



Call Tucker Oil for all of your petroleum needs!

Tucker Oil

Contact David Tucker Jr. at 803-603-4788 or tuck@tuckeroil.com








THE Electric City News

Your Connection to Local News, Sports, People and Happenings
 www.TheElectricCityNews.com
 September 25-October 8, 2025

FREE!

EYES ON THE ROAD

Gov. McMaster signs South Carolina Hands-Free and Distracted Driving Act into law

On July 31, 2025, Gov. Henry McMaster signed into law the South Carolina Hands-Free and Distracted Driving Act. Surrounded by members of the General Assembly and state agency directors, Gov. McMaster said, “Distracted driving has claimed far too many lives and caused countless collisions across our state. By signing this bill, we will significantly reduce the number of preventable accidents caused by distracted driving, ensuring more South Carolinians make it home safely to their loved ones.”

Under the law, which went into effect on September 1, 2025, driving while using a handheld device or watching media on a handheld device is considered a primary offense. This means that a law enforcement officer may stop and ticket a driver

“The new Hands Free Act ensures more South Carolinians are safe on our roads. We urge all drivers to set the examples in their families by putting the device down when behind the wheel. If you must hold your phone, find a location to pull over, park, and complete your call or text message. That action allows other drivers and yourself a greater opportunity to get where you’re going - home to loved ones, vacation with friends, the ballpark to celebrate a favorite sports team – safely.”

— Lauren Phillips, Director of Driver Services, South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles

for this offense alone. While the first 180 days of the law are a warning period, it is important to understand its definitions and details before fines and points are imposed starting February 28, 2026.

According to the South Carolina Department of Public Safety, distracted driving is defined as “driving a vehicle while engaging in any activity that takes the driver’s attention away from driving.” The Department lists three types of distractions while driving:

- Visual - taking your eyes off the road
- Manual - taking your hands off the wheel
- Cognitive - taking your mind off driving

SEE LAW ON PAGE 2



Business Hours:
 Open 7 Days a Week at 11am
 Lunch & Dinner
 Budget Friendly
 Specials Daily

Week Night Frugal MacDoogal Supper Specials \$15 & under

Team Trivia Challenge at 7pm every Wed

Live Music Celtic, Folk, & World Music at 7pm every Fri

Sat Steak Night

Sun Brunch 11am-3pm & ½ Price Bottles of (select) wine w/ Entree purchase after 4pm.

Online Order/Pay for Curbside Pick Up now available
 Go to mcgeesirishpub.com and click through.

McGee's Scot-Irish Pub
 118 W. Orr Street
 Downtown Anderson
 864-261-6401



Let us help you *reach* and *maintain* your weight goals.

Visit our website www.AndersonBariatrics.com or call us at (864) 225-6280



Offering:
 • HCG Injections • Semaglutide Injections
 • Phentermine • Weight Loss Counseling

2106 N. Main Street, Anderson SC 29621

Law

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Under the Hands-Free and Distracted Driving Act, drivers in South Carolina may not:

- Hold or support a mobile device with any part of their body.
- Use a mobile device to read, compose, or transmit texts, emails, app interactions, or website information.
- Watch motion on a mobile device, including a video, movie, game, or video call.

There are, however, exceptions to the new law. Drivers may use a device if they are:

- Lawfully parked or stopped.
- Using a device in voice-activated or hands-free mode.
- Using an earpiece or device worn on the wrist used for voice-based communication.

- Using a mobile device for audio content like navigation, music, or podcasts without holding it.
- Reporting traffic accidents, hazardous conditions, or medical emergencies.
- Performing official duties in their roles as law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel

Once the warning period has ended, drivers found to have violated the law face both fines and points. A first violation comes with a fine of \$100. A second offense committed during a three-year period results in a \$200 fine and two points on the driver's record.

