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THE Electric City News

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October 24-November 6, 2024

Keeping it local

Small, locally-owned businesses are the energy that keeps the heart and economy of our Electric City alive.

Since the paper was founded in 2009, it has watched with the community as companies of all sizes have settled in. Large manufacturing corporations often enjoy high praise for the thousands of jobs they bring along with them, but it's in the mom-and-pop shops and home-studios where magic happens.

Tiny but mighty, they account for 43% of South Carolina's employees according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, and are powerful forces of innovation and creativity. They imbue character into every street corner and help fashion a community identity that draws people in, keeping the money their customers spend close to home.



Not only that, but the products delivered are unique. Crafted with care by the hands of our neighbors, they are tailored to the tastes of those in the know.

With that being said, the entrepreneurs behind these brands rely on media coverage to get people talking. It is our pleasure to spotlight the following artisans so that our readers can see for themselves what they have to offer.

Cam Bolton
The Whiskey Hat Company
 Handmade Custom Felt Hats
 (843) 773-0381
cambolton@thewhiskeyhatter.com

Deana Chavis Baker
Ivy Creek Cottage Art Studio
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SEE LOCAL ON PAGE 2





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McLaughlin Cabinets by Design finds a new home in Anderson

There's a lot of work involved when you're building or remodeling a home. Instead of struggling to make time for a visit to a cabinetry showroom, wouldn't it be easier if the showroom came to you?



Kim von Keller

That's the concept that McLaughlin Cabinets by Design brings to the Upstate. With their free in-home consultations, McLaughlin Cabinets can offer the best American-made cabinetry for any room in your home without passing on the cost of maintaining a storefront.

McLaughlin Cabinets by Design is a small family business. Owner Susan McLaughlin

opened the business in rural Virginia in 2010, but when the pandemic struck, she decided she needed a change. She wanted to live in the Deep South, somewhere with a small-town feel but with a lot going on. Anderson, South Carolina, fit that bill, and over the past three years, she and her son, Walker, have helped customers create storage solutions that fit customers' budgets and design aesthetics.

"We offer KraftMaid Cabinetry and Merillat Cabinetry," McLaughlin says. "These are semi-custom lines, so we can change heights and widths and do trim mold to meet our customers' design specifications. Our design is better and more comprehensive than you get

from a big-box store, and some lines, such as KraftMaid Vantage, are only available through dealers."

Jim and Nancy Griesse are Anderson residents who turned to McLaughlin Cabinets by Design for a remodel.

**MCLAUGHLIN CABINETS
BY DESIGN**
www.cabinetsva.com
434-589-2600
Facebook: Cabinets by Design
Instagram: cabinetsbydesign.va

"Recently, we needed renovation of the master bedroom, bath, and walk-in closet in our 20-year-old home," they say. "Our vision was to replace wall-to-wall carpet with ceramic floor tile, upgrade the shower and bathroom fixtures, replace bathroom cabinets, re-design the walk-in closet, and repaint throughout. Lacking experience or knowledge in any of these areas, we needed one-stop help in the following areas: 1) interior design, 2) purchasing required materials, 3) finding competent contractors, and 4) coordinating the whole project. We were so fortunate to find all these services could be provided by Susan McLaughlin (McLaughlin Cabinets by Design). Starting with a basic list of things we wanted, Susan worked with us to develop a detailed scope of work. From there, the project moved forward to a successful completion. Throughout the project, Susan collaborated well with vendors, contractors, and the customer (i.e. us). We were pleased with the outcome and would recommend her services for any similar renovation project."

Anderson residents Susan and Clint were pleased with their new kitchen cabinetry by McLaughlin Cabinetry by Design.

"We love our kitchen design, particularly the large base cabinet under the large sink with the twin Lazy Susan cabinets on each side," they say. "We use our pantry cabinet by the refrigerator several times a day - super convenient and has loads of storage. I chose



McLaughlin Cabinets by Design founder and CEO Susan McLaughlin

cabinets to the ceiling because I like the look, and I can store my china and holiday ware that I don't use every day on the taller shelves. Our family loves the new look of our remodeled kitchen and the overall improved functionality."

McLaughlin Cabinets by Design won their first design award in 2011. They look forward to offering the same award-winning cabinetry designs to their new neighbors in South Carolina's Upstate.

