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of ANDERSON

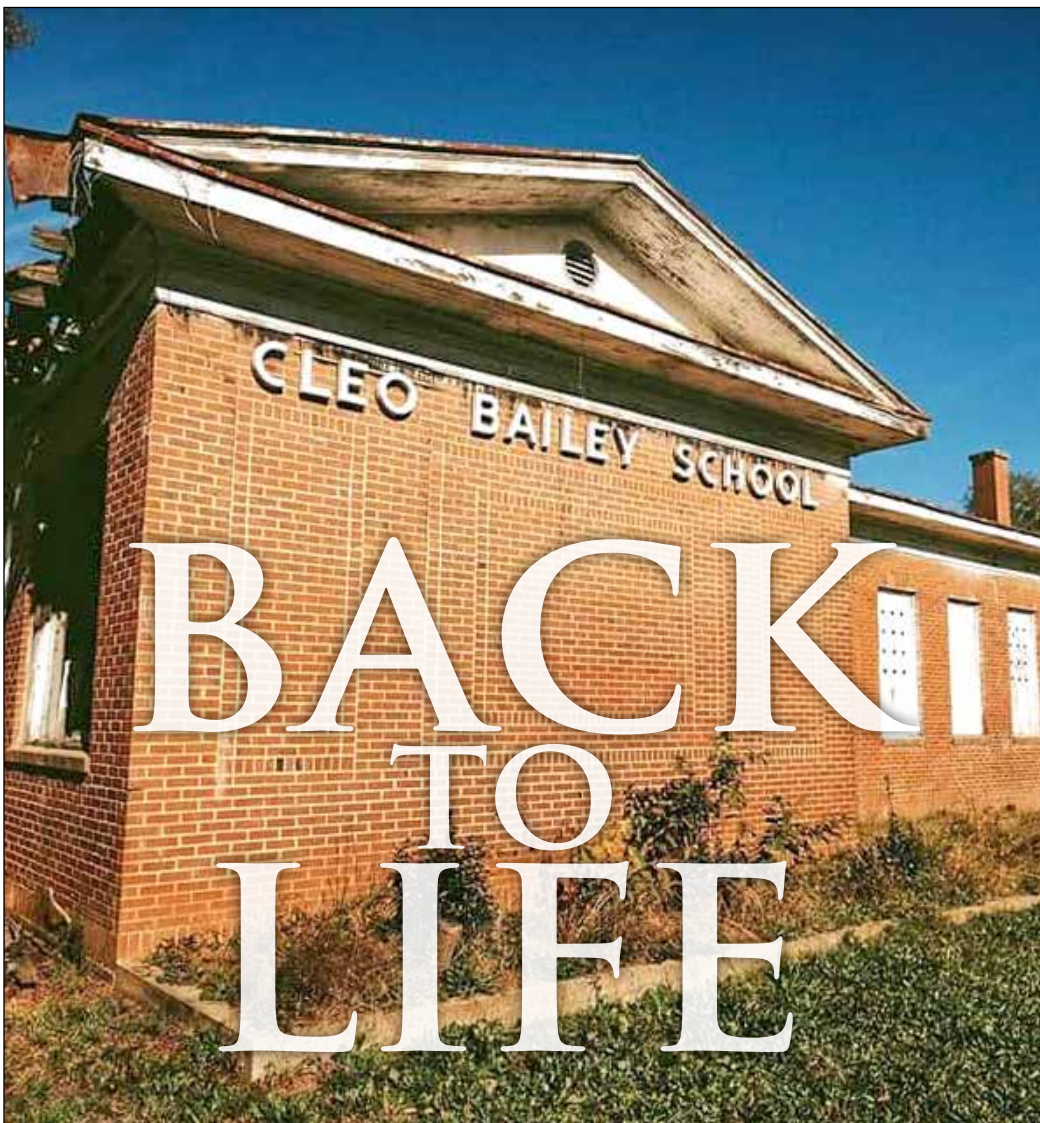
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March 3-16, 2022



## Anderson couple plans to restore former school

Excitement is building around a vision to restore the former Cleo Bailey School of Anderson. Zephaniah and Whitney Smith purchased the property in 2020 with plans to convert it to a community center to serve the surrounding neighborhoods. The couple decided to transfer their investments from Wall Street into the lives of the people who need it most. This project is called The Cleo Bailey Experiment and its mission is to break the cycle of generational poverty while fostering enrichment for those in our community.

"My dad, sister and I all went to school at Cleo Bailey," explains City Councilman Tony Stewart. "I have many fond memories here and teachers who made an impact on my life."

Formerly known as the East Whitner Street School, the 28,000-square-foot red-brick building was once a vibrant anchor to Anderson's East Side. The school was later named Cleo Bailey in honor of a beloved teacher and principal, Mrs. Cleo Norris Bailey of Anderson. The school closed in the 1970s.

"When the school closed, it took the



Whitney and Zephaniah Smith

heart out of that community," Stewart explains. "I'm excited for this project to bring some life back to the property and serve the people who live in this area."

Zephaniah and Whitney have spent the last year working on phase one of the project. This included the construction of

SEE SCHOOL ON PAGE 2



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# The Blood Connection appoints new member to board of trustees

*Jessica McCoy of Brasfield & Gorrie LLC to join 13-member board*

The Blood Connection has announced the appointment of Jessica McCoy of Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC, to its Board of Trustees. McCoy will join a 13-member board that helps ensure donor collection and blood processing meet community needs at the highest standards.

“We have a strong leadership foundation in place, and we couldn’t be more pleased to have Jessica join our board,” says Heidi Phillips, Board Chairman. “Each of our board members have deep professional backgrounds and a passionate commitment to blood

donation. I know Jessica will bring a valuable and unique insight to our mission, which will ultimately help us save more lives.”

Jessica McCoy is a Business Development Manager at Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC, where she works with the business development and project teams to forge strong relationships with clients to better understand and serve their needs. She joined Brasfield & Gorrie in 2011 as part of their Corporate Recruiting team, and has served in other capacities within the firm, including

Human Resources, Marketing, and Business Development. McCoy is a former Witherspoon Fellow and graduate of CREW Authentic Leadership, Furman Women’s Leadership Institute, and Leadership Greenville Class 47. She currently serves as Board Chair of GirlUp GVL, a local nonprofit serving under-resourced middle and high school girls through experience, enrichment, and empowerment.

“It’s an honor to be joining The Blood Connection Board,” says McCoy. “I have many close friends and family in healthcare and they have been hard at work, especially over the last few years. They’ve lamented the lack of blood available to meet the needs of their patients. The Blood Connection is



Jessica McCoy

the linchpin for fulfilling that critical need in the Carolinas, and I’m eager to serve and promote the important work they’re doing.”

McCoy will join the board in developing long-term strategic priorities to strengthen TBC’s community engagement and foster increased support from community leaders and groups.