For commercial drivers, violations of the law come with more serious penalties. If the driver is working under a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and is convicted of violating the Hands-Free and Distracted Driving Act twice in a three-year period, the CDL may be disqualified for 60 days by the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

The goal of the law is not to issue tickets. The goal is to keep drivers and passengers on South Carolina roads safe. So how can you make sure that, as a driver, you're not driving while distracted? The Department of Public Safety offers some suggestions:

- First, make sure you're familiar with all aspects of your vehicle. This is especially important to keep in mind if you are driving a new car or a rental car.
- Second, plan your trip in advance. Set your GPS, your mirrors, and your climate controls before you put the car in drive.
- Third, secure all mobile devices and any objects that may move and become distracting.
- Fourth, ask a passenger to help with any distracting tasks.
- Fifth, and finally, return phone calls and send messages only when safely parked.

Putting down your mobile devices saves lives. Collisions can be prevented if we all choose to stay focused on the road.

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

ADVERTISING SALES

Becky Pruitt
864-367-2102
beckypru@aol.com

LAYOUT/DESIGN

ART DIRECTOR
Zack Mauldin
zack@upstatetoday.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Nate Thomason
signal43@live.com

WRITERS

Neal Parnell
dnparn@gmail.com

Rich Otter
richotter29621@yahoo.com

GARDEN & FLORAL
Susan Temple
gardningirl@yahoo.com

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

FASHION
Kristine March

SPORTS
Brian Hodges

COLUMNISTS
Kim Acker Von Keller
Katie Laughridge
Ann K. Bailes
Sara Leady
Ainsley McCarthy

TO SEND INFORMATION
Please make sure photos include the date taken, location and names of people in the photos. If photos are submitted via email, make sure they are a minimum of 300 dpi and saved as a JPEG file. If photos are mailed, we cannot guarantee the photo will be returned. The editor of The Electric City News will make your article/story grammatically correct without altering its content. The publishers of The Electric City News reserve the right to withhold inappropriate content or photos.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Free, local events

September 26th-28th: Anderson County Live Stock Show @ T. Ed Garrison Livestock Arena Cattle Complex

September 26th: Live Music - Luke Deuce 6pm-9pm @ Magnetic South

September 27th: GELA Foundation's 5th Annual Pet Love Event @ Local Uptown 12pm-3pm

September 27th: Lake Hartwell Association's Splash Away the Trash Clean-Up Event 9am-12pm; sign up at www.lakehartwellpcw.com/events

September 27th: Name That Tune Music Bingo @ Palmetto Distillery 6:30pm

October 4th: Belton Standpipe Heritage and Arts Festival 11am-9pm

October 4th: Hispanic Heritage Festival @ Anderson Farmer's Market 2pm - 6pm

October 5th: Organ Concert @ St. John's United Methodist Church 3pm

October 6th-30th: Pop-Up Costume Shop @ Anderson County Library

October 7th: Bingo @ Sugar Mama's Bakery 5-7pm, RSVP (864)-642-9507 to save your seats

October 10th: PEP Rally & Pizza Party @ Anderson County Library 1pm-3pm; Register on the Anderson County Library website

October 10th-11th: Town of Honea Path Fall Festival

October 10th-11th: Town of Iva Depot Day Heritage Festival & Car Show @ Downtown Iva

October 11th: Westy's Fall Vintage Market 9am-3pm @ Westy's Antiques and Vintage Heirlooms

October 15th: The Brew with City of Anderson Fire Department 8am @ 400 S McDuffie St

October 16th: Friends of Broadway Lake Outdoor Concert @ McFall's Landing 6:30pm-9:30pm

October 18th: Walk with PFLAG Anderson @ Rocky River Nature Park 9am

October 29th: Trunk or Treat @ Anderson Civic Center 5:30pm-8pm



EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS



Anderson's 2025 Business Programs



Build your own Business

- Monthly on 3rd Thursdays at 12 PM
- 102 N. Murray Ave
- Expert-led business topics
- Lunch & Learn format



The Brew

- Wednesdays at 8 AM
- 102 N. Murray Ave
- Business pitches with community feedback
- On summer break – back in August!