"We love Anderson," McLaughlin says. "My son and I feel like we're really in the mix of things here, and the people are wonderful!"

Local

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- Cierra Coon**
Wild Silver Studio
Hand Crafted Jewelry
wildsilverstudio.com
- Lynn Addis**
Daily Bread Sourdough
Fresh baked, organic, all vegan ingredients bread and classes
Dailybreadsourdough.com
- Lisa Warwick**
Ozerra's Studio
Unique stones set in hand-hammered silver
Instagram @Ozerrastudio
- Pam Whitfield**
One of a kind hat and lapel pins, flowers are handmade from leather.
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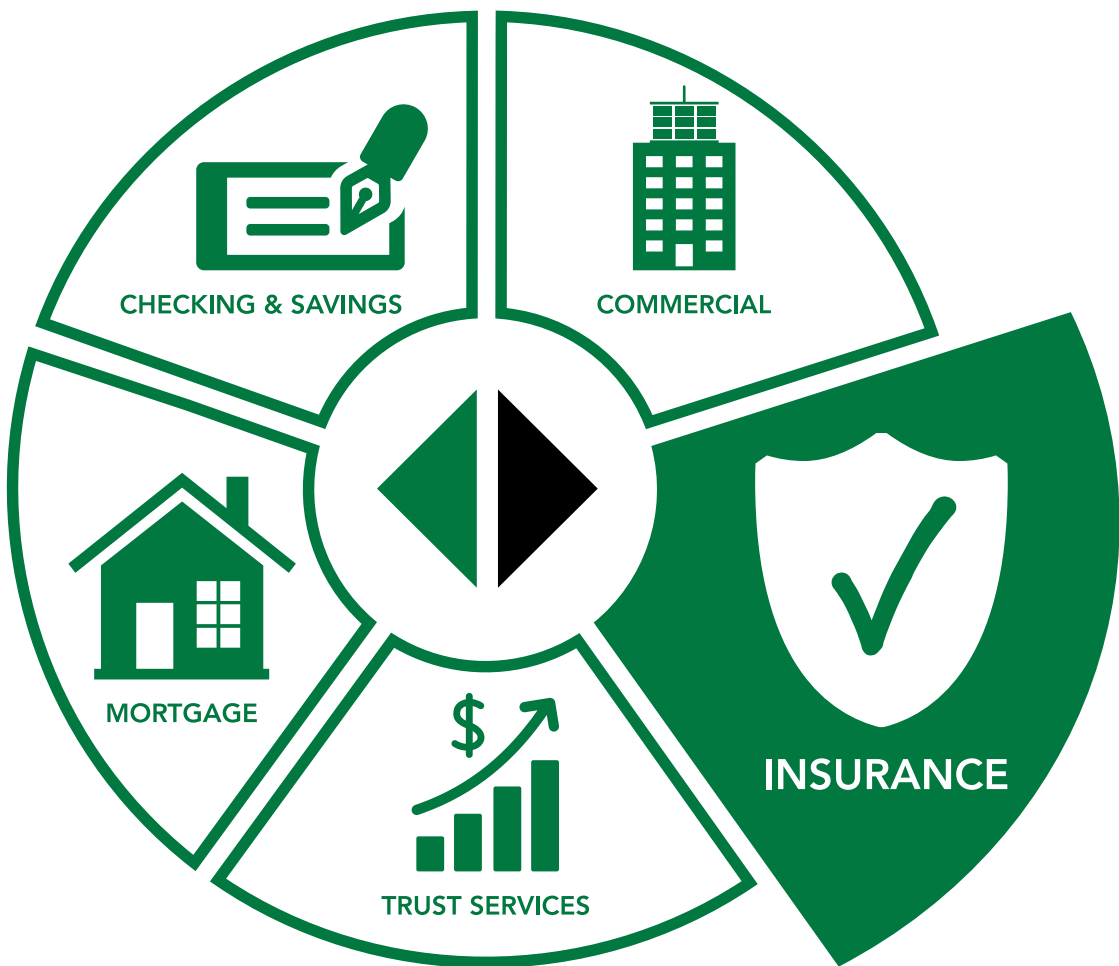
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PHOTO: Kraftmaid Amhurst cabinets painted
Burmese are complemented by Fantasy Brown granite
counter tops in this warm and inviting kitchen.