RED ROCKET PUBLISHING OF ANDERSON, LLC

## PUBLISHERS

Julie Bailes Johnson  
864-221-9269  
julie@theelectriccitynews.com

Ginny Bailes Fretwell  
864-934-1477  
ginny@theelectriccitynews.com

## LAYOUT/DESIGN

ART DIRECTOR  
Zack Mauldin  
zack@upstatetoday.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN  
Nate Thomason  
signal43@live.com

## WRITERS

Neal Parnell  
dnparn@gmail.com

Jim Harris  
jimharris.atl@gmail.com

Rich Otter  
ottwill@bellsouth.net

GARDEN & FLORAL  
Susan Temple  
gardningirl@yahoo.com

MENTAL HEALTH  
Mary-Catherine McClain Riner  
drmarycatherine@rinerounseling.com

FASHION  
Kristine March

COLUMNISTS  
Kim Acker Von Keller  
Katie Laughridge  
Ann K. Bailes  
Amie Buice

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# School

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a community garden which has provided fresh fruits and vegetables to residents who may not have access to healthy foods or transportation to a full-service grocery store. “We would love to one day house a fresh market type grocery store within the property,” explains Zephaniah. “Currently, the only stores within walking distance offer limited food items such as bagged chips or cookies. Our goal is to nourish the community by providing fresh food and essential services to take care of those who need it most.” A community member recently donated several beehives to the project. The Anderson Beekeepers Association will help them begin the honey



harvesting process to bring another fresh product to the menu for area residents.

While volunteer-led workdays have helped create gardens and clean up the landscape, there is still a lot of work needed to restore the building for future use. Phase two will include the complete restoration of the building with hopes to one day house a one-stop-shop of services needed in this area of Anderson. Based on feedback from area residents, some of those service ideas include an after-school program, mental health counseling, food programs, and more.

With their non-profit status underway, Zephaniah and Whitney will soon begin to apply for grants to help fund this extensive renovation. The 1913 constructed building features beautiful historic architecture and a solid foundation and framework, but its inactivity has resulted in an unoccupiable state in need of major repair.

While funds are being raised to restore the

building, Zephaniah and Whitney are on a mission to create beauty and generate excitement for this future development. Local artists were commissioned to create installments to be featured throughout the property. Boarded windows will be transformed to works of art until new windows can be purchased.

The community is invited to attend The Cleo Bailey Experiment’s Blight2Beauty Unveiling event on Sunday, March 13th at 1:30pm. Here, the first installments will be unveiled. The address is 1003 East Whitner Street. To learn more, visit The Cleo Bailey Experiment on Facebook or visit their website at [www.cleobailey.org](http://www.cleobailey.org).

Featured artists of the Blight2Beauty project include Shea Abramo, Brandon “Biskit” Hammond, Elizabeth Day, Andrea Harper, Derrick Ashworth, Ian Looney, Tammie Dargan, Patro “Pero” Ulmer, and Shaquille “Phor” Ellis.



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FROM THE SHELF

# Finlay Donovan series by Elle Cosimano

I have been an avid thriller reader for a few years now, but haven't necessarily done a lot of what I would call 'traditional' or 'true' mystery reading. One of the inspirations for my reading goal this year being targeted toward mysteries is a late read from last year, Finlay Donovan Is Killing It by Elle Cosimano. This is the start to a series following the title character and I fell absolutely in love with all the components of it. Fortunately for me, Finlay Donovan Knocks 'Em Dead, the sequel, released early this year.



Sara Leady

I don't think I would go so far as to classify the Finlay Donovan series as 'cozy,' but it definitely wouldn't fall within a thriller aspect despite the hired killer aspect, and mob ties, and dark web... there's a lot to unpack. So let me start to unfold this delicious series and all the delightful reasons why you should absolutely read it.

Finlay Donovan is a 'romantic suspense' writer who's past her book deadline, about to lose her house, and fighting for custody for her kids from her garbage husband. When meeting with her writing agent in a coffee shop, the conversation is overheard and misconstrued, and Finlay finds herself being offered hit money from a mob wife to take out her husband who happens to also be the mob's major enforcer. Through a series of comedic errors, Finlay is left with the offer and money, and no real way to turn it down either. Here is where the shenanigans start—obviously.

With the looming deadline to take out the

mob hit Finlay finds herself in a heap of problems and added intrigue, none of which helps that her sister is in fact an actual police officer, and obviously with the pending custody case, Finlay can't be seen with ties to anything untoward. Finlay, however, manages to get even further immersed the more she tries to get out of the situation, none of which is helped by her nanny/bff who is enabling ALL the bad decisions along the way. The one plus of the absolutely insane situation she's finding herself in is that it's the perfect inspiration for her book.

I don't want to spoil too much, but let's just say since Finlay did such a great job on her first hit (SO much more to this), she's gets a notice of a new hit that's been listed on the dark web that happens to be for her husband. And while her husband is garbage, Finlay obviously doesn't want the father of her children to be killed (he happens to at least be a good dad) so the sequel is a race to find who put out the hit and the identity of the person who took the job before her husband actually gets murdered.

The series is absolutely hilarious. It's a comedy of errors that literally just steamrolls into a mess that Finlay has to also write herself out of because the books she's writing also pull from the real life messy experiences she's living. The supporting cast of characters are an absolute delight, especially Vero, the young and sassy live-in nanny who enables all the bad behavior and definitely has a shady past I hope we learn more about as the series develops.

Along with the mystery, there's light romance elements, even a delightful love triangle with two very viable candidates (I have some envy of the problem of the decision she will eventually have to make). There's also

some wonderful relationships that are building and unfolding with all the varying characters. With the light romance and the relationship building, the books get rounded out to really pull in from the varying genres, making it a great read for not just mystery readers, but humor, romance, and family and friendship loving readers as well.

If you liked Grave Reservations, a title I've previously reviewed here, you'll definitely like this title. It also gave me a bit of an Aurora Teagarden vibe but with more snark, which I definitely love, but I love me some snarky reads. If anything I'd say the snark is what ele-

vates the title away from 'cozy' and strongly into the general mystery category. I'm a bit sad the newest title literally released February 1 as that means we'll likely have to wait another year before we get another installment. If the cliff hanger bits at the end of Finlay Donovan Knocks 'Em Dead are any indicator, we are in for a continued delightfully wild ride.



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## THE GARDEN SHOP

## Flower show and plant shopping



**SUSAN  
TEMPLE**  
master  
gardener

The South Eastern Flower Show was held last week at Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Mother and I decided to take a road trip, the first one in a long time, even before the world closed down. After planting like mad for many years, it seemed time to slow down and see what size some plants would actually grow to be before adding more. Our road trips always mean visiting area nurseries too.

The flower show was very nice – our first in winter. It was great to see

rooms full of blooms in February. Camellias were very worthy of ooh and aahs. Frank Houser Variegated won the blue ribbon. Interestingly, it was propagated in Macon Georgia in 1989, a US newcomer by standards like Lady Clare in 1887 from Japan. The huge, almost six inch, ruffled, semi-double bloom with mixes of deep pink, rose, and white is now on the wish list. After the show, while wandering the botanical gardens, Gulio Nuccio Variegated is also one I'll be on the lookout for. It would take both hands to hold its red and white blooms. There is one strange species of camellia, handelii, which grows in my garden. Before that, I was only familiar with japonica, sasanqua, and sinensis. During our stroll through the gardens, several varieties tagged with species

name I've never heard of piqued my interest. That will be research for a future Garden Shop.

