

# GRAINGER NISSAN of ANDERSON

LIFETIME WARRANTY

# Electric City News

Your Connection to Local News, Sports, People and Happenings

www.TheElectricCityNews.com

June 20-July 3, 2024

Lessons from a blind dog

Lessons from my blind rescue dog.
—Wherever you are, find the dog-people.

—The only things in life that matter

Sean Dietrich

are people and food. Although not necessarily in that order.

—You learn everything you need to know about a person by the way they talk to you.

—When you are blind, friends are very important. If you

hang around the wrong ones, you'll get

- —Food tastes SO good.
- —But not broccoli.
- —If you do enough of the things that scare you, you won't be scared of those things anymore.
  - —Out of all the animals on the earth,

humans are the only ones who can be cruel.

—Sometimes, no matter how hard you try, you will end up peeing in the house. So just remember, if you DO pee indoors, try not to walk through your own puddle.

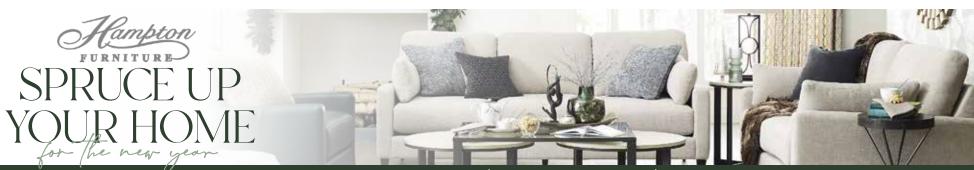
—There is no such thing as a little triumph.

—Being afraid is okay. Everyone gets afraid. But being afraid doesn't have to slow you down. You can be afraid and be strong at the same time. In fact, sometimes the strongest creatures are also the most afraid.

—If you DO, however, walk through

**SEE DOG ON PAGE 2** 







## Dog

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

your own ginormous puddle of pee, and your feet become wet with puppy urine, whatever you do, DON'T climb onto Dad's bed with your pee-feet and put your paws on his pillow and root around like you are searching for exotic truffles.

- —There is no value in celery.
- —Or spinach.
- —Life is far easier if you have a bad memory.
- —Follow the voice of someone who loves you and you will be okay.
- —The most valuable possession you own is your trust. But trust has a shelf life. So give it to someone fast or it will spoil.
- —Children are always nice to blind dogs.
- —People in hotels do not like it when you sniff their butts at the communal coffee machine.
- —If someone loves you, they will prove it to you with a treat.
- —When you get lost in your own backyard, just make a lot of noise. The human who loves you will be there shortly.
  - Lack of empathy is the same as abuse.The person who feeds you supper is

- probably your true friend. But the person who shares his Mexican takeout food with you, including his queso dip, AND lets you eat on his bed, is the truest kind of friend there is.
- —You can't pay attention to bad things and good things at the same time.
  - —Squirrels are weird.
- —Books are good for chewing. Especially the books your dad bought on Amazon about training dogs.
- —Dogs were not created to poop on a leash.
- —Sometimes, humans like to shout during televised college football games, and they cuss a lot, too. This is very disturbing.
- —Especially when Tennessee beats Alabama.
- —Occasionally, in the middle of the night, if you get scared, or disoriented, or you can't remember where you are, just find your best friend. Press your cold nose against your friend. And that friend will hold you tightly.

And even though you are frightened, and your world is so dark, and you sometimes wonder why all this bad stuff has happened to you, you'll feel okay because you're not alone. And ultimately that's what scares dogs (and humans) the most, is being alone. But you're not alone. Nobody is. Not ever.

—There is no such thing as an evil dog-person.

## ANDERSON-AREA ADOPTERS

Here are just a few of the many animal lovers in Anderson who have rescued local creatures in need of care:

Ralo is my foster fail from Anderson County PAWS, my second foster. He was put in the shelter Halloween of 2023, and I decided to start fostering him in January! We fully adopted him just a few weeks ago! – Heidi M.

- #1 Siggi found on the street alone at 5 wks old with broken hip. Adopted from Too Broke Girls rescue
- #2 Moo dumped at Mercy Center in Anderson at 4/5 months old
- #3 Bear dumped in my neighborhood after being adopted from Paws.
- #4 Scamp also found alone in Laurens as a less than 8 wk old puppy. Adopted from Too Broke Girls rescue – Lolly W.