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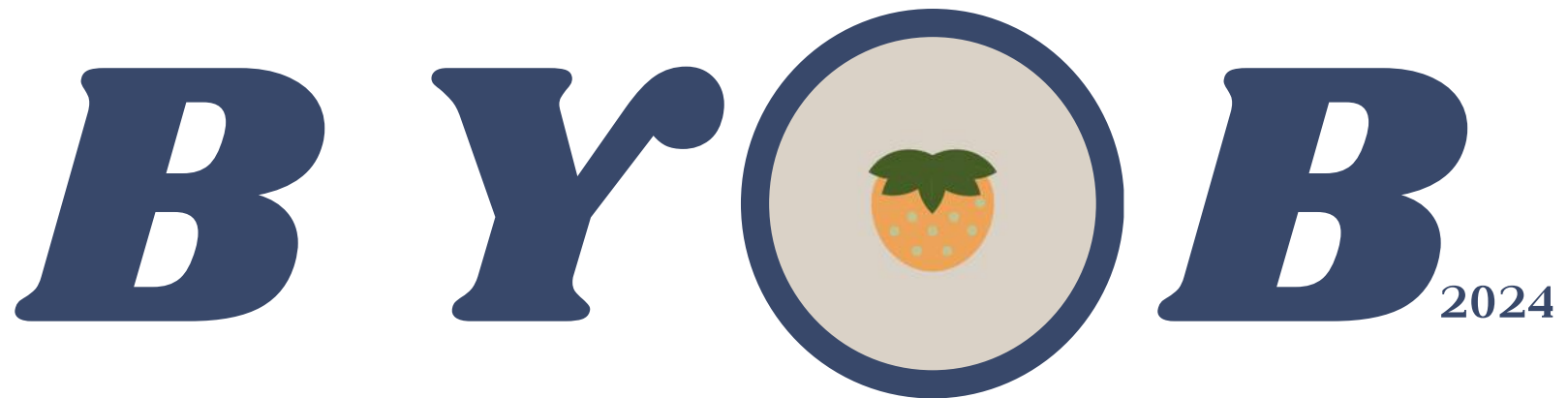
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Message

May 16th
ServSafe

June 20th
Paid Advertising &
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July 18th
Business Plan
Writing

August 15th
Funding

September 19th
Growth in a
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October 17th
Social Media

November 21st
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Lunch is provided | Registration required



City of Anderson
Economic Development

cityofandersonsc.com



DAD

BY ANN K. BAILES

In the last three weeks, we've returned from an out of town trip, and then gone through several days of yard cleanup and no power--common stresses that, thanks to Helene, most people have gone through recently.

But then, after our power returned, we had another much more unusual stress. Early on

Thursday morning, October 3, my father unexpectedly passed away. He was elderly; he was ready to go; but it is nevertheless a big loss.

My dad was a great man who accomplished much in his life. As my sister stated so eloquently, "In 1955 he gave his heart to the One he would serve the rest of his life." Dad was never happier than when he was singing the Gospel songs that defined him, or when doing anything that was in service to other people.

Dad had always said that when he was gone, he wanted to be buried

in his hometown. So first we held a local funeral for those who had learned to know my folks after they moved to Anderson in 2010. And then last week we took him back to Illinois, and met with family and friends there. His body is at home where the prairie breezes blow, and his soul is at Home with his Lord. Mike wrote this to a friend, and I think he states it beautifully: "We left my father-in-law buried in some beautiful black Illinois soil at the edge of a peaceful cornfield. It was evident that God was very much in every detail."

We have experienced the love and care of many people, and at a time like this the kindnesses we've received are humbling and encouraging. Dad and Mom's Sunday school class had a meal on our table by the evening of the day Dad passed away. Others also brought food. The staff at the Garden House were kind and caring, and they continue to be even as Mom has now returned there alone.

And one of the sweetest expressions of sympathy came from my little four-year-old friend Evelyn, whose mother brought her to our house to deliver a large piece of cake

and a bouquet of autumn flowers. Evelyn thrust the flowers in my hand, and then announced, in the random way that children often have, "I've gotten so big that I've outgrown all my clothes!" It was a touch of normality in several very abnormal days.