110 North Kitchen + Commissary

- Schedule a tour!
- 110 N. Murray Ave
- Rentable kitchen space for food production

For more information, email rtuckercityofandersonsc.com

Cindy Dove Radford: A lifetime of service and dedication in Anderson County

When Cindy Dove Radford graduated with her Paralegal Degree in May of 1984, she never imagined her career would lead her into real estate. "I had decided that real estate wasn't my thing," she recalls with a laugh. "Never say never." That August, she accepted a position as an abstractor of real estate titles—and she's been in the field ever since.

In 1992, Radford took a leap of faith and opened her own abstracting company, where she worked for nearly three decades. Running her business gave her not only a successful career but also the flexibility to care for her aging parents during their declining health—time she says she will always be grateful for. "It was time I'll never regret and I'm most thankful for," she reflects.

"I had the opportunity to work with some very knowledgeable people and to soak up all they could teach me. (Harold Threlkeld, Ellison Long, Dick Allen, Tom Allen, Jack McIntosh, Scott Williams, Barbara Junkins just to name a few)." By 2021, however, many of the attorneys she had long worked alongside had retired or passed on, and Radford felt it was time to close one chapter and begin another.

That next step led her to the Anderson County Register of Deeds Office, where she now proudly serves as the Register of Deeds. It's a role she intends to keep until retirement. "My career choices and opportunities were laid out before me," she says. "It was all just in God's place and time."

LEADING THE REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE

Radford oversees a staff of ten and manages an office that processes between 35,000 and 40,000 documents every year. These range from deeds, mortgages, plats, and trust agreements to mortgage satisfactions, liens, and more. She is also responsible for compiling the yearly budget and staying current on state statutory changes.

Over her 40-year career, she has witnessed tremendous change in record-keeping. What once required



Cindy Dove Radford

large, cumbersome books shifted to microfilm, then to digital images, and now to cloud-based storage. The office's official title changed as well. Formerly known as the Register of Mesne Conveyance (RMC)—"we still aren't sure what that meant," Radford jokes—the office became the Register of Deeds in 1997 and separated from the Clerk of Court.

PRESERVING HISTORY WHILE EMBRACING THE FUTURE

The Anderson County Register of Deeds Office houses records dating back to January 1869, many of which are written in old-fashioned cursive handwriting. Some of the early plats also contain colorful descriptions of property lines. Radford recalls one that read: "Property goes from point A to the big X on the old car hood in the field." Another noted that the boundary line ran "down the creek bed to the circle drawn on the oak tree at the fence line."

Today, records dating back to 1976 are available online to the public at no cost, and her office is continuously working to digitize older

records. "I encourage real property owners to go to www.anderson-countysc.org and find their deed," she says.

Looking ahead, Radford has big news for Anderson County property owners. In early 2026, her office will launch a fraud alert program to help protect against fraudulent filings. Residents will be able to sign up through the county website and receive notifications if a document is filed on their property. "PLEASE sign up at that time," she urges.

A TEAM EFFORT

Radford is quick to give credit where it's due. "My staff is the strength of this office—I rely on them the most," she says. "They make me look good!" With both frontline and backline employees well-versed in their responsibilities,

customer service remains at the heart of their work. She also values her membership in the South Carolina Association of Clerks of Court and Registers of Deeds, where she collaborates with colleagues across the state.

Her leadership style is rooted in family values. "I treat my staff as if we are all family," she explains. "We spend more time with one another at work than we do at home."

LIGHTHEARTED MOMENTS

Not every day at the Register of Deeds Office is routine. Radford fondly recalls one particularly memorable visitor: a woman who claimed to be Elvis Presley's illegitimate daughter. "She had quite a colorful story about how she and Lisa Marie both had airplanes," Radford laughs. "But this particular alleged daughter

was afraid to fly, so she never was able to reap the benefits."

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

The office has recently been approved for a much-needed new software system that will support the upcoming fraud alert program. With those upgrades set to roll out in early 2026, Radford feels confident her office is on the right path.