Thank you for caring about rescues! I have baby blue birds that I saved from my outdoor cats-they were trying to get them out of the blue bird box and I had no choice but to intervene...they are hand fed and doing well...they will be ready to fly soon. – Lorie

Our rescue is Lady. We rescued her from Greenwood Humane Society over a year ago. – Mary Catherine W.

Meet Bailey. We adopted her from PAWS in January, 2023. Bailey was found in a trash bag along with 2 of her siblings on the side of the road 2 miles from PAWS. – Riley T.

We rescued Chance in November 2021 and Riley in February 2022, both from Australian Shepherds Furever. – Al D.

We rescued Rudy in 2008 from Freedom Fences. – Carrie R.

We found 'Pita' on Wham Road, May 16, 2013. This is after she was 'cleaned up'. – Lisa C.

Meet Buck. Rescued from PAWS 2014. Big Ol' Baby! – Leslie B.

My sweet Sophie! She darted in front of my car one evening. I slammed on brakes and my husband jumped out and grabbed her. She won our hearts then and still does. -Rosanne K.

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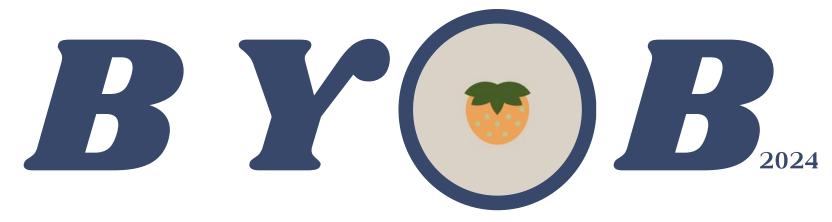
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A year-long series to help you Build Your Own Business!

Our 2024 BYOB programming lineup is geared towards food entrepreneurs as we celebrate the opening of the City's shared kitchen incubator-110 North Kitchen + Commissary!

## **February 15th**

## March 21st

## May 16th

## DHEC

Branding & Message

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## June 20th

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## July 18th

**Business Plan** Writing

## **August 15th**

Funding

## September 19th

Growth in a Commissary

## October 17th

Social Media

## **November 21st**

Food Service Etiquette

A program designed to equip you with the information, skills, and resources in order to create a successful business. The sessions feature topic experts who will give you the tools to build your business. All sessions are free!

#### **RSVP** to

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12:00pm-1:30pm | 102 North Murray Ave.

Lunch is provided | Registration required



City of Anderson **Economic Development** 

cityofandersonsc.com





## Late spring in the country

Late spring is a lovely time to be at the farm. Rain has kept all the greenery fresh and bright, and gentle breezes blow through the deck. Bugs aren't bad yet.



Ann K. Bailes

Most of all, the temperatures are still reasonable, and the humidity is not through the roof. We've got to enjoy this before July and August hit.

A Carolina wren has chosen to build her nest inside the

lid of our propane tank. The baby birds are carefully protected inside that lid, even if some nosy lady briefly lifts it to see them inside. Their mama sneaks around the corner of the building to feed them while I am sitting here, apparently thinking that I can't see her like when she takes the direct route.

The blueberries are getting ripe. After three years of losing most of them to late frosts, we are finally going to get a decent crop. Sweet little granddaughter is going to get introduced to picking blueberries this year!

The cicadas have died down. For awhile they were so loud that not much else could be heard, and we found a number of dead ones on the deck. They come out every 13 years, they mate, they lay eggs that become nymphs and burrow into the ground, and then they drop wherever they happen to be when they run out of steam.

I won't talk about the occasional snakes that we see, since this is supposed to be an uplifting newspaper. But other reptiles are more positive. Right now I am looking at a little brown lizard on the deck railing. It has jumped up to the hose looped around the rail, and is sunning itself as I watch.



Yesterday, while I was out on the golf cart, I saw a box turtle in the middle of the mowed field. Its head was cocked to the right, and it was not at all bothered by my presence.

And of course, bird sounds abound everywhere. Early spring was a great time for migrants, but now the birds we hear are the ones who have come to stay for the summer. I've written about our purple martins, but we also hear the sounds of bluebirds, cardinals, Carolina wrens, chickadees, and many more. Sometimes more unusual birds make themselves known. Yellow-billed cuckoos can be heard deep in the woods, as can white-eyed vireos. Mike saw an orchard oriole recently.