And in conclusion, for those of you who were expecting the usual article about birds: On the way to the Illinois service, I saw a group of migrating geese flying in the most perfect V formation I've ever seen. It was a salute in the sky to the departure of a great man.

A personal perspective of Helene's devastation in Asheville

BY KRISTINE MARCH

Some of you may know that I'm an Asheville North Carolina local. It's really hard to process all that has taken place in the past twenty something days or so. I also debated on whether or not to write anything about the hurricane that has completely devastated so many, but then I thought that city and those mountains have a piece of my soul, so I'm going to give credit where it's due.

We moved to Asheville from Atlanta before my son, River began kindergarten in October of 2012. We've been there ever since and had a fairy tale life for the most part. On September 29, all hell literally broke loose. I remember that afternoon before the hurricane we bought flashlights and a few supplies and didn't think much of it. A hurricane in the middle of The Blue Ridge Mountains over 300 miles from a coastline was unheard of. I woke up that morning with trees blowing like I've never seen and heard loud cracking from them snapping in half and then the power went out. Our little flat is near The Grove Park Inn up on a ridge. We were so fortu-

nate and didn't get any personal damage, but our precious little neighborhood did. We woke up to what looked like a war zone. Shocked and in disbelief, we had no cell service, power or water of course. We decided to help neighbors and ride it out for three days. After the third day we would listen to radio in the car to get any information which was totally surreal and things just downright scary. You had to be there to understand.

My family in South Carolina was worried because they couldn't get in touch with us at all. We managed to get downtown to a parking lot that could get cell service and called my sister, mom and dad.

I finally cried. I had held it in far too long, I guess. We knew we had to go to our family farm in SC and get our teenage son out of there. I felt guilty and somewhat hopeless and soon learned about more of the unthinkable devastation. My favorite little town, Chimney Rock had been totally wiped out. We had just spent the last weekend of summer there recently and to learn that just totally gutted me. Lake Lure was our

happy place. Also, to learn that my sister's old river cottage on The Swannanoa washed away made me sick to my stomach. We spent so many good times there. Then to learn of all the other horrendous news was just heartbreaking and unfathomable. The rest is just too painful to talk about.

Now, our city is rebuilding and being restored as best as possible. Restaurants are opening and water is back on. Appalachian people are tough

and as sturdy as the mountains themselves. We need lots of support and good vibes and prayers for our beautiful mountain home. Please continue to donate if you can to your most favorite organization and try to support the people there as much as you can. Don't forget about Western North Carolina! We appreciate all of the love and kindness that we've received recently from the bottom of our hearts. As always, make the sidewalk your runway and please be kind.




November 2
1:00 - 5:00pm

TICKETS



www.AndersonArts.org

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TIME: 6PM-9PM
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New service added to psychiatric therapy at AnMed

Depression is more than feeling blue, but those who suffer from it can have a life that is rich and vibrant, without stigma. Psychiatrists have a full set of options to treat depression, and most people respond well to treatment.

In some cases, though, depression is resistant to medications and traditional options, or the relief that they provide is temporary or incomplete.

Even then, there is hope.

ECT PROVIDES HOPE FOR HARD-TO-TREAT DEPRESSION

Dr. Fahd Zarrouf and the team at AnMed TMS Center & Sleep Diagnostics have a new tool in their fight to help patients thrive. Electroconvulsive therapy, known as ECT, is an effective brain-stimulation treatment done under anesthesia in a controlled environment.



Dr. Fahd Zarrouf

It can be highly effective at relieving symptoms that have not been controlled well through medication or other means.

Improvement can be fast – starting in as few as six treatments. By

contrast, medications can take as long as six weeks.

Other leading-edge treatment options from AnMed TMS Center & Sleep Diagnostics include transcranial magnetic stimulation, or TMS, an advanced treatment for major depressive disorder, and Spravato, an esketamine nasal spray that can be a lifesaving treatment for patients in suicidal crisis.

This ECT is not what some patients expect

Some patients and families are afraid of exploring the option of ECT because of the way old forms of the treatment were shown in movies and other media decades ago, according to Dr. Zarrouf.

Times – and methods – have changed, though, the doctor said.

Consideration starts with a consultation.