From her unexpected start as an abstractor to leading the Register of Deeds Office, Cindy Dove Radford's career has been marked by dedication, adaptability, and a deep commitment to both her profession and her community. "I've been blessed to work with knowledgeable people who taught me so much," she says. "And I'm grateful to continue serving Anderson County in this role."

—SAVE UP TO—
\$1,000*

AND ZERO INTEREST IF PAID
IN FULL WITHIN 18 MONTHS**

On purchases made with your Carpet One Synchrony HOME™ credit card between 09/04/25-10/27/25. Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date if the promotional balance is not paid in full within 18 months. Minimum monthly payments required. See store for details.

**FLOORS
FOR LESS
EVENT**

SCAN & SAVE



ANDERSON
**CARPET
ONE**
FLOOR & HOME®

HERE
TO
FLOOR
YOU.®

* At participating stores only. Discount applies to materials only on select items; cushion, labor, and installation charges are additional. Prior orders exempt. This offer is the equivalent to 10% off any qualifying purchase between \$1,000 - \$10,000, for a maximum discount of up to \$1,000. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer ends 10/27/2025. All offers are for retail customers only and are not applicable to contract/commercial work. See store for details on all offers and warranties. ©2025 Carpet One Floor & Home®. All Rights Reserved.

** At participating stores only. See store for details. No interest will be charged on the promo balance if you pay it off, in full, within the promo period. If you do not, interest will be charged on the promo balance from the purchase date. The required minimum monthly payments may or may not pay off the promo balance before the end of the promo period, depending on purchase amount, promo length and payment allocation. Regular account terms apply to non-promo purchases and, after promo period ends, to the promo balance. For new accounts as of 7/16/24: Purchase APR 34.99%. Penalty APR 39.99%. Minimum Interest Charge \$2. Existing cardholders: See your credit card agreement terms. Subject to credit approval.

1722 Pearman Dairy Road | 864.332.4074 | Carpet1Anderson.com

THE GARDEN SHOP

TOURING FOR INSPIRATION



**SUSAN
TEMPLE**
master
gardener

On a recent garden touring trip to the Seattle area, and Victoria, British Columbia, I expected to have great conifer envy for such that won't take our heat and humidity.

Japanese maples were touched with a bit of fall color, but texture and foliage color was a big part of many gardens we visited.

The main reason for this trip was to tour Dan Hinkley's garden. In my early gardening days, getting a Heronswood catalog was like my grandmother and aunt getting the Sears & Roebuck catalog. Dan Hinkley traveled the world collecting plants, propagating, and trialing plants. Heronswood is now owned by Port S'Klallam Tribe, the only tribally owned botanical garden in the country. Dan's

current garden, Windcliff, near Heronswood, is on a bluff overlooking the Puget Sound in Indianola, Washington.

Dan met us at his gate, toured us down the driveway, pointing out some of his favorite plants. His three dogs joined us for parts of the tour. I was hanging on his every word. His humor put us all at ease as Latin rolled off his tongue as easily as my southern.

As we got near the house, more perennials came into view. Verbena on a stick (*Verbena bonariensis*) had formed a huge clump. It seeds around my garden but never makes such a show. Sedums, surprisingly, were used in most every garden we visited. Sedums are mostly thought of for hot, dry, climates. What I noticed early on, once we made it to around to Dan's water view, is his paths are mulch. No steppingstones, pea gravel, nothing lining flower beds, one could meander in all sorts of directions.

Pineapple lilies (*Eucomis* spp) were clumped throughout Windcliff, mixed in with agapanthus, commonly called Lily of the Nile, and red hot poker (*Kniphofia* spp). Many years ago, I tried agapanthus. It did not come back, since having learned it may have rotted in the winter, rather than not hardy. Being in the amaryllis family, deer may not let me grow them. Sometimes deer like the one clump of pineapple lily (spraying Bobbex helps). Some pineapple lilies at Windcliff grow to about five feet tall, with some blooms being practically 30 inches long. This huge variety is *Eucomis pole-evansii*. Sparkling burgundy is the variety most often found for sale in our area.

