services Include:

- Up to \$1,000 per year in financial assistance for treatment-related expenses, including:
 - Travel to and from treatment including out-of-state cancer treatment centers
 - Assistance with treatment-related prescription medication
 - Specialized home health medical equipment
 - Supplemental Nutrition Drinks
 - Free enrollment in CAA's "Well-fit" program
 - Medical insurance premium assistance
 - Free wigs, breast prostheses, hats, scarves and mastectomy bras, etc.

CAA also provides education-

al and survivorship classes and referral to additional cancer-related resources for patients and their families as well as numerous support groups.

CAA truly relies on our local businesses and friends, so that we can continue to provide both financial and emotional support to the many cancer patients who walk through our doors. Your support provides LOCAL cancer patients. If you or someone you love, have been diagnosed with any type of cancer and are a resident of Anderson County, please call CAA and let us walk alongside you, providing assistance, and support! If you would like to support CAA's mission, you may mail a donation to 215 East Calhoun Street, Anderson, SC 29621 or visit www.CAAnderson.org.

BOO!

Have you ever been “Boo’d?” “Booing” is a great way to share Halloween excitement with your family, friends and neighbors!

According to tradition, “booing” is a fun activity that combines just the right amount of craftiness, trickery, spooky creativity, and neighborhood involvement to create a unique opportunity for making



Katie Laughridge

memories, sharing time friends and neighbors and bonding with those you love and care about. The art of properly “booing” an individual is simple and only requires a few easy to follow steps. First, create a Halloween surprise treat bag to share with your neighbors. Traditionally, “boo” gift bags contain things like Halloween candy,



homemade goodies and possibly a small gift. A few other time-test-

ed gift ideas to try include: slime, flashlights, glow sticks, a Halloween

book or coloring book, Halloween stickers, a pumpkin carving kit, Halloween stickers, Halloween Peep ghosts, and of course- lots of candy! Instead of a paper bag, you may also consider using a more festive “boo gift” container- such as a plastic Halloween pumpkin bucket or possibly a witch’s cauldron. Since there are no exact rules, feel free to make your boo gift bags as spooky, creative and unique as your imagination will allow!

In addition to the boo gift, your Halloween “boo bag” should also contain two other important items; a note that reads “I’VE BEEEN BOOED!” and a scary Halloween ghost picture. As soon as your “boo’d” neighbors receive your surprise boo gift bag, they should immediately hang the ghost picture outside on their front door. Identifying those who have already been boo’d not only prevents individuals from getting boo’d again, it also gives other neighbors the opportunity to experience the fun and excitement of being boo’d on Halloween!

Next, make a list of which of your lucky friends or neighbors you want to boo first. Then, after it gets dark, and when you’re sure no one is

watching, sneak over to your neighbor’s house, place the boo bag on their front porch, ring the doorbell, and then RUN as fast as you can! Finally, congratulate yourself on a “booing” quest well done!

The person getting boo’d is then required to “pay forward” the festive “neighborly good deed” by “booing” two more people, using the exact same process. There is one small, but very important, difference to remember as the booing process continues- be sure to change the enclosed note to “WE”VE BEEN BOO’D!”. This not only ensures that the same house doesn’t get “boo’d” twice, it also allows more neighbors an opportunity to participate and experience the joy of “booing love”. So that everyone has a chance to take part in the excitement of being boo’d on Halloween, try to begin your neighborhood “booing” venture somewhere around the end of September.

I hope this FUN holiday tradition will bring joy, togetherness and excitement to your family and neighborhood friends, and will create lasting memories for many years to come!

Happy Halloween, or should I say... “Happy Booing!”



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It's OK to say its name

BY ANN BAILES

Recently my friend told me how her son, a tender-hearted young man, was trying to tell her about the “tufted mouse” that was visiting their bird feeder. Confused, she said “Do you mean the tufted titmouse?” That’s exactly what he was referring to - he was just afraid to say the whole name lest he get in trouble for saying the first part of the second word. Bless his precious soul.

Just as it would have been acceptable for young Jeremy, it’s OK to get right past the unrefined meaning and recognize that 55 species of titmice (some just known as tits) exist in the world, so it is a perfectly legitimate word. Only five of these species live in North America. Most U.S. titmice are western birds,

living primarily in the desert southwest. The exception is the tufted titmouse, widespread over the eastern half of the country all the way north to Maine, and very common in South Carolina.