Candidates for ECT don't have to wait weeks for an appointment,

and they don't have to travel far for treatment. Dr. Zarrouf has dedicated time to see them quickly at his office at AnMed TMS & Sleep Diagnostics.

If ECT is recommended, Dr. Zarrouf then conducts the treatment at the AnMed North Campus. Patients are asleep throughout, and they do not remember the procedure.

The procedure involves small electric currents passed through the brain to cause brief seizures that are used to change brain chemistry.

An anesthesiologist is present, and the environment

is highly controlled to minimize side effects.

Results can be dramatic.

TMS AND SPRAVATO OFFERED BY ANMED PSYCHIATRY, TOO

ECT might not work for everyone, but for people who've been unable to find relief through other methods, it can be a cherished, difference-making option.

It is generally safe and may even be an option during pregnancy.

To schedule a consultation with Dr. Zarrouf, to consider ECT, TMS, Spravato or more, call 864-512-4935.

In some cases ... depression is resistant to medications and traditional options, or the relief that they provide is temporary or incomplete. Even then, there is hope.



Improving the Landscape of Our Community

TBA privately funds projects of preservation, public art and good works benefiting the Anderson area community since 2008



tba: Project One

Generator Park: Did you know...that an original Portman Shoals generator is located at the corner of McDuffie and Whitner Streets?

“The Carolina Wren Fountain and the accompanying child sculptures represent a blend of artistry, nature, and community involvement, making them valuable assets to our city. These projects play a crucial role in enhancing the quality of life for residents and creating a welcoming atmosphere for visitors.”

Terence Roberts, Mayor of Anderson



tba: Project Two



Carolina Wrens: A Bird's Eye View of Anderson. The Wren Fountain Project is located on the corner of River and Main Streets.

Did you know...In addition to the fountain, there are sculptures of a young boy and girl along with wrens and a nest created by artist Zan Wells of Greenville, SC. Twenty-eight individual wrens roost on buildings and structures in downtown Anderson.

GAMAC Chorale sets sail!

ANDERSON — It's "Anchors Away" when the Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium (GAMAC) Chorale sets sail for the 2024-2025 Concert Season with a tribute to the music of the sea!

Featuring sea chanties, pirate tales, beach tunes, and more, Songs of the Sea under the direction of Dr. Don R. Campbell is sure to be a sailor's delight on Friday, November 1, 2024 at 7:30pm at First Baptist Church Anderson.

Songs of the Sea will get the oars rowing with songs like "Sea Cruise" by Huey "Piano" Smith, a medley from Gilbert and Sullivan's beloved Pirates of Penzance, and the traditional Scottish rowing song "Over the Sea to Skye" known popularly as the theme to the hit STARZ series Outlander. Poetry will come in waves with Michael Unger's arrangement of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "Sea Song" and Brent Pierce's "Dance of the One-Legged Sailor." And, Alan Menken's "Under the Sea" from Disney's The Little Mermaid and more will delight seafarers young and old!

Contemplative sailors and sea chantey fans will ponder deep questions on deck with Irving Berlin's "How Deep Is the Ocean?" and an arrangement of the traditional New Zealand chantey, "Wellerman." One might even ask, "What Shall We Do with A Drunken Sailor?"

Tickets to Songs of the Sea are priced at \$23 for adults with children under 12 years old admitted free of charge. Opportunities to save up to 15% off ticket prices with a GAMAC subscription are also available. Call (864) 231-6147 for ticket sales or visit www.gamac.org for secure online sales.

Tickets will also be available for purchase in the lobby of First Baptist Church beginning at 6:30pm on November 1. This performance is sponsored by Julie & John Miller.

GAMAC is funded in part by the SC Arts Commission which receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