On the agenda was also a visit to Garden\*Hood. It is a small nursery in Grant Park area of Atlanta. Their selection is a bit above the normal nursery offerings. Their motto say the nursery was founded by plant people for plant people. One of the original owners, Scott McMahan, is one of those people who travel the world to collect and propagate plants. He used to have his own nursery that I greatly miss. Garden\*Hood's choices did not disappoint. I was thrilled to find green santolina (*Santolina rosmarinifolia*). I have not found this in a nursery since Busby's closed. There is also a gray version but lady luck did not give a santolina smile twice. Santolina is great in pots, as a groundcover in



**Santolina setting bud**

very well drained soil, and full sun is required. Blooms are tiny yellow flowers in summer. A co-worker at Busby's outlined her hosta beds in santolina to keep deer out. It has a definite smell to it, not a rosemary smell though as the species name might suggest. One was put a big pot that used to be on the breezeway. It got moved to the spot where the crabapple tree was cut down. Time will tell how that works come summer.

Coleus are the traditional plantings in it. Hopefully santolina will be happy there and an annual or two will complete the look come spring. Another santolina was planted next to Spring Bouquet viburnum (*Viburnum tinus* 'Spring Bouquet') to see if deer will stay away. They have striped it this year. A bronze fennel that had seeded in the garden was crammed in their too to see if its smell will keep deer off spring bouquet. When I planted the santolina, I wondered why I only got two. I've been on a stringent budget the past two years and I suppose my willpower is still holding.

Pretty in Pink epimedium is another new one from our trip. Partial to full shade is a must for epimedium. Some are mostly evergreen in a protected area. Pretty in Pink was planted up close to the house near the protection of shrubs so we'll see. A yellow variety grown in the backyard doesn't die all the way down but is not evergreen by no means. Deer pass it by.

# Today's changing business landscape

Today it seems that every company has a help-wanted sign. 2020 and 2021 certainly changed the landscape for businesses and consumers. In addition to the staffing challenges, material costs and limited availabilities have also forced changes in opening hours, available services, products, and pricing. Food service, automotive, and the housing market have seen some of the most drastic changes.



**Jim Harris**

Changes from the pandemic have highly impacted restaurants. Chet and Kim Newsom own the Pompous Pig restaurant in Anderson. Chet says that they are still delivering the quality food and experience that his customers have come to expect, but it is much more challenging and time-consuming for them to maintain that high level. A year ago, a call to one or two vendors would fill the supply chain but finding what is needed today is almost a full-time job. The restaurant has been forced to remove ribs from its menu for the time being, with escalated prices and availability being inconsistent. Maintaining full staffing has also been a challenge, but they credit their team for stepping up and pulling the extra weight to care for their customers.

Their advice for customers? First, please remember that the staff isn't responsible for the issues we're facing. Know upfront that the

restaurant strives to provide the best dining experience possible, but things may take a bit longer. The staff shares your frustration and will do everything possible to meet your expectations. Here and at many other dining locations, the possibility exists that to-go orders may soon be subject to a small surcharge. They're facing significant price increases in the materials needed to provide these orders. To-go boxes have doubled in price in the last year.

They want you to know they are doing everything possible to hold the line.

According to CNBC, over 82% of the new vehicles sales in the U.S. were above the sticker price. The previous year, that number was less than 3%. Dealers that generally have lots bursting with inventory struggle to keep their displays from looking empty. Parts shortages are adding stress to the service experience as well.

Industry insiders offer some tips. They say that accurate expectations are essential in today's market. They want you to know that the same conditions that frustrate you as a buyer impacts them as sellers. Know what you are looking for and be realistic in your anticipation of pricing. You aren't seeing massive discounts and incentives, but sales staff are putting in extra effort to ensure clients enjoy a quality, professional experience.

If you are willing to be flexible in your vehicle selection, you may be able to narrow your time frame. If you are specific in your target vehicle, be patient as you will likely have to place a factory order and may experience wait times.

You probably won't find a variety of vehicles to test drive. Hence, the conventional buying process isn't usually available today, but online tools and sales professionals can help consumers narrow down choices and navigate the process. Salespeople are up to date on incoming vehicles and may be

able to match your needs with a vehicle already in their pipeline.

There is good news for consumers. The used car market is seeing record values, so you will likely receive more allowance than ever for your trade. Many dealerships will buy your current vehicle even if you don't purchase from them, so the experts recommend shopping your trade-in to a few dealers before getting into buying mode.

Crazy real estate stories are everywhere, like multiple offers the day a listing goes live, selling prices well above asking, and non-cash buyers being shut out.

Tina Brown of eXp Realty says craziness is happening in the market, but it's not as widespread as we may hear. People are finding and buying new homes every day. She offers some valuable tips for those entering the market.

Stack the deck in your favor by getting the most extensive pre-approval possible. Some banks are taking approvals all the way through the process now without a specific property, so work with your lender. She also recommends having your loan officer call the listing agent to let them know you present a solid deal for the seller.

Find a realtor that has a strong group of connections. Many deals are happening on homes that aren't listed, but the realtor knew of a potentially interested seller.

Many experts like financial guru Dave Ramsey have stated that this isn't a bubble market, and values aren't likely to decline anytime soon. Waiting may cause buyers to face higher prices and interest rates.

It helps if we all keep in mind that prices naturally go up when a business's cost for materials and labor increases. The person selling you a car, showing you a home or taking your food order didn't control any part of that, and business owners and managers say, please be patient and don't take your frustrations out on the staff.

Remember that people in sales and service industries who work long hours have sometimes extended their schedules to cover short staffing. Please be aware and respectful of posted hours and don't go in to "look" at closing time. These folks have likely already had a long day and are ready to get home to their families.

Also, keep in mind that folks in many positions survive on tips. A 15% tip should be a minimum today, with 20% becoming the norm.

**Let's Be Kind**

# Senior Follies director Mary Nickles

Senior Follies presents its 33rd annual production in March of 2022 with a brand-new show called Hindsight is 2022. Hindsight is 2022 was put together by Mary Nickles after cancellation of the 2020 show, Spice of Life.

Under the direction of Mary Nickles, Hindsight is 2022 will feature many of the performers you have come to know and love, music that will bring back great memories, new and original skits featuring local writers that will make you laugh.



Mary Nickles

Mary Nickles came to the Follies as its new director in 2019 but is by no means a stranger to the Anderson area's theater scene. Since moving to Anderson, she has directed shows at Electric City Playhouse, Market Theater, Clemson Little Theater, Mill Town Players and Anderson University. She taught music and drama at the Montessori School of Anderson for 17 years. While teaching at Montessori School of Anderson, she had the opportunity to produce and direct over 40 productions, including a High School production that was presented at the 2015 Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. Her high school students competed four times in the One-Act competition at the South Carolina Theater Association and placed in the top five three of those times. In 2016, her production placed 2nd overall and Mary was awarded 'best director' for the high school division. She currently teaches at Anderson University as an adjunct theater faculty member. She has a BA in Theatre from Coker College and a MA in Theatre Production from Central Washington University.