We just watched three turkey hens at the other end of our field, with probably a dozen babies with them. Even at that distance, when they saw me move to get my camera, they quickly herded their little ones back into the woods.

I can relax here better than anywhere else. And this is the best time of year to relax and enjoy all the springtime life here in the country.

## CLEMSON'S OWN CCC COMPANY

#### BY RICH OTTER

The Clemson Civilian Conservation Corps Company 4486, SCS-17, was formed pursuant to executive order creating the corps by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in March of 1933 as part of the New Deal to combat the Great Depression. It was one of what were

known as the "alphabet agencies" that included the Agriculture Adjustment Administration (AAA), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), the Works Project Administration (WPA), and other abbreviated agencies such as the FEA and NRA.

The Clemson Company, one of 98 such camps in South Carolina and including Anderson County residents, was not actually created until November of 1939. It was a late-comer built on a

hilltop west of Clemson College. At the time, the enrollees had to be between 18 and 28 years of age, and in good physical condition. They had to pledge up to six months tenure and be US citizens. They could serve as many as four periods. Few were high school graduates. Nationally, some 70 percent were malnourished. Many were illiterate, and most had no work experience other than part-time jobs or seasonal farm work.

At the Clemson camp there were about 200 participants. Most were from South Carolina. They worked a minimum of 40 hours per week and were paid \$30 per month of which \$25 was sent home for their family. The camp was run like a military facility. When the program was created, it was estimated that 54 percent of young men in the country were unemployed. Under the program they were to work on conservation projects. One known local member from Anderson County, Louie S. Brock, was an ambulance driver.

The Clemson camp functioned from August 1940 through June of 1942 when all young men could be in the military during World War II. They lived in four barracks with a recreation hall and a mess hall. There were extracurricular activities such as baseball, boxing, shooting pool and ping pong. They were outfitted in khaki uniforms and ties for dress and had denim pants and shirts for work. Educational programs were available

with classes taught by Clemson graduate students. Their library was reported as having 650 volumes.

The Clemson CCC members primarily were engaged in conservation programs, working on both public and private lands. Most of the participants were said to have come from

rural communities. Much of their work was to rehabilitate overworked land. They planted trees on old fields, built "check" dams in gullies, planted kudzu (to the exasperation of later inhabitants), and cleared and drained wetlands. Private land owners could request conservation assistance.

They were involved with erosion control, flood management, and forest protection, including fire suppression and disease control procedures. Although they were

restrained from activities that would compete with paid labor, they were getting useful training. Their lifestyle also prepared them for military discipline in the soon to follow world war.

Most importantly, the program gave the participants some funds badly needed for themselves and their families, helping to fulfill a great unemployment dilemma. It was constructive, instructive, and helped to avoid some from getting into mischief. Many of the former enrollees, after World War II, became community leaders in business, agriculture, and government. It had been an important training ground affording opportunity where none may have otherwise existed.

In May and June of 1942, the Camp 4486 buildings were dismantled and moved to Camp Croft in Spartanburg, a World War II Army Replacement Center. A tribute to the Civilian Conservation Corps remains with a statue, "Iron Mike" at Oconee State Park.

In addition to local former enrollees who achieved success, some nationally recognized CCC members include movie actors Raymond Burr, Walter Mathau and Robert Mitchum, boxing champion Archie Moore, baseball notables Stan Musial, player/manager Red Schoendienst, and WWII ace and test-pilot Chuck Yeager.

A list of the members of the Clemson CCC Company may be found online by typing: Civilian Conservation Corps Clemson SC Camp 4486.

## INTERRUPTED

I'm sorry to do this, I know you've found some time to get comfy, relax, and read this



Neal Parnell

newest edition of The Electric City News, but I'm afraid that's just not going to be possible. You knew before you sat down, but you thought that maybe, just maybe, this time would be different. You've made it to page four and I'm guessing right about now

your phone is vibrating and alerting you to an important text, the cat starts meowing, the

doorbell rings, or a missing shoe emergency requires your urgent attention. In the back of your mind, you know that anytime you need to sit quietly, decompress, and take a deep breath, someone or something is waiting at the end of that deep breath to unleash a torrent of peace-altering interruptions designed to ravage and steal any semblance of calmness, however, you keep trying and believing that a peaceful time will come.