GAMAC
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GAMAC
33rd Season

Songs of the Sea

GAMAC Chorale
Dr. Don R. Campbell, Conductor

Friday, November 1, 2024
@ 7:30pm

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THE GARDEN SHOP



Colonel Mosby bloom showing a yellow flag

ADDING TO THE COLLECTION



SUSAN
TEMPLE
master
gardener

South Carolina Botanical Garden went on as planned with their plant sale October 4th and 5th. It was not as crowded as usual because of Helene but it seemed a way to begin getting back to normal, bringing some happiness to plant shoppers, and us volunteers working the sale. I was thrilled to see Colonel Mosby native azalea offered in the catalog and had high hopes they would have it. They did, and another is added to the native azalea confederate series collection. SCBG's nursery manager and I talked about the collection. She said she would see if they can find others. There is one female in the series, Emma Sansom, so she put her at the top of the list to try and find. Most of the blooms in this series are shades of orange. When first collecting them, I wasn't too keen on getting another orange one, but now, it doesn't matter. I would like to have them all – there are 11. Emma Sansom blooms are soft pink and yellow. She would be beautiful in the mix. Emma helped General Nathan Bedford Forrest by showing him a little-known cattle ford on their farm near Gadsden Alabama. Her mother forbid her to go but she went anyway. This led to the capture of almost 2000 Yankees the next day.

Colonel Mosby blooms are deep pink with a yellow flag. In simple terms, the flag is a part of the petal that may be a different color (if my memory is correct from a lesson by the owner of The Azalea Farm in Blairsville GA). These are botanical things that don't matter much to a gardener. Colonel Mosby was known as "the Gray Ghost". He must have been quite a character. He spoke out against secession but joined the Confederate army anyway. He led a unit known as Mosby's Rangers. The Gray Ghost became

famous for being able to appear out of nowhere, then disappear as quickly, even capturing a general inside Union lines. Stories tell that he was so unwilling to follow a plan, the Yankees could never track, or trap him, because Colonel Mosby himself did not know what he was going to do next.

Colonel Mosby azalea is listed as having a clove scent. Most native azaleas are fragrant, but some much more so than others. Stonewall Jackson is the most fragrant thus far in my collection. It smells wonderful and perfumes the air behind the house every year. It is a brilliant Clemson orange. Native azaleas lose their leaves in winter and have beautiful shades of rusty red fall color.

Native azaleas grow best in morning sun and afternoon shade. They need well-drained soil. I would not say they are drought tolerant, at least until well established. Through the years, I've had several varieties die – assuming they thirst to death. Back in April, Mama and I went to Hall County GA Master Gardener's expo in Gainesville. That's where I met The Azalea Farm people. They had the best selection of native azaleas I've ever seen. They also had some unique evergreen types too. I debated on planting these new ones in April, or keeping them in the garden shop area, and planting them in the fall. I really didn't want to babysit them all summer, so I planted them. I was diligent in watering them. Fence was put around them to keep deer from eating them. I babied them. I'm pretty sure pink trusses has died. But the confederates, yellow Admiral Semes, pale pink Frederick Douglass, JEB Stuart, pink with yellow flag, have made it through this hot dry summer just fine. Most native azalea tags will say they grow at least eight feet tall and wide. Some are smaller at about six by six. Don't let this stop you from growing one. They grow vase shaped and are only a few feet wide at the bottom. They do not sprawl like traditional Formosa type azaleas. They would be great near a patio or somewhere nearby so you can enjoy the sight, and smell, of them.

TL HANNA YELLOW JACKETS
Jackets dominate JL Mann

BY BRIAN HODGES
Sometimes all you need is a spark. T.L. Hanna was facing some big challenges. The Jackets have started a stretch of playing four games in 15 days. And last Thursday night, they hosted a talented J.L. Mann team. So, what happened? Hanna dominated J.L. Mann 42-20.

The Jackets improved to 4-2 and this victory was ignited by Antonio Hatton. The speedster had a 98-yard kickoff return for a touchdown and a 67-yard kickoff return that led to Hanna's first score. "He's got elite speed, track speed," Hanna coach Jason Tone said. "I don't get many chances back there (to return kickoffs)," Hatton said. Teams tend to avoid him on kickoffs. Tone said Hatton, who also plays defensive back, surrendered an early touchdown pass to J.L. Mann and wanted to make amends. Hanna rushed for 145 yards and running back KD Patterson scored three touchdowns. Back Daylan Williams provided tough inside yardage. The Jackets also got a lift from their defense, which kept a lid on the Patriots standout running back LaDainnian Martin and quarterback

McLeod Darnell. J.L. Mann fell to 4-2. "Our defensive coaches did a great job preparing for them," Tone said. The Jackets took the lead for good in the second quarter when J.L. Mann snapped the ball over the QB's head and into the end zone, where Jamizeyeh Harkness made the recovery for the score and a 14-7 Hanna lead. The Jackets built a 20-7 half-time lead, then widened the gap to 35-14 on Hatton's kickoff return for a score. The Hanna defense forced another Patriots turnover in the fourth quarter when Shondriques Vance intercepted a pass. So now what? Hurricane Helene scrambled many high school football schedules, and the Jackets have a quick turnaround, playing at Easley Tuesday night and then will host Greenville High School on Saturday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m. "This is two games out of four for us (in the rearranged schedule)," Tone said. "I don't know if we are doing the right thing (with the new busy schedule)," Tone told the Greenville News last week. "Football is not meant to be played that way. But I guess it is what it is." So far, so good.