Mary was so excited to inherit this position from Annette Martin, who was instrumental in making Follies a phenomenal program, routinely recognized as one of the best programs of its kind anywhere in the country! According to Ms. Nickles, carrying on such a tradition is both humbling and exhilarating. She is excited to be part of this continuing organization, welcoming back to the stage so many familiar performers as well as many new ones who will be joining the troupe for the first time this year. As Mary says, Senior Follies serves as an outreach to the greater Anderson area, providing a wonderful outlet for performers and audiences alike. The Follies is truly a community whose mission is to create connections within its membership as well as to bring joy to the greater Anderson area.

# THE SPRING SPORTS SURGE

BY RICH OTTER

With spring on the way, there will be a giant surge of activity at the Sports Center of the Anderson County Sports and Entertainment Complex. Already activity is picking up and the Sport Center manager, Todd McCormick, has indicated that on March 2, practically the entire facility will be occupied.

When speaking of practically the entire facility, that includes 7 softball/baseball fields, 3 soccer fields, a football field. 6 tennis courts, 8 pickle ball courts, 2 bocce ball courts, a disk golf course, and miles of paved walking paths.

An amazing aspect of the sports fields is their adaptability. The ball fields can change between baseball and softball depending upon who is to be playing at a particular time. Bases can be repositioned on four of the diamonds to 60, 70 or 80 feet and one of the others can stretch to 90 feet. The pitcher's mounds can be changed depending upon what the play is to be and fences are adjustable to 200 feet, 250 feet or to fit whatever the need may be.

In addition, for the four ball fields adjacent to the Sports Center building, on the third floor of the building there are four separate press boxes from which players on the field covered by the box can be announced as they come

up to bat and other announcements can be made. Each of the fields has its own score board. All major fields are lighted.

In addition to the three soccer fields, portable soccer goals can be moved to the baseball outfield areas for practice when the ball fields are not being used. The same thing can be done on the football field.

The baseball/softball fields can all be used during their in-season periods as practice fields, as scheduled by schools or other groups, on Mondays through Thursdays but need to be available on Fridays to prepare for tournaments. Tournaments are regularly scheduled with many being local but also some regional and State tournaments. In July, the Center will host the Dixie Youth World Series that will have teams from 13 states with 36 teams. The program will begin with opening ceremonies at the Civic Center and games will then take place for two weeks. Having the event is a great honor and will certainly have a considerable economic impact on the community.

Just two weeks before the World Series the State Dixie League tournament will be held at the Center hosting 24 teams.

With the heavy activity for the current facilities Todd McCormick thinks it will be necessary in the future to utilize



Disc Golf Putt & Goal - Caleb Starnes

some of the area in Whitehall Park on what have come to be known as the hot-air balloon launching areas.

The tennis courts are open on a first-come, first-serve basis when not being reserved for tennis matches. They have been seeing activity even in the cooler weather.

Pickleball courts have maintained activity throughout the year. Pickleball is most akin to a cross between tennis, ping-pong and badminton. It is on a much smaller court than tennis and can be played as singles or doubles. It uses a paddle larger than for ping pong, service is underhand and the ball must be bounced on the other team's side and then again on the server's side before it can be put into play. Although enjoyed by all ages, it has become particularly popular with many adults although they must still be quite nimble. There are pres-

ently three courts but it has been anticipated more will need to be added. They are in use year-round and it has been stated it is one of the fastest growing sport activities in the country.

Disc golf, also not widely known, closely follows regular golf rules and is played with multiple discs, the use of which depends upon the distance, obstacles and terrain. In the Sports Complex the course consists of 18 holes stretching through a wooded and hilly area with the holes being a basket type receptacle to catch the aerial disc. The score at each hole, as in golf, is counted on the number of throws until deposited in the basket. Different discs are used depending upon the distance of each throw and the hazards to be encountered. Discs are of varying weights and aero dynamics for what may be needed from the tee, on the fairway or for the putter.

## NIBBLE & SIP

# When the sip becomes the nibble, it's time for dessert!

Last week, the son of our good friends Debi and David was married in a beautiful wedding in Georgia. This culminated a six-month period during which his parents hosted his sister's wedding, sold a house, moved into an apartment, and broke ground for a new house. Needless to say, they're a little tired now.



Kim von Keller

After such a busy period, they're coming to our house this weekend for a dinner in which their only job will be to eat. Since we stuffed ourselves with cake at the wedding, I wanted to go in a lighter direction for dessert, and when I was reorganizing my refrigerator last night, I found inspiration in

a bottle hidden in the far back corner.

I don't remember why I bought a bottle of Lambrusco, that effervescent, slightly sweet Italian wine I most associate with summer. Perhaps I bought it for a cook-out or to accompany a charcuterie board, but when I saw it, my first thought was Lambrusco Poached Cherries.

The process is simple. Lambrusco and sugar are cooked down to a syrup before inviting a pound of cherries in for a swim. They don't have to be fresh cherries, as the one's in your grocer's freezer will do just fine. It doesn't even have to be Lambrusco. Any light, inexpensive red wine will work.

The best thing about this Sip-Turned-Nibble is its versatility. Spoon it over pound cake. Dollop it over ice cream. You could even serve it in a bowl, straight up, with a plate of sugar cookies. In other words,

Lambrusco Poached Cherries are the best reason I know for cleaning out the fridge.

### Lambrusco Poached Cherries

750 ml bottle Lambrusco

1 c. sugar

1 pound frozen pitted sweet cherries  
cake, ice cream, or cookies for serving

In a tall stockpot, combine the wine and the sugar. Over low heat, whisk gently until the sugar has dissolved. Turn the heat to high and boil, stirring, until the mixture has been reduced to 1 ½ cups. Stir in the cherries. Return the mixture returns to a boil, cover, then turn the heat to low for five minutes. Remove the pot from the heat and let stand for an additional five minutes before removing the lid. Cool completely before serving over cake or ice cream, or serve as a spoon dessert with a simple cookie.

## YOUR DENTIST CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

# How to enjoy a happier, more fulfilling life

One of my more enjoyable habits is seeking out interesting scientific research findings that may be useful to my wonderful patients – and where appropriate beneficial guidance to share with you my loyal readers.

In our current state of uncertainty most everyone is paying more attention to staying healthy. But, as I have stressed in recent features, how to maintain our emotional health is also vitally important. To be sure medical science is tracking this too – seeking answers to how we can better deal with the emotional challenges of modern life – challenges common to us all. Therefore, it is comforting to know on-going scientific research is helping us develop a keener understanding of what enables us to live more fulfilling and happier lives. Seeking the key to happiness is hardly new. The old saying goes, “You can choose to be happy”.