A titmouse is beautiful in an understated way. It is a smaller bird, grey on the top but much paler underneath, with a grey crest and a blackish forehead. It has piercing black eyes, and its sides have a pale orangish tinge. It would be a fairly easy bird to overlook except that it is perky, somewhat tame, and friendly. In springtime if a titmouse pair is building a nest in the neighborhood, you may hear a whistled “hoo, hoo, hoo” repeated regularly.

Tufted titmice will likely be some of the first birds to frequent a newly-put up feeder, and

will often arrive about the same time as the Carolina chickadees, with whom they are often seen. Chickadees and titmice are like best friends in the bird world. They’re actually cousins, both belonging to the Paridae family of birds in the taxonomic scale. The two species often flock together, with other small species such as wrens, nuthatches, and others sometimes joining in. Researchers think that this behavior helps them detect predators more easily, especially in winter when leaf cover is absent.

A tufted titmouse is a delightful little bird, quiet in its own way but joyful to see and be around. I never met Jeremy, as he was taken far too soon by childhood leukemia, but I have a feeling that he would have fit that same description very well.



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Climbing Mt. Fuji

BY LEEANN SANDERS
MCCATHERN

I totally understand why people say you shouldn't hike Mt Fuji alone. Mainly because there is a 0% chance I could've ever made it to the top without the group I was with. I knew that my grandmother had climbed Mt Fuji when she was a young adult and I wanted to do the same in honor of the courage she had shown. At the beginning of the journey, hikers are given a wooden walking stick as a souvenir. As hikers make their way to each station, they're given a branding on the stick. My grandmother still has her walking stick on display in her house.

Sometimes you get lucky, and you and your group arrive at Fuji on a beautiful day - tons of sunshine, just a little wind, and not too much chill at the top. We did not get that lucky. We hiked less than halfway up the first day and the weather was pretty

nice. We got to our mountain hut to sleep for a few hours, and got back up at midnight to continue the hike so we could see the sunrise from the top. Unfortunately, the weather was brutal this day and I also was plagued with altitude sickness for the next 5 hours. It poured rain, the wind was blasting us, and the temperature dropped by a good 20-30 degrees.

Mt. Fuji is a volcano considered one of Japan's 3 sacred mountains. It is the county's tallest peak at 12,389 feet high. I am seriously shocked I even made it to the top, especially because the last two hours to the top were the hardest. You spend the majority of time at the end physically climbing with your hands. I made it the last few hours purely by praying I wouldn't die or that somehow I'd safely fall off so I could be back at the bottom. The hike was a lot more mentally challenging than I had ever imagined.

But the euphoria I felt reaching the top was definitely something I've never felt before. I tend to not push myself or do too many things outside of my comfort zone because I am really afraid of failure. On this day, I had no choice out there on the mountain but to just tough it out because the only other option was to make the long trek back down. I seriously burst into tears when I reached the top mainly from sheer shock that I had made it. Now I have a photo to document my climb just like my grandmother's photo of her climb that was taken 62 years ago.

(My husband Drew and I moved from Anderson, SC to Okinawa, Japan in 2019. Drew works in engineering as the officer in charge of Emergency Management at Kadena Air Force Base. I worked in marketing on base for a while, but now have returned to my career as a freelance photographer.)



Drew and Leann McCathern, 2021



Leeann's grandmother, Barbara Meil, right, 1959

WHEN WILL IT BE MY TURN?



**MARY-
CATHERINE
McCLAIN
RINER**

October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss (PAIL) awareness month. It is estimated that 1 in 4 families will experience the loss of a child in their lifetime.

This month, and always, it is important to grieve and mourn those babies never met, children born sleeping, those who were carried but never met, and those brought home that could not stay. It is a life changing experience

that requires acknowledgement, support, and vulnerability to break the silence.

Grief comes in waves, and it is okay to be sad, to scream, to rest, to slow down, and to be angry. My hope is that women/men will feel safer and have the permission to share stories of devastation and heartache without feeling like a failure or a burden. The loss of our children matters and deserves to be shared if desired.

As we remember, I invite you to connect with what it may feel like for someone who is learning to manage and process feelings of grief around pregnancy and infant loss:

Pregnancy and infant loss is not finding joy

in pregnancy

Pregnancy and infant loss is hearing your provider say I am sorry.