I fell in love with an ornamental grass, *Stipa gigantea*, which in the stipa world seems gigantic, but clumps only grow a few feet tall

and wide. Plumes are six feet tall or more though. It is a light and airy grass. In searching for an online source, it states plumes "emerge as purple-on-green, then ripen to pale metallic gold". After some more research, I'll probably give it a try if a source is found.

The size of hydrangeas at Heronswood were remarkable. Lacecaps 15 feet tall and wide, maybe bigger. Again, no deer though. Heronswood had plants for sale. I've never traveled on an airplane with plants and wasn't sure TSA would not take them from me. After getting hooked up with a bad (wink wink) influence, who was buying several plants, I brought home two plants, daffodil and colchicum bulbs.

Mama is a rain lily plant collector. She got *Habranthus robustus* 'Russell Manning', an old selection with the largest flowers of that type. Its botanical name is different from other rain lilies. It had a big seed pod. After two days stored in a suitcase, wrapped in newspaper, it set a bud. By the time Mama got it, the pink flower was in full bloom. My bad influence taught me you can take plants on a plane; I taught her how to pack them in newspaper.

If Heronswood had more than one, very creative packing would've been required as globe thistle is something I've wanted for a long time. *Echinops ritro* 'Platinum Blue' is the variety and it supposedly drought tolerant and great for pollinator gardens.

And speaking of, be it the time of year we visited or what, I did not see one butterfly on this trip, and only two bees. Yes, gardens were inspiring beautiful, scenery overlooking sounds and seas was stunning, but what is a garden if it's not alive with buzzing and fluttering things?



Gardningirl and huge lacecap hydrangea at Heronswood

TOO MUCH
JUNK?

DOES YOUR YARD LOOK
LIKE A TORNADO HIT?

CAN'T WALK IN
YOUR GARAGE?



DON'T STRESS OUT,
CONTACT DINO JUNK REMOVAL AND WE WILL HAUL IT OUT!

DINOJUNKREMOVAL.COM

EMAIL: INFO@DINOJUNKREMOVAL.COM

864-568-4030

WHAT WE OFFER:

- **CLEAN OUTS:** RESIDENTIAL, GARAGE, YARDS, COMMERCIAL, REMODELING, CONSTRUCTION, STORAGE UNITS, ESTATES, EVICTIONS, HOARDING HOUSES
- **HOT TUB REMOVAL • SHED DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL**

NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL...YOU CALL, WE'LL HAUL!

FROM THE SHELF

On horror, the genre

It's that time of year again where the things that go bump in the night come to the forefront of every store, neighborhood, and certainly screen near you. In library and book world this is, of course, the time for HORROR! Second to romance novels, horror is likely my second most read genre. I'm a recent convert to the genre, or rather I might actually say I'm more recently aware of how much horror I was already reading. There's a lot of assumptions of what makes a book/movie/other form of media horror, but the stereotypical definition is honestly limited.

Horror is a form of media or entertainment that provokes an "emotional, psychological, or physical response" within consumers that causes them to react with fear, maybe disgust, minimally some discomfort. It's a pretty broad definition, and on a Venn diagram of genre it crosses over into almost every area. The subgenres of horror create even more

crossovers, so you're likely already reading horror without realizing it. Do you like a gritty thriller that details how violent people can



Sara Leady

be? You might actually be reading horror—it just hasn't been marketed as such because that story sells better as a gritty, psychological thriller, instead of a horror.

The Silence of the Lambs has always been a favorite movie of mine and I had no idea it was

classified as a horror until last year; I thought it was your typical serial killer thriller. A staple of horror are elements of the paranormal or of some sort of monster. So classics like Frankenstein, Jane Eyre, The Picture of Dorian Gray, and easily The Phantom of the Opera, are all technically horror. Yes, the lit-

erary world likes to dress them up by calling them 'gothic' or 'psychological,' but all the classic horror elements are there.