But more than this, the question is “what really matters?” Of all our options from which we can choose to focus our finite time living our lives, what is it that is most likely to bring us happiness?



**Dr. Gabrielle F. Cannick**

There is a fascinating Harvard University study that involved over 700 participants conducted over 75 years. What did the study reveal? The key to long-term happiness and fulfillment boils down to one thing: the quality of our relationships. Happiness is not tied to money, fame, or being attractive. Rather it's the people we choose to surround ourselves with and how well we maintain these relationships.

In essence, good relationships are what keep us happier -- and healthier!

When you surround yourself with people whose behavior and habits are inconsistent with your own wants and needs, you are likely to embrace the group's standards. Think about it. If you want and expect to lead a healthy and active lifestyle, it will be tough if your friends sit around playing video games and eating junk food. On the other hand, if your friends are making life choices that keep them physically fit you stand a much greater chance of being fit yourself. Your group will influence your own behavior. Find “your people”. And then never take them for granted!

You'll be a better person when you surround yourself with trusted friends who push you and encourage you to be the best you can be. Give of yourself to others who inspire you and a wonderful thing will happen. You will

receive so much more in return. Now that's fulfillment and happiness.

If you have questions, or would just like to talk, feel free to call us. We are here for you. 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.*



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# A family tradition of fun in fishing

As the Bassmaster Classic with its participants, fans, and vendors roll into Anderson and Greenville the weekend of March 4-6th, there is undoubtedly a massive impact on the



Jim Harris

area with the attention on fishing and everything remotely associated with fishing. For Spartanburg native Tiffany Wells, that focus has been an everyday occurrence. Tiffany was practically born with a fishing rod in her hand. Monday through Friday, Tiffany does ultrasounds for a local M.D. On the weekends, fishing is almost always in the plans.

Over 74 million Americans enjoy the sport of fishing, with 50 million of them fishing each year. These enthusiasts spend over \$51 billion a year on the pastime. Sources estimate that fishing supports over 800,000 jobs. In South Carolina alone, fishing contributes \$2.74 billion to our economy and creates almost 32,000 jobs.

As a youngster, Tiffany's family had a house on Lake Murray. Fishing, camping, and skiing were frequent family pursuits, contributing to her love for all things outdoors. In

2006, Tiffany and her husband, Chris, bought their own house on that lake so the legacy could continue with their family.

Their relationship is proof that fishing is genuinely in her D.N.A. On their first date, they attended the Greenville Boat Show. Tiffany and Chris elected to spend their honeymoon on the St. John's River in Florida, where they fished each day. On their last day there, Tiffany caught her largest largemouth bass ever, a 10 ½ pounder that is mounted and displayed in their home.

Tiffany and Chris fish in a league called The Good Ole Boys Club. They are the only male/female combo team, and Tiffany is usually the only woman competing. They have won their last three tournaments. While bass fishing is their primary pursuit, they also enjoy traveling to Beaufort, Oak Island, or Charleston for red fishing.

Tiffany has fished a tournament solo as well. Out of over 6-700 competitors, she was one of only 3-4 women. When not competing, Tiffany fishes just for fun. She welcomed in 2022 in a boat on Lake Murray, reeling in 16 largemouth bass on January 1st. On the 2nd, she added another 16. She credits Chris for being a great boatmate. She hopes to see tournaments specifically for female anglers soon.



Tiffany Wells

Their sons Colton and Clayton both began fishing competitively while attending Broome High School. Some of the area high schools had the idea of starting a fishing program. In Anderson, Marty Walker of Palmetto Boat Center was instrumental in creating a trail or series of tournaments for the competitions. That trail has grown to include contests with up to 300 teams from across South Carolina participating and winners receiving scholarship money. South Carolina currently has three trails for high school teams.

Both sons are now attending Spartanburg Community College. They fish as an independent team since the school is still in the process of establishing an official team. They both compete in tournaments around the state. On the Palmetto Boat Center College trail, Colton and Clayton competed with as many as 100 teams and against large schools like Auburn, Clemson, Erksine, Lander, and Carson Newman, to name a few.

Tiffany and Chris marshaled the Bass Nation/T.N.T. Fireworks Championship on Lake Hartwell three years ago. Along with their son Colton, they will be marshaling championship Sunday for the Bassmaster Classic. Marshalls travel with the participants, monitoring their catch and ensuring they comply with all rules.

The anglers competing this weekend will be taking off from the Green Pond Landing and Event Center, and the weigh-in will be in Greenville at the Bon Secours Wellness Arena. The Outdoor Expo will be held at the nearby

Greenville Convention Center. The C.E.O. of B.A.S.S., Bruce Akin, called our area the Gold Standard for bass fishing events. When the Classic was held here in 2018, over 140,000 fans attended Classic-related events.

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\*In a clinical research study, the participants may receive investigational study product or may receive an inactive substance, or placebo, depending on the study design. Participants receive study-related care from a doctor/research team for the duration of the study. Reasonable payments will be made for participation and the length of the study may vary.