Don't fret, I have just downloaded and printed certificates that proclaim that I have now graduated from HUSH UNIVERSITY and SHHHH! TECHNICAL COLLEGE, and I am now qualified to guide you through this annoying time by providing you with the tools you need to



be able to contemplate and read in quiet solitude.

First, we'll tackle the one thing that intrudes into our lives more than any other, the Phone. I'm not here to insist it is to be shut down or kept from vibrating, but in my exhaustive five minutes of higher education, my new technique of inserting the phone into a baggie between two slices of Bunny bread will soften the vibrations and volume while allowing only minuscule annoyance to the user. I call it the "Cell Sandwich". As for the constant Meowing, my newly acquired artificial intelligence tells me that the only way to silence a feline, temporarily, is to divert its attention elsewhere, namely FOOD. My

genius level of common sense suggests that for the Ding! Dong! Doorbell, an Amazon Prime sale on Noise Cancelling Headphones is in order, and since you're already online, go ahead and purchase a couple of GPS tracking chips to insert into the kid's shoes.

Great! I see you've made it back to finish what you've started, and maybe, just maybe, this time will lend itself to the serenity you need to make it through Your Connection to Local News, Sports, People, and Happenings. So settle in, find the reading place where you left off, take another deep

breath, UH, OH...BUZZ! BUZZ!, MEOW!, DING! DONG!, MOMMY! Oh well, I tried. Interruptions are a part of life, they are going to happen every day, in fact, if you don't have interruptions, it's possible that you aren't alive.

I now know why it takes authors years to write their books, even if they decide to move to a quiet little snow-covered town to finish a novel, there will be disturbances...Oh wait!, I think I just described how Stephen King got the idea for MISERY.

I take back my beginning apology. I think you will be able to finish reading your Electric City News, there's really no rush, and I promise I will only interrupt you twice a month.

## IN A EUROPEAN BATTLE, IT'S TIME TO PICK A SIDE

If you follow the news like I do, you'll know that there is a lot going on in Europe right now as nations of the continent battle for influence. I'm not talking about the European Union elections, though, or even the meeting of the G7 heads of state. For millions



Kim von Keller

of people across the globe, what's going on now is far more important, and it's time to pick a side.

I'm talking about the 2024 UEFA European Football Championship, or Euro Cup Tournament, which is being held in multiple

cities across Germany. For fans of international football (the one where the ball is round and nobody wears helmets), it's one of the biggest events of the year. The first match was played on June 14; my team, Scotland, lost, but there's still hope. The tournament will continue until July 14, when the final is held in Berlin. Twenty-four European nations are slogging it out for bragging rights that will last at least until 2026, when the FIFA World Cup will be held in Mexico, Canada, and the United States.

The Euro Cup is played every four years, in the even-numbered year between World Cup tournaments. If the World Cup is like Senior Prom, the Euro Cup is more like a Friday-night dance, with each country checking out the others' moves. Which teams will be invited to the Big Dance two years from now, and which teams will sit at home and watch "The Breakfast Club" and eat ice cream straight from the carton? There are even fashion hits and misses to

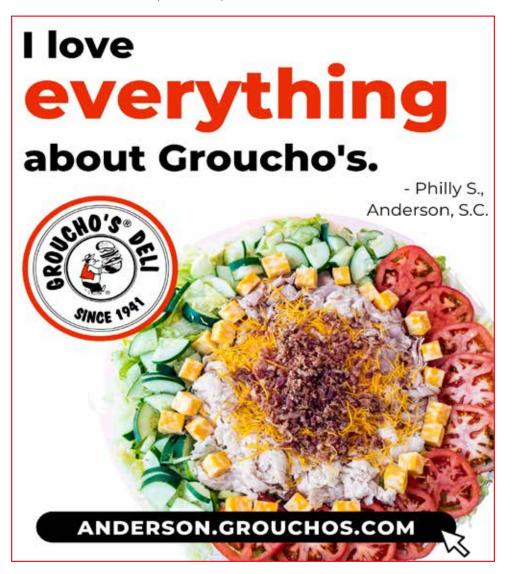
assess. My favorite is the Netherlands, with its orange-on-orange background and pops of royal blue. Sadly, its red and white checks gives the Croatian jersey the look of a picnic tablecloth.