Pregnancy and infant loss is preparing for uncomfortable and unpleasant procedures

Pregnancy and infant loss is watching your partner grieve differently and simultaneously

Pregnancy and infant loss is cleaning out the nursery you decorated

Pregnancy and infant loss is grieving your child's future and your life together

Pregnancy and infant loss is grieving the old you and your baby at the same time

Pregnancy and infant loss is being sent home with a memory box

Pregnancy and infant loss is having milk come in for a baby you could not nurse

Pregnancy and infant loss is wondering how much to share in a society that doesn't understand

Pregnancy and infant loss is fielding inappropriate questions and responses about fertility

To quote Anne of Green Gables, "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers." October means crisp leaves and pumpkin spice to some, while for others, it means grief and loss. Holding space for the latter. Hug your children tight. Shower them in love.

Remember the privilege that comes with being a parent and wrap your arms around your precious blessings.

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Abracadabra



When you're a two or three year old, lots of things defy explanation.

When I first saw the dark thing on the ground, it was attached to my feet and mimicking my every move. I was terrified and



Neal Parnell

wanted it to go away. I turned around and ran, but when I peeked over my shoulder, it was still there and chasing me.

There was a stool in my parents' bathroom. As I climbed it, and raised my head over the counter, I saw a little boy looking back at me, I almost fell off the stool as I ran to try and tell my Mom what I had seen.

There was a time that my Dad grabbed my nose and held it between his fingers for me to see. I looked at my nose in his hand and started to cry as I was begging him to please put it back on my face. He did, although he said that it was upside down and he had to take it back off.

I kept seeing the big people touch something on the walls, and when they did, light



told me that she was holding an invisible needle and thread. My eyes were fixed on that invisible needle as she pushed it through her thumb and pulled it out the other side. She went through each finger with the needle, and then slowly gave little yanks on the needle while I watched all the fingers and the thumb come together. I wanted to try, but as she

would shine from above. Whatever it was, it was out of my reach. One day my Mom had me sitting on the kitchen counter, she was looking out the window as she washed dishes. I saw one of those things that I couldn't reach. It all happened so fast, but as I flipped the little button my Mom screamed NO! as the sink was growling and vibrating while all the dishes rattled and shook. I must have unleashed some kind of Sink-Monster, and I never sat there again.

My Grandmother once held up her hand with her fingers spread. In her other hand she

was handing me the needle, she dropped it. I looked and looked but never did find that thing.

I'm almost sixty-six years old now, and that dark thing on the ground is still following me. It mostly stays outside, so I try to stay in the house as much as possible. I don't have to touch those things on the wall anymore; I have Alexa to do that for me. That little boy in the bathroom is still around, but he looks much older than I remember. Thank goodness I have my nose or wearing these glasses would be impossible unless I can find that invisible needle and thread.



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Yellow Jackets keep on winning as season nears end

Hanna Yellow Jackets

Aug. 20	Laurens	W, 23-17
Aug. 27	Wren	W, 27-16
Sept. 10	BHP	W, 43-10
Sept. 17	Easley	W, 62-14
Sept. 24	Westside	W, 45-14
Oct. 1	Woodmont	W, 37-14
Oct. 8	Mauldin	W, 43-22
Oct. 15	J.L. Mann	AWAY
Oct. 22	Byrnes	AWAY
Oct. 29	Hillcrest	AWAY

BY BRU NIMMONS

ANDERSON — For the T.L. Hanna Yellow Jackets, the 2021 season has gone about as well as it possibly could, and Friday's game against Mauldin High School presented them with another strong challenge.

However, the Mavericks, which feature highly touted prospects Jeadyn Lukus and Randy "Deuce" Caldwell, proved to be no match for the Yellow Jackets in a 43-22 Hanna win.

It was the Jackets' game from the very beginning, as Kam Johnson broke free for 62 yards on the first play from scrimmage to give Hanna a 7-0 lead.

After a defensive stop, the Jackets took over again and quickly moved into Maverick territory on a pass from senior quarterback Jay Dillard to Chase Burton.

The Hanna drive continued pushing to the red zone, where the Jackets faced a third and five at the Mav 17. Hanna did more than convert on the play, as Carson Bacheller cut through the defense for a touchdown to stretch the lead to 14-0 with 5:59 left in the first.