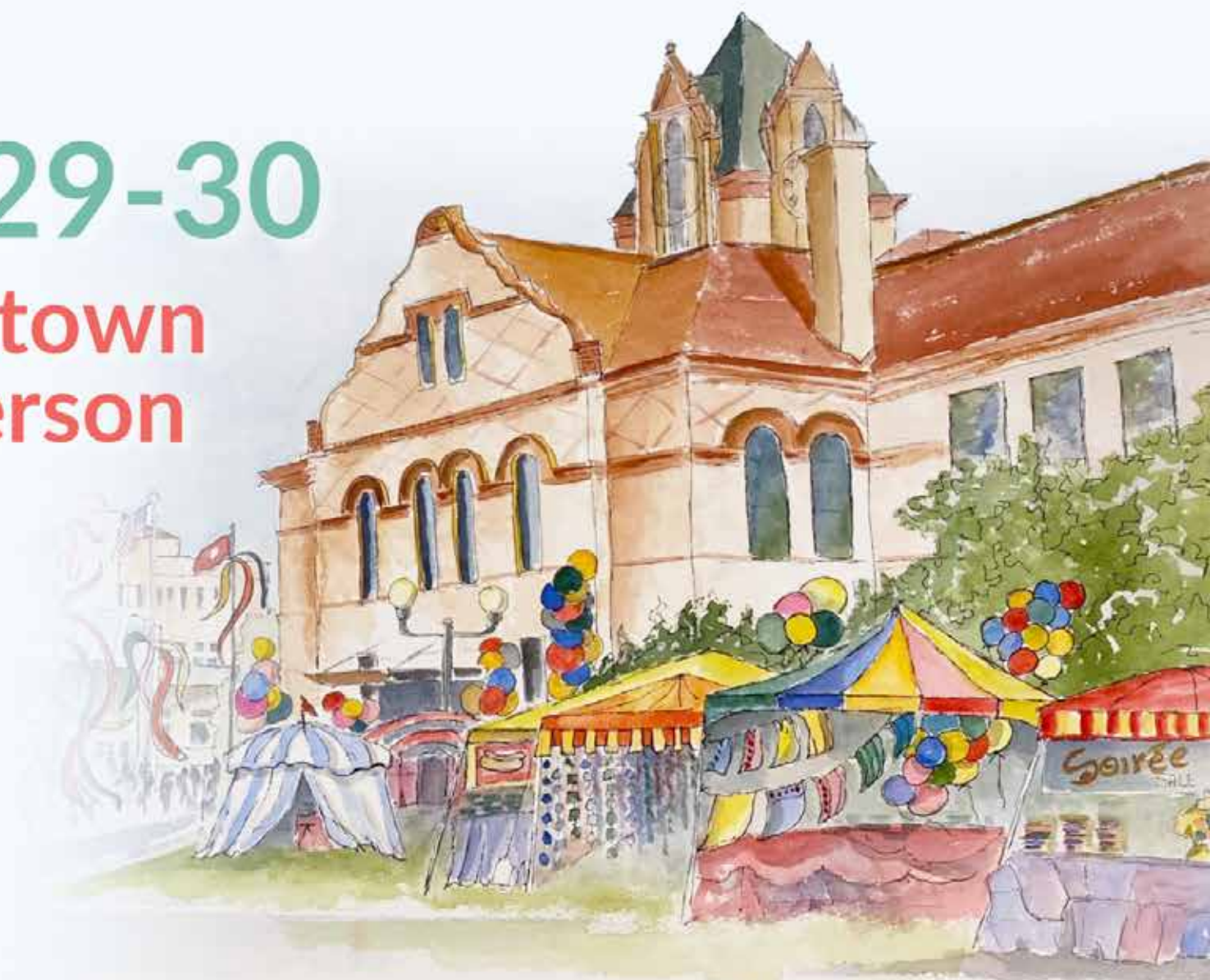


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# Don't let rain dampen your style

It's a rainy day where I am, and honestly, I would love to just crawl back under my big duvet comforter and call it a day.



Kristine March

Unfortunately, I have things to do so why not make my outfit fun, even though it's gloomy outside.

To start with I love a good raincoat. A company called Rainkiss makes really cute ones. Since we're headed into Springtime you need them more often than not. This is a splurge item, but it's something that will last for years. They make really chic little ponchos that will keep you dry. They would be especially great if you're headed to an event that's "rain or shine". Like a concert or The Carolina Cup, for example.

Your next must have are rain boots. You can never go wrong with the classic Hunter rain boot. The Wellington or Wellies have been around since the 50's and they're great for rain or a day at the farm, honestly. They run big so



do size down if you're planning to buy. They never go out of style and keep you safe from a muddy day.

A good umbrella is key for all the elements. I love to walk in the rain with one. It automatically feels push to me for some reason. The Pagoda Peak is an old-fashioned style umbrella and you can order on Amazon. They're so beautiful and also great for keeping you in the shade on a sunny day at the beach. They come in stunning colors and are right around \$25.

Last but not least, you need a good hair style. My hair is naturally curly so I usually just let it go wild and add a cute rancher hat. A big messy bun is always a good idea and easy to do. Braids or a high ponytail look adorable. A head scarf would give you that boho glam vibe and a turban looks super stunning if you have natural hair.

All of these looks will have you singing in the rain. So, make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters. Get out there and dance in the rain y'all. Happy almost Spring.

# What's better than pound cake and the Cha-Cha Slide? Hope.

If you are married and reading this, chances are that I was at your wedding. Or at least I feel like I was at your wedding. By conservative estimation, I have been to a bajillion weddings in my lifetime and between 15 and 20 since 2018, the last one just a couple of weeks ago.

I'm not complaining though. I actually love weddings. From the bride and groom to their parents to the wedding party to the guests, everyone is usually happy, well-dressed, and on their best behavior. (I say "usually" because I once witnessed a mother of the bride in the midst of a melt-down when a fraternity brother handcuffed the groom to the stair railing outside of the reception venue and then proceeded to lose the key. Awkward.)

Of the things I like best about weddings, numbers two and three would have to be cake and dancing. I have mad baking skills, but cake isn't the kind of thing I usually make unless it's

someone's birthday. The best thing about a wedding cake is that, while they all kind of look alike from the outside, you can NEVER tell what's inside until they're cut. In the past,



Kim von Keller

I've been surprised by Pumpkin with Cream Cheese Frosting, Strawberry with Strawberry Buttercream, Chocolate with Vanilla Buttercream, Chocolate Icebox, Raspberry Lemon, and two of the best poundcakes I've ever tasted. The most recent wedding? Red Velvet that was almost as good as my sister's. When the catering staff threw away the slice that my husband had wrapped up to take home, he was so distraught that I thought I might have to give him some sort of pill.

While my dancing skills don't

rival my baking skills, I still love to hit the dance floor. Slow dances with Ted are the best, but once the tempo picks up, I might be dancing with him or with my girlfriends or by myself. I'll even do the Cha-Cha Slide if I can follow the person in front of me. Reception dancing is also a good way to work off the calories of the aforementioned wedding cake. But if cake is number two on my Best Things About Weddings list and dancing is number three, what is number one?

Hope.

Hope -- not just the desire, but the belief that there is light beyond darkness -- is in short supply in 2022. We're entering the third year of a pandemic. Inflation is taking a toll on our wallets. Headlines ask, "Are We Headed Towards a Third World War?" And yet every weekend, couples stand before their friends and family, making promises and plans for a future that is only visible through the lens of hope.

Being hopeful, though, is not the same as being blind to reality. Rather, it's an understanding that there is no new reality. In the 20th Century alone, the world saw more disease, economic downturn, and warfare than can be listed in this column. But my father-in-law survived the Russian Revolution. My grandmother lived through the 1918 Influenza Pandemic. My parents made it through the Great Depression. My great uncles returned home from Europe at the end of World War Two. My brother-in-law recovered from polio. Was the rest of the world so fortunate? No, but where there is possibility, there is hope.

So don't lose it, not matter what you read in the paper or see on the news. I'm already looking forward to the next wedding on our calendar, which is scheduled for early summer. Will there be delicious cake and line dancing? I don't know, but I do know this: A girl can always hope.

# They call him 'Dr. Seuss'

Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known to his readers as "Dr. Seuss", has authored nearly fifty books for children of all ages. His stories are famous for their nonsensical words, silly



Katie Laughridge

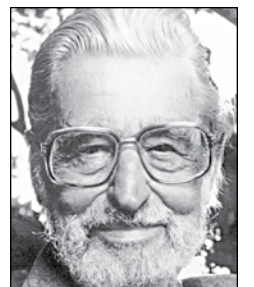
rhymes, and creative drawings of unusual creatures like a Ghair and a Glotz! Geisel's first book, "And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street", was published in 1937 under the pseudonym "Dr. Seuss". Among many others, Geisel is famous for writing Horton Hears a Who, How the Grinch Stole Christmas,

The Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, The Lorax, and Oh, the Places You'll Go!