If you're new to international tournament play, the Euro Cup is a great place to start. First, pick a team to follow. The first tournament I followed was in 2016, and I chose Iceland because, one, it was their first time in the tournament, and, two, their coach was a dentist who did the football thing on the side. This year, I'm choosing Scotland because a rabid fan once helped us change a car tire near Loch Lomond.

After that, pick your sports bar. DO NOT watch the Euro Cup matches at home unless you're hosting a party. The joy of watching international football is cheering and booing and yelling and, curiously, humming the opening riff of the White Stripes'"Seven Nation Army" when your team scores. And because of the sixhour time difference, games that are played in the German afternoon are being watched in the American East Coast morning, so no one will be judgy if you're having a pint at 10 a.m.

Finally, if you don't think you know enough about international football to watch in public, there are only two moves that count. When your team scores, jump to your feet, arms in the air, and holler like a banshee. When the other team scores, lower your head, face in hands, as if your favorite dog died. It's a very emotional game, so give it your all.

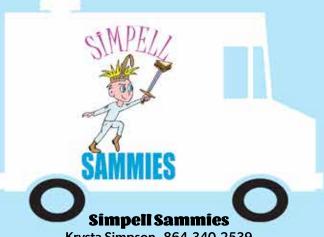
The Euro Cup isn't the only continental tournament; other continents have tournaments as well. So pick a team now. The World Cup arrives on our shores in just two years, with some matches being played as close as Atlanta, and you need to be ready for the battle.



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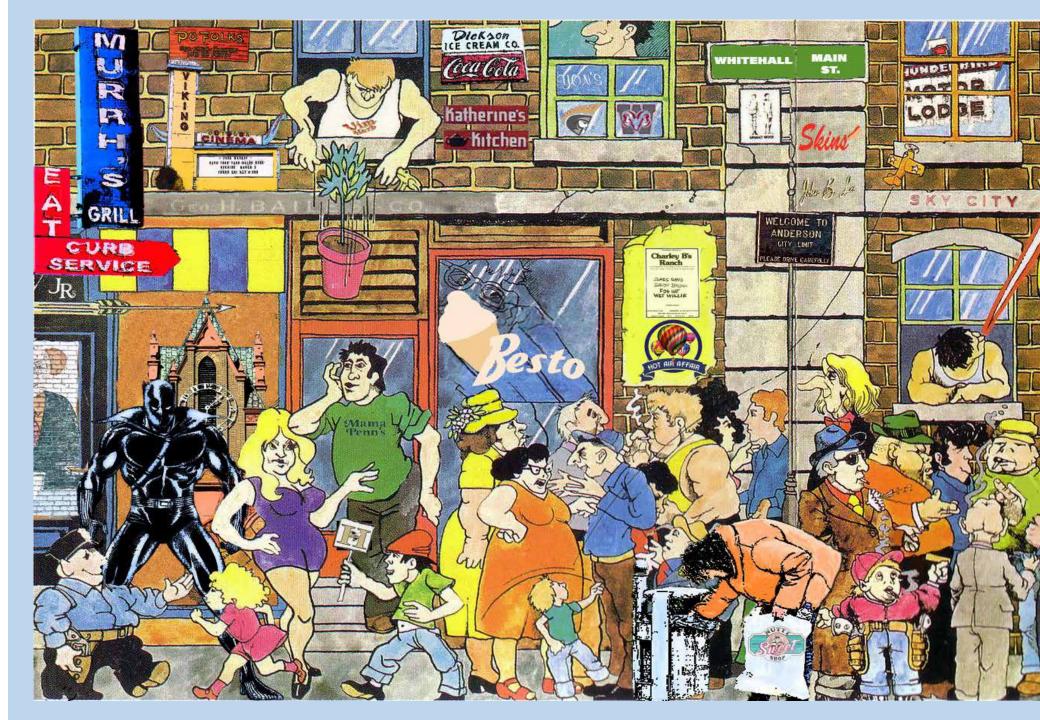