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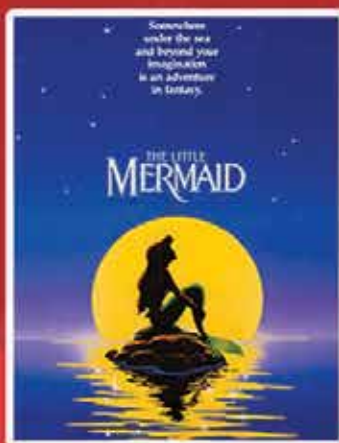
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FISH OUT OF WATER

When you truly love and enjoy your talent, give it away as a gift to others and eventually it will become a part of your career.

That's exactly what has happened with the local Anderson band, Fish Out of Water. Tommy (Dooley) Harper, the band's leader, performed in a local band during his earlier years. He had a room in his house that was set up as a studio. Musicians came and went over the years, rehearsing music there, but a band never really materialized. As time went on, about 5 years ago, a few local musicians began playing together regularly in his studio. A couple more musicians joined and they became a full-fledged group. They rehearsed together weekly for 3 years. By this time, they were ready to accept gigs at local venues. For the last 2 years, they have been performing live. They perform about 18 times a year.

Members of the group include:



Photo by Jim Ross

Dooley Harper - acoustic guitar, lead and back up vocals.

Bill Cavedo - harmonica, the Congo drums, sings lead and back-up vocals.

Steve Feltman - bass guitar and back up vocal.

Stan Escocoe - lead guitar player.

Jim Meeks and Mike Morris play the drums.

Van Sullivan on keyboard

Caroline Sullivan lead and back-up vocalist and tambourine player.

Don Ramsey - sound technician

All the players are in their 6th decade of life, so most of their selections focus on the musical legends of the 70's. For the last 2 years, their bookings have been at places like Kitchen Emporium's outdoor space, Vine and Barrell and venues in Belton and Greenville. Fish Out of Water has a Facebook Page used for updates and schedules.

Our very loyal fans are the backbone of the band.



Fish Out of Water

"Most of our fans are a chilled, laid-back wine drinking crowd. They bring their own chairs, their dogs and it's a great way to be together and not talk about politics! It's a happy place for all," says Caroline. "We have so much fun at rehearsals, we never want it to end. As Dooley always says, 'This is more dang fun than a little bit!' There is no place for egos in this group, everyone is equal. Most of the members are married, and happily so. Spouses come along

to the shows for fun and support."

Most of their sets include songs from Marshall Tucker Band, Neil Young, Motown and the Beatles. In December, they are excited to begin working on new material that will be ready for spring.

Remaining performance dates in 2024:

November 8 - Kitchen Emporium

November 22 - Wake and Bake

For booking questions, contact Dooley Harper at 864-314-9236.



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NUM, NUM, NUM, NUM

She had slept through the day, dreaming of what the dark would bring. Her eyes were open now and a wide slow yawn followed by a quick smacking of her lips signaled she was up, awake, and ready for the night ahead. Cicadas and frogs screamed their deafening high-pitched tones, yet, she was able to tune them out and listen only for the vibrations that would lead her to her goal.