In addition to his ingenious writing ability, Geisel is also credited for drawing every picture found in his books. Some of his books have even become major motion pictures! In the late 1950s Geisel pioneered a company called Beginner Books, which successfully produced a variety of books

for children. Because of the rhythmic and elemental nature of his writing, Geisel's books are ideal for beginning readers.

Over the years "Dr. Seuss" has sold more than 200 million copies world-wide, and his books have been translated into multiple languages.



Theodor Seuss Geisel

Fun facts about Dr. Seuss to share with your children:

- Dr. Seuss was not a doctor. He added Dr. to his name in college to lend credibility to his writing.

- Geisel's first book And to Think That I Saw It On Mulberry Street was rejected 27 times before it was finally published.

- Though he had no children of his own, he invented an imaginary one named "Chrystanthemum-Pearl" - of whom he bragged about often.

- Seuss once won a \$50 bet with his publisher by writing Green Eggs and Ham using only 50 words.

- Seuss based the Grinch character on himself to try to rediscover something about Christmas that he'd lost.

I hope you'll visit your local library soon to check out a Dr. Seuss book that your family is sure to enjoy!

"You'll never be bored when you try something new. There's really no limit to what you can do!" - Dr. Seuss

# I WANT CANDY

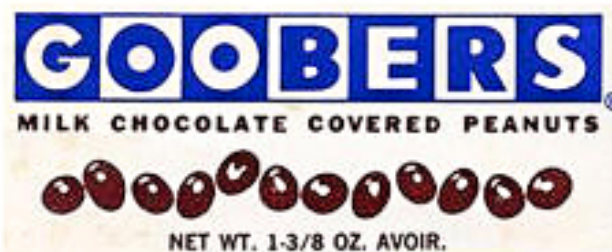
The first time I remember seeing a candy aisle I was around four years old. My Papa Parnell lived in Homeland Park and the only memory I have of him is when he took my little hand into his extra-large hand and said, "Let's go get some candy". We walked down the sidewalk until we crossed a road where he then led me up a couple of wooden steps, into a little wooden store that was Cooley's Grocery. I'm sure there were other odors inside, but all I could smell was candy. Papa led me a few steps and I broke free. The aisle couldn't have been more than six feet long, but to me, it was the biggest wall of candy in the world. My eyes and mouth were wide open at the colorful sight and imagined taste of so much sweetness. Papa said, "Pick one out and let's go". In my little mind, I was thinking,....

One!... You've got to be kidding.... let's go back and get my wagon... or your truck. I couldn't read, but



Neal Parnell

that was irrelevant when it came to candy. What's that Papa? That's a "JawBreaker" son, it won't fit in your little mouth". What's this Papa? "Those are "Goobers" boy, you don't want those in your mouth either. "C'mon son, let's go!" Oh no, the Papa clock was ticking and my candy-filled head was stuck in neutral. I needed to question Papa about every sticky piece of cellophane wrapped heaven, but somehow I knew that more questions would accelerate the clock.



The tiny devil on my shoulder whispered....FILL YOUR POCKETS... The tiny angel on my other shoulder yelled...YOU BETTER NOT! I looked over toward Papa who was now having a conversation with the man behind the counter. I quickly stuffed all four of my jean pockets with handfuls of candy. "I'm ready to go Papa". The two men stared at me with funny eyes, but they were not smiling like I was. When I tried to take a step, a piece of candy hit the wooden floor. Papa said, "Pick that up son". My pockets were so crammed with candy that I couldn't bend over to get it.

Papa walked over and picked up the piece of candy, tore off the wrapping, and said, "Open your mouth". I gladly opened up as the bright red ball went inside my waiting mouth. It was sweet for a second, but in the next second my mouth was filled with hot flames. Papa, in a very stern voice I'd never heard said, "Don't you spit that out!" I looked up at him with a crimson red face and as my eyes were tearing and my nose was running, I swallowed some of the molten lava. When I opened my mouth to breathe, the air fueled the furnace of my mouth and shot fiery



brimstone to the pit of my stomach. Ya'll know the talk that followed, so I'll just say that I can still feel Papa's hand holding mine as I walked back from Cooley's with empty pockets, and I know I'll never forget his valuable lesson of the Atomic Fireball.

## Public Notice for Lien

Pursuant to SC Statutory Law, personal property from the following unit will be sold on March 17, 2022 at 10AM at Stowaway Self Storage, 4350 Highway 24, Anderson, SC 29626.

Unit #A1/111 – S. Middleton – Unit appears to have: Old wheat bed frame, dressers, girls bike and helmet, old trunk, table, basket, BB Gun, 760 Pumpmaster air gun.

Property being sold to satisfy a lien for storage rent.

Terms of sale: Cash Only

Bidders must sign in prior to sale at [www.storagetreasures.com](http://www.storagetreasures.com). Unit availability subject to prior redemption by tenant.

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Property Manager

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Pursuant to SC Statutory Law, personal property from the following unit will be sold on March 17, 2022 at 10AM at Stowaway Self Storage, 4350 Highway 24, Anderson, SC 29626.

Unit #C1/2 – T.J. Jackson – Unit appears to have: Household, tubs of clothes, Holiday decorations, end table, bags, unicorn lamp, convertible step stool, large mirror, flat screen TV.

Property being sold to satisfy a lien for storage rent.

Terms of sale: Cash Only

Bidders must sign in prior to sale at [www.storagetreasures.com](http://www.storagetreasures.com). Unit availability subject to prior redemption by tenant.

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# Cricket in the Electric City

Cricket is the second most popular sport globally, with an estimated 2 ½ billion followers, second only to soccer. The game has similar roots to baseball, as both trace their history back to several bat and ball games in the 1600s. In its early days, cricket was popular in the U.S., with play documented as early as 1709. The first international match was between the U.S. and Canada in 1844. The sport eventually lost its luster in the states due to the emerging baseball craze.

Cricket has been around in Anderson for quite a few years, with area teams occasionally competing in Greenville tournaments. Around eight years ago, a group of Anderson locals started pickup cricket games at the Civic Center.

In 2021, some other cricket enthusiasts began playing in a makeshift field near one of the player's homes. Participation grew quickly. The nearby Indian Association of Greater Greenville regularly hosted tournaments, so the Anderson group decided to compete. Organizers con-

nected the group with other enthusiasts in Anderson. The two groups formed a team and entered a tournament, which led to the merged group playing more pickup games on a baseball field at the Civic Center. Soon the Anderson County Cricket Club was formed.



Jim Harris

Cricket is played with eleven players per side. Batters face a ball thrown from a pitcher, called a bowler, at a distance similar to baseball's mound and home plate. The ball's speed can exceed 100 mph, and spins make it challenging to hit. The area where the pitcher and batters oppose is called a pitch and is marked with strike zones. Two umpires officiate play. The games consist of a number of innings, usually two to four. Teams score runs and trade sides for batting and field-

ing, much like baseball.