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# STREET TALK

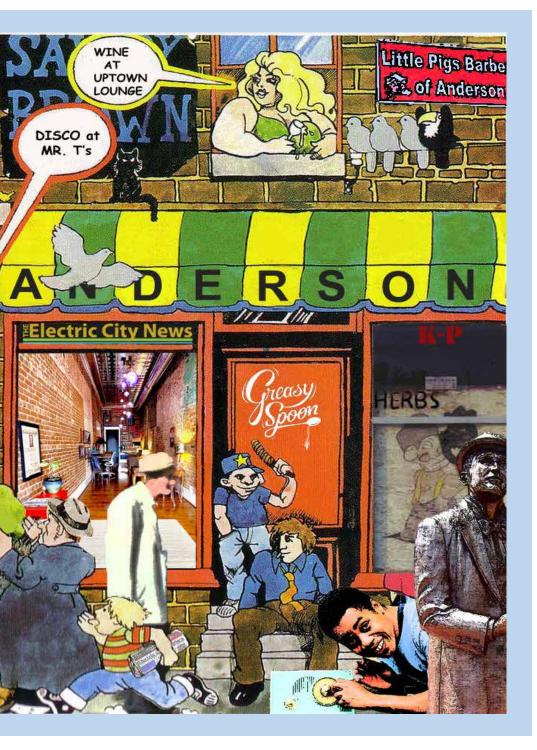
The image above is a copy of the Savoy Brown album cover, Street Corner Talking, released in 1971.

It was the inspiration for a paint project in the mid-'70s at the Bailes family home. The older siblings inherited most of the artistic talent and used a bathroom wall in the home as a canvas. The teens pooled their art supplies and began to draw a replica of the album cover changing some wording on the signs and details

to represent Anderson. Once the drawing was finished, they did allow some of the younger siblings to participate in the painting process. And most recently, landmarks and icons of Anderson were added by The Electric City News writer, Neal Parnell.

See how many Anderson references you can find. Email your list to electriccitynews@gmail.com and the winner who finds the most will win a prize!





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## PERFECT PERFUMES

I'm obsessed with perfume. I always have been. It just temporarily takes you somewhere. It can bring back beautiful memories or make you feel like you're on a tropical vacation, even if you're simply standing in your bedroom about to go do something mundane.

Perfume dates back to 1370 when they made it for Queen Elizabeth, but it really goes back even further when incense oils were made to cover up grimy smells and cast away evil spirits. I could talk all day about the history of perfume, but today I'm going to tell you a few good ones you need on your vanity or dresser. The first one is a forever favorite of mine and it's been around a while, since the early '90s. Givenchy Amarige will always be a classic. It has Oriental notes of violet, mimosa, orange flowers and plums. It's a warm spicy fragrance that people will stop you on the street and say "what perfume are you wearing" and it's probably the most affordable one out there. If you don't already have it, get it.

Another one I love that's a bit on the lighter side and perfect for the summer season is, Issey Miyaki L'eau D'issey. I recently went to his official store in Manhattan and it was so

posh just like his fragrances. It's a very clean and modern scent. It's aquatic and woodsy yet super feminine. With notes of lotus flowers and fresh rose. It's just a must. The price point



Kristine March

is also really good. It's also an oldie, but goody and will never go out of style. Last but not least, is a unisex fragrance. Byredo makes a perfect one called Gypsy Water. Its notes are made of juniper and pine needles. Its aromatics are spicy

and floral. The pros are it has that evocative nostalgia I mentioned earlier and the cons are, it's a bit short lasting and it's at a much higher price point, but still a gorgeous fragrance and it comes in a really sleek bottle. All of these scents are unusual and not really talked about anymore besides the last one I chose.

What are some of your favorites? What brings back that reminiscence to you? Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters. Don't forget to buy yourself some perfume, y'all. You deserve it.



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July 7: Mamon Will Bring Our Country's Downfall

July 14: Judging Others will Boomerang

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June 30: When God says, "No," it Makes You Better."

July 7: Happiness and Prayer: God by Our Side

July 14: Happiness and Prayer: Holiness

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### BETHEL BAPTIST ANDERSON BETHEL PROJECT

This project is to reclaim and renovate space to provide a clean, safe and welcoming building for Bethel Baptist Church and Loving Out Loud Ministry

PO BOX 83 ANDERSON, SC 29621

Loving Out Loud 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm





Every Wednesday afternoon at 4:15 pm we gather at Bethel Baptist (301 Rogers St) for our local mission field throughout the alphabet streets of Anderson, SC. We currently serve 170 adult sandwich meals and 38 children bags. Each meal consists of one sandwich, condiments, potato chips, cookie and gospel trac. When donations allow, we add extra snack items to our children's bags. Devotion begins at 5:15 pm with love to everyone that walks through our doors. We bless others with each act of service, and we are blessed as well when we honor Jesus with our hands and feet. We are always in need of donations to fill our bags or donations to help purchase our supplies. Feel free to come serve with us any Wednesday afternoon.