The Yellow Jackets had their first hiccup after their second score, as the Mavericks stormed down the field and scored on a two-yard run by Lukus to cut the lead to 14-7 late in the first.

After giving up the score, the Jackets responded the only way they know how, pounding the Mavericks on the ground. Fletcher Cothran took the lead, picking up 33 yards on

three carries to get into Mavs territory. A 19-yard carry by Kabrail Morrison got the Jackets into the red zone, and one play later, Johnson scored again on an 11-yard run to take a 21-6 lead with 10 minutes left in the half.

Hanna continued to show lapses on defense, allowing the Mavs to drive the distance of the field before Caldwell scored on a five-yard run. A failed two-point conversion kept the Mavs down 21-12 midway through the second quarter.

On their next possession, the Yellow Jackets made it all the way to the Mav 25 before a fourth-down stop gave to ball back to Mauldin.

With one last chance to score before the half, Burton snuffed out their chances with an interception to keep the lead at 21-12 going into halftime.

Hanna was finally able to get back on the board late in the third, as Kam Johnson scored for the third time on a five-yard run. A Fletcher Cothran two-point conversion gave Hanna a 29-12 lead with 2:31 left in the third.

Early in the fourth, the Mavs added a field goal to cut into the lead, but Hanna matched right back and scored on a one-yard run by Kenny Fretwell.

Mauldin scored once more in the fourth, but it proved too little, too late, and a Hanna touchdown in the final seconds secured a 43-22 victory.

The Jackets will finish their season with three consecutive road games against J.L. Mann, Byrnes and Hillcrest.



WESTSIDE RAMS

Westside picks up pair of big region victories

BY BRU NIMMONS

ANDERSON — After a less than ideal start to the season, the Westside Rams seemed to be searching for answers. They appear to have found them, with a 2-0 start in region play.

The Rams began region play on Oct. 1 against Easley and dominated the Green Wave from start to finish.

On the opening drive, Westside's Zeke Marshall picked off an A.J. Brown pass and quickly converted when back Hunter Puckett scored from a yard out. Puckett had a huge night on the ground, pounding Easley and adding several two-point conversions, including one after the early touchdown.

After recovering an onside kick, Puckett went back to work, pushing Westside into the red zone. There, quarterback Peter Zamora hit Jimmar Boston on a screen pass that went eight yards for a touchdown. Another Puckett run on the point-after gave Westside a 16-0 lead midway through the first.

After Easley scored to make it a 16-7 game moments later, Puckett finished off the Rams' next drive with a six-yard run and converted the two-point conversion to make the lead 24-7.

After being unable to move much on their next possession due to the Westside defense, Easley was forced to punt, but a bad snap led to a safety and increased the Westside lead.

The Rams continued to roll from there, scoring on their very next play from scrimmage following the safety, as running back Amir Dendy broke free on a 68-yard touchdown. After another Puckett conversion, the Rams led 32-7.

The Green Wave were able to get moving again on their next possession, before Ram defender Dillon Gilbert picked off a Brown pass and returned it all the way down to the Easley 5. One play later, Dendy scored again. Westside turned to Owen Skelton on the two-point attempt and he didn't disappoint, connecting with Ethan Barbee to put the Rams ahead 42-7 with 6:26 left in the half.

After forcing another punt, the Rams went back to work offensively and scored on a fumble recovery by Cameron Spadafina in the end zone to put them ahead 50-7.

The Green Wave answered right back with a 72-yard touchdown run by Brown, but the damage was done as they headed to half down 50-13.

With the huge halftime lead, the Rams cruised the rest of the way and brought home a 58-20 win.

Then, this past week, the Rams nearly matched their first region victory with a 48-20 win over Travelers Rest on Monday night, with no other details available at press time. The contest with the Devildogs was originally scheduled for Friday night, but was moved due to inclement weather.



Westside Rams

Aug. 20	BHP	L, 23-20
Aug. 27	Summerville	Canceled
Sept. 3	Greer	L, 28-25
Sept. 10	Byrnes	W, 64-62
Sept. 17	Hartwell Co.	L, 63-28
Sept. 24	Hanna	L, 45-14
Oct. 1	Easley	W, 58-20
Oct. 11	Trav. Rest	W, 48-20
Oct. 22	Walhalla	HOME
Oct. 29	Pickens	AWAY