The local group desired a field more suited to cricket specifically and reached out to county officials to request a more permanent location for the growing cricket community. One of the volunteers, Sanjeev Kumar, an Anderson M.D. and cricket enthusiast, emailed the County Council members, which quickly led to a response from Council Member Cindy Wilson. She connected the volunteers with Rusty Burns, the County's Administrator.

In short order, a meeting was arranged, which included Rusty Burns and John Caime, Anderson's Special Projects Manager. After an area tour, the county proposed using the field across from the main Civic Center entrance, the annual Balloons Over Anderson event site. Soon, Matt Hogan, Anderson's Roads and Bridges Department Manager, had a crew pouring the concrete to create the pitch. Days later, volunteers marked the boundaries, and the field was ready for play. The following



Dr. Sanjeev Kumar

weekend, the first games were played on the new field.

The local organizers expressed their appreciation to the county for their rapid and attentive response. They have created a launch event to introduce the sport to interested area residents. Set for March 26th at 11 AM, there will be cricket matches between the Anderson Spartans and the Anderson Kings, and players will be available to explain the game and its rules to newcomers. Food trucks will also be on hand.

The area will still be able to host future balloon events. Future cricket

plans include possibly bringing in tournaments with teams and players from around the region.

Cricket is rapidly gaining popularity again in the U.S., with an estimated 30 million fans here. An international competition known as the World Cup brings together the best teams globally, with Australia, New Zealand, India, and South Africa traditionally fielding the top teams. In 2024, the U.S. and the West Indies will host the T20 World Cup. Major League Cricket, comprised of professionals, begins play in the U.S. this year.

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# AN APARTMENT HOUSE AT THE FARM

BY ANN K. BAILES

No, we're not building housing for people. We are working on a different kind of project - a mission to help some of our feathered friends who happen to like living in groups.

It's March, and the purple martin scouts are on their way. In early February we spent a Saturday afternoon putting the porches on the front of artificial gourds which Mike had purchased. These are molded plastic gourds the perfect size for these birds' nesting requirements, and each has a special doorway that discourages sparrows and starlings from using that gourd. After finishing the porches, we hung the gourds on the arms of a pole which Mike had set in concrete, and then, with a rope, raised the entire set similar to raising a flag. It was a feeling of great accomplishment.

Purple martins are personable birds who like to be around people. They are also community-oriented and like living in clusters of gourds (real or artificial) or even apartment houses built for group housing, thus the pole of twelve nests instead of just one or two. The scouts begin arriving in the United States in early February from their wintering grounds in South America. (Anyone can follow the northward progress of the early birds at [purplemartin.org](http://purplemartin.org), by looking at the scout arrival

study under the research tab.) Sometimes it takes a year or two to get martins to come to a housing cluster, but once they've found a home site they like, they will return every year.

Almost all purple martins in the eastern U.S. now nest in manmade sites. History indicates that native Americans hung hollow gourds to attract martins to their villages, and settlers as early as the 1700s were building houses to attract these birds. Some natural sites include woodpecker holes and crevices in buildings or cliffs, but those are rare compared to the manmade sites.

Martins are great birds to have around the neighborhood, because they eat many insects. Tradition says that they each eat up to 2000 mosquitoes a day. Unfortunately, that's not true. They don't eat nearly as many mosquitoes as people think they do, but they do eat plenty of other bugs. They are known for eating the queens from fire ant hills, so for that alone they've earned their reputation for being pest killers.

Our gourds are hung and we're watching the map for scouts arriving in this area. We've done our part to increase the purple martin population in the Upstate and are eagerly awaiting success. We'll keep you posted!



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# Jackets' season comes to an end in first round despite fourth-quarter comeback

BY BRU NIMMONS ANDERSON — After a successful season, the T.L. Hanna High School boys' basketball saw its season come to an end on Feb. 16 against Riverside in the first round of the Class 5A playoffs.

Coming out the locker room, Hanna struggled to get going, allowing Riverside to take a 17-8 lead after one quarter. The Yellow Jackets responded in the second, closing the gap with a 17-11 run led by Jaquarius Patterson to trail just 28-24 at halftime.

The Warriors came out of the locker room and built on the lead, but a 10-4 run over the final two

minutes of the quarter kept Hanna alive as it headed to the fourth period down 41-39.

The Jackets managed to tie the game in the fourth on a three-pointer by Adarius Anderson and took their first lead of the night just minutes later on a bucket by Patterson. Another basket by Marcus Whiting increased

the Hanna lead to four points before Riverside battled back.

An 11-3 run over the last three minutes allowed the Warriors to retake control and down the Yellow Jackets

57-53, as Hanna just couldn't

get shots to fall after its second-half comeback.

On the night, Patterson led the

Hanna squad with 22 points, while Armstrong followed closely behind with 17 points, including 14 points in the second half to help Hanna capture the lead late in the contest.

With their season ending, the Yellow Jackets finished with a record of 13-11. Three Hanna players earned all-region honors following the season in Armstrong, Patterson and Trevor Pittman.

While Pittman will graduate this spring, the Yellow Jackets should have plenty of optimism for next season, as both Armstrong and Patterson will be back alongside dynamic playmaker Javeyn Martin for the 2022-23 season next winter.



## WESTSIDE RAMS

# Rams near back-to-back state titles

BY BRU NIMMONS ANDERSON — With high school basketball season coming to an end, the unbeaten Westside girls' basketball team is just two games away from taking home its second consecutive Class 4A state championship.

The Rams opened their playoff run at home against Laurens High School on Feb. 16. Westside exploded out of the gate in the postseason opener, outscoring the Raiders 26-4 on the way to pulling out a 82-37 win.

Ahrianna Scott anchored the Ram offense against the Raiders, putting up 21 points, while Aliyah Bell, Destiny Middleton, Branya Pruitt and Olivia Randolph also all scored in double figures in the dominant victory that continued the Rams' momentum from a stellar regular season.

After cruising to the first-round win, the Rams stayed in Anderson

to host the South Pointe Stallions on Feb. 18. The Stallions battled throughout the night, but Westside reigned supreme, outscoring South Pointe in every quarter before pulling out a 64-50 win.

Middleton led Westside with 18 points, while Pruitt followed closely behind, scoring 15 points. Scott and Bell also scored

in double figures for the Rams.

In their final matchup before the state semifinal, the Rams were forced to travel to Blythewood to face off against the Westwood RedHawks on Feb. 23.

Westside fell behind early, but a 16-8 Rams run in the second quarter cut the lead

to just 25-24 at the break. After a low-scoring third by both teams, the Rams outlasted the RedHawks for a

47-44 win to survive and advance.

Randolph's post play powered the Rams against Westwood, as she put up a double-double with 12 points and 14 rebounds. Scott also packed a punch offensively in the win, scoring 12 points, including two three-pointers.

Westside's chance to punch its ticket to the state championship game came in a neutral site game against Catawba Ridge at Bob Jones University in Greenville on Tuesday, March 1. The Copperheads presented a strong challenge sitting at 23-2, but the 26-0 Rams figured to be up for the challenge.

Results for the Rams' Class 4A upper state championship matchup with Catawba Ridge were unavailable as of press time.