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/Church.Bethel.Anderson

Pastor Mark Duncan and/or Associate Pastor James
Aderhold will gladly speak to you about our mission as
we strive to show others the Love of Jesus with our works.
"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I
say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of
the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."
Matthew 25:40



# MOVIE RIGHT IN WREN PARK

FRIDAY, MAY 17 - SUPER MARIO BROS @ 8:35PM

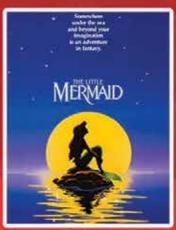
FRIDAY, JUNE 14 - LITTLE MERMAID @ 8:55PM

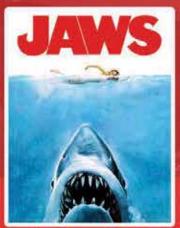
FRIDAY, JULY 12 - JAWS @ 8:55PM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9 - TOP GUN @ 8:35PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 - COCO @ 6:50PM











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#### THE GARDEN SHOP

## GARDENING WITH DEER



As I write this article, the sun has been up about 30 minutes. A slight misty fog is still in parts of the pasture, and deer are having breakfast or finishing up their midnight munch fest. In the past month ish, they've been out of the woods a lot more all times of day. I guess they know one of their favorite buffets is well stocked. It can be discouraging to see blooms eaten off flowers, and surprising to see other plants eaten that I don't remember them eating before. For the most part, they peruse the front garden and save walking down the sidewalk for

the middle of the night. Thankfully, after bushhogging, deer have been enjoying the fresh growing grass, and clover too. I try to do No Mow May for pollinators, particularly because there is a lot of clover in the yard. The yard only got cut once in May. It was a clumpy, lumpy mess, but so what. It was fine on the next cutting.

A friend who has lots of deer in her yard told me she sprays deer repellents, and it works. My first thought was I've got too much to spray. But about three years ago, I decided to order some Bobbex. It didn't get opened the first year. The stuff stinks even unopened. But when an angelwing begonia had all its flowers eaten one night, I decided to mix up a batch. What was the point of buying it if I wasn't going to use it? It worked! And it just took a little misting of the plant.

Plus, I only sprayed it one or two more times that year. Yay! After that success, I started misting some of the deer's favorites. The stuff smells horrible for a bit but it fades within an hour or so. I've been told by other gardeners that they rotate what they spray.

Because of deer, I gave up on mophead hydrangeas many years ago. Shady spots are too close to woods. Two were moved inside the fence. They are where the air conditioner drips out, so they get a bit of much needed water, particularly because they are in too much sun. I'm looking for a small shrub to plant that can be limbed up and give them some shade. The other mophead hydrangeas were bushhogged. There are two in the small area at the back of the breezeway. Deer would have to walk up onto the breezeway, and down the



**Beautiful Annabelle** 

steps, to get to them. There is room to put one or two small growing hydrangeas in this area. It would be chocked full, but I might. Oakleaf and limelight types at the edge of the yard are pruned up and look like ice cream cones because of deer. But so be it. It is not easy to put fence around everything.

One Annabelle hydrangea (Hydrangea arborescens) is at the garden shop area and a patch of purple phlox (Phlox paniculata) is mixed in with it. This phlox is also a favorite of deer. Mother Nature cut me a

break and deer missed these two this year. Once I realized the hydrangea was growing, I sprayed it to see if the stuff worked for this one. It did!! For the first time ever, as I remember, Annabell is blooming beautifully.

Bobbex directions say spray both sides of foliage and use it within five days of mixing the concentrate.

I have followed mixing directions to the T but have not used the mix within five days. Nor do I spray both sides, just mist the plants. Mixing in a gallon sprayer, it goes a long way. I'm debating on using the sprayer that pulls along behind the lawnmower and spray most of the front garden. But if deer get used to it, then it may not work on special individual plants. I may do a trial run with just water in the sprayer to see how low the level can be for it for it to still spray and how much it takes. Or just stay with plan A.