Another recurring element is also putting the brutal capacity of humanity on full display. These are your classic slasher films, brutal spree of violence, body horror (i.e. gore and body damage in its rawest form), etc. So 'true crime' and murder documentaries, The Hunger Games, even some Lord of the Rings. I'm going to get a bit more controversial, but you could even say that aspects of The Passion of the Christ are 'horror' given the level of "body horror" on full, brutal display.

Stories in general are a type of tool for socializing, meaning they teach us how we're expected to behave within a social structure or a culture. Horror takes that teaching to an extreme. Perfect example? Have you read the original Brothers Grimm Fairytales? Literal nightmare fodder. Horror also operates as a reflection of the current anxieties of society. The fear of "the other" or the "unknown" are huge driving forces. Horror is our mirror that shows us the capacity for horror within the heart of humanity.

Why am I getting all nitty gritty and literary about the horror genre? It's because for me

it suffers the same bad marketing as romance. Horror can be literary (Beloved), funny (The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires), entertainment (Goosebumps), social criticism (Lovecraft Country), and yes, even romance (insert like 90% of vampire stories). Horror also runs a huge spectrum within it and all its subgenres. My gateway authors were Grady Hendrix (SC native and hilarious) and Silvia Moreno-Garcia (gothic, very literary, and a Mexican author who writes with a lot of historical influences). Moreno-Garcia is listed among some of the greatest literary gothic releases of the past decade—not where you'd expect horror to be.

We'll call this my opening pitch to convince you to maybe give "horror" a try. We've started a new series at the library called "An Evening with a Librarian" where we have staff talk about books, publishing, and general library shop. Our next one is Tuesday, October 21st at 6:00pm and we're talking horror, so come and let us sell you on the genre (or argue with us). We plan to get into the history, the social importance, and very long lists of our favorites. We'll also be showing you how the genre is evolving—horror ballet anyone?

C A R G U I D E

Low Ray Co. Inc.
1809 West Whitner Street
Anderson S.C. 29624
864-226-0733



- Automotive & Industrial Coating
- Auto Accessories & Parts
- Complete Clean-Up & Body Shop Supplies

DORSEY AUTO SALES
1204 Whitehall Road
Anderson, SC 29625
864-261-0866
www.dorseyauto.com

"We take pride in the way we do business."

ROWLAND'S AUTOMOTIVE SPECIALIST

650 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
864-225-8844

"From tail lights to timing belts, we do it all!"

IT'S HERE!

Ahhhh, Fall. The time of year when, for a few glorious days, we can turn off the A/C, open the windows, and tell the power company to kiss our kilowatts.

After the hottest Anderson Summer on record, seventy degrees is sweater weather around here. We can now step out onto our porch or patio, holding a cup of coffee, without being hit by a stifling, thick, sticky wall of humidity that flattens our hair and bonds our cheeks and thighs like grits on a paper plate. The fresh, cool air refreshes our souls and changes us like the falling leaves as we imagine breezing through traffic, floating over potholes, and a workweek that lasts only seconds.

For some of you, a switch is thrown on that first day of Fall, and you stop seeing greens and blues, and your eyes only see oranges, reds, browns, and yellows. You can no longer smell chlorine, fresh cut grass, or suntan lotion. You have "Fall Fever," and when you stop for gas, your eyes see Regular, Premium, and Pumpkin Spice. You despise any weatherperson who predicts a warm front is returning and retaliate by baking oatmeal cookies in their likeness, feeding them to the birds while laughing ghoulishly as they peck and eat their frosted faces.

Even before Labor Day, you closed the pool, stored the floats and umbrellas, and hid away anything inside that remotely reminded you of Summer.

A week or two before the official first day

of Fall, you brought out five containers labeled "FALL" and proceeded to transform your house into a golden Autumn scene that could possibly make the cover of *Garden and Gun*.

In the back of your feverish Fall mind, you are calculating how many boxes of Kleenex it will take to hang a hundred homemade ghosts in the tree out front, and how many more times the grass will need cutting before you can inflate the twenty-foot-tall wolfman that is in the basement. Last year, you tried to carve a life