The house looked uninhabited at the moment and the spot was empty where a truck was usually parked. This worried her a bit as she surmised that this may take longer than she'd expected. She was prepared for a long wait and knew that nothing on earth was more skilled at the waiting game than her. She had the patience of a statue and could stare and scan for any movement without blinking for hours. She was dressed in all black

and positioned on the property line at the very back where she could see all but the front yard. She suddenly noticed a dim flickering light in the far-right window that told her that a TV was on and most likely being watched by the non-targeted female of the



Neal Parnell

home. This woman would be used as Plan B should the prime objective delay his return for too long. She had aborted the mission last night when she'd activated a camera with a motion sensitive light, just barely escaping unnoticed. She now knew the camera's blind spots and would creep along a different route. Suddenly two bright lights flooded the driveway; he

was here. He stepped out of the truck carrying two bags that she hoped contained the treasure she was seeking. She heard the front door close and began to stealthily crawl toward the house. She was in the middle of the yard when the backdoor opened causing the lights to come on. She flattened and hugged the ground as she saw him scan the yard for who knows what, then stepped back inside triggering the lights to switch off. That was close, she thought to herself, as she wriggled her way through the grass, careful to stay away from the motion zone that would illuminate the night once again.

She had inched her way to the side of the patio without incident and could see the camera just above her head. She slithered her way to a low window, stood, and saw through a tiny gap in the curtains that there was movement in



the kitchen. Suddenly, she heard the sound that had haunted her daydreams, driven her to this moment, and now echoed in her head. A sharp puncturing of the metal seal and then the loud whirrr-errr-errr-errr

that had her madly thumping at the storm door glass. The door opened, she shot between his legs with a quick Meow! and attacked the slimy flesh of that freshly unsealed can of tuna. Num, Num, Num, Num.



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BY RICH OTTER

In the shadow of our awareness we recognize that our ancestors were all immigrants coming to the Americas but that is usually the extent of our knowledge. We know some came voluntarily to escape religious persecution, some to avoid starvation, some for economic reasons and some arrived involuntarily as slaves. But most of us have little insight as to the actual hardships they endured.

Europeans embarking on the journey to America, at least up through the mid and late 1800s, endured experiences most of their modern day descendants likely do not fully appreciate. They boarded sailing ships that by modern perspective were beautiful and graceful but below deck there was a frightful existence for a minimum 6 to 8 weeks, often extended to 12 weeks or even extra months due to fierce weather conditions as well as quarantine at destinations from illness aboard or failure to make payment for their transportation.

They were not treated as passengers. They were cargo supplied with minimal maintenance. For a party of four they might have space limited to six feet by six feet to accommodate the individuals and personal belongings. Two children would take up the space of one adult. Food was stale and the water rancid. It might be necessary to sleep in shifts in the space provided.



Artist unknown

Payment was due upon reaching the destination and if it could not be made family members were indentured. Merchants would come to the ships and bid in passengers who could not pay their fare. Children might be sold and families separated. Even some with adequate funds might sell European possessions highly valued by the colonists so their other funds would be available to help get

settled. If a passenger died before the trip was half completed, no passage costs were assessed but the full amount was due if death occurred after the estimated half-way mark.

The ships were greatly over-loaded and passengers existed in terribly crowded conditions fostering rampant sickness in addition to starvation and terrible ventilation. Children were not allowed topside and lived in darkness for the entire trip, if they survived. A German schoolmaster, Gottlieb Mittelberger recounted in his diary published in 1898 about the conditions he encountered and they apparently were typical during the period.

"During the journey the ship is full of pitiful signs of distress—smells, fumes, horrors, vomiting, various kinds of sea sickness, fever, dysentery, headaches, heat, constipation, boils, scurvy, cancer, mouth-rot, and similar afflictions, all of them caused by the age and the highly-salted state of the food, especially of the meat, as well as by the very bad and filthy water, which brings about the miserable

destruction and death of many. Add to this want of provisions, hunger, thirst, frost, heat, fear, misery, vexation and lamentation as well as other troubles. Thus, for example, there are so many lice, especially on the sick people, that they have to be scraped off the bodies. All this misery reaches its climax when in addition to everything else one must also suffer through two or three days and nights of storm, with everyone convinced that the ship with all the people on board pray and cry most piteously."

He continued by saying: "Children from one to seven years rarely survive the voyage; and many a time parents are compelled to see their children miserably suffer and die from hunger, thirst, and sickness, and then to see them cast into the water."

Especially when storms persisted, with limited navigational instruments it could be difficult to determine how to get back on an appropriate course which could extend the passage for a considerable period, further exhausting food and water and increasing sickness and death.

Those who came to the Americas, particularly in the early days, regardless of their race, creed or ethnicity, were not just immigrants, they were survivors.

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