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#### FROM THE SHELF

## **FUZZ: When Nature Breaks the Law**

## by Mary Roach

Anyone who knows me and my reading habits knows I normally avoid nonfiction. It's cliche, and librarian blasphemy, but my avoidance essentially comes down to "it's boring." I respect the hell out of you hardcore nonfiction readers, but my brain needs its



Sara Lead

escapist book candy. All that said, I can get down with some 'narrative nonfiction.'

'Narrative Nonfiction' is basically nonfiction that reads in a very fiction-esque manner, or feels more casual and conversational, rather than stone-cold facts. A

'There is

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tourists.'

super popular nonfiction writer that writes in the 'narrative' style is Erik Larson (Devil in the White City). Another phenomenal one is Steve Sheinken; he writes more for juvenile

readers but is very much worth the look if you dig Larson. My personal favorite narrative nonfiction writer is Mary Roach.

Oh, Mary Roach. Where to even begin with the brilliance of her odd, off-kilter, deeply researched books. I say odd and off-kilter largely because the topics she chooses to take a very deep dive into are always just, well, odd and off-kilter. The smaller part of that description comes from her delightful wit and dark humor that she brings along with her through every hands-on research trip. Roach's approach to research is to go as knee

deep in the content as she possibly can, liability waivers and occasional hazmat suit in tow.

My intro to Roach and her writing was Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers, where she gives you a history of and current use for cadavers. She opens Stiff by narrating her walking into a medical school classroom full of severed heads neatly laid out in rows across tables. The opening for Stiff is, "The human head is of the same approximate size and weight as a roasted chicken. I have never before had occasion to make the comparison, for never before today have I seen a head in a roasting pan." Like I said, she's a bit kooky.

FUZZ: When Nature Breaks the Law takes a deep dive into nature behaving "badly" by ignoring the "laws" of humans and the resulting interactions (conflict) between the two. Considering that a favorite quote in my household is "There is considerable overlap between the intelligence of the smartest bears and the dumbest tourists," I knew I was going to immensely enjoy the wild ride I was about to take with Roach.

Roach starts out with her attendance of a WHART (Wildlife-Human Attack Response Training) conference that's led by a grizzled (pun intended, 'cuz grizzly bears), group of veteran Canadian game wardens. The focus of the conference is looking at

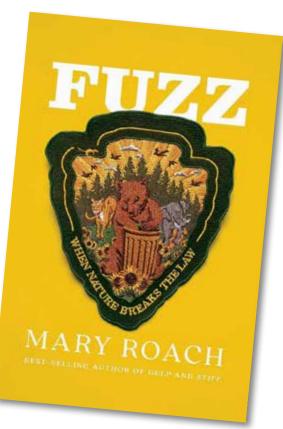
> animal attacks and how to not just prevent them, but also accurately identify the true culprit(s) behind any related deaths. While at the conference, Roach learns delightful tidbits like the real way to tell if a bear is going to attack you is whether or not its claws are retracted (not very helpful), or whether its ears are pricked up or laid flat (significantly more helpful; flat is bad).

Roach starts in North America with interviews and ride-alongs with various wildlife officers and then expands across the globe. With hilarious chapter headings like "Maul Cops" (see North American wildlife offi-

cers), Roach looks at several different animals, some rotted falling trees, and a lot of different scenarios that aren't necessarily violent, just annoying (and sometimes hilarious). One of my favorite things I learned from FUZZ is that elephants have a penchant for grain alcohol, but have a low tolerance and tend to be angry drunks.

Another fun fact is that the animal that has caused the most human deaths or injuries relating to collisions with airplanes are in fact deer, not birds. Speaking of birds, I'm pretty sure I want to be an albatross when I grow up as they are literally not ruffled by anything, as the military learned in their attempt to combat the constant crashes caused at Midway military base. The attempts to curtail, remove, or control the albatrosses by the military led to multiple studies and closing of the base (albatross 10+, military 0).

The reading of any Roach title will have you acquiring all kinds of random knowledge. What I've mentioned is merely what I've insisted on including. A Roach pro tip? Make sure you read all the footnotes too, some serious gems hidden there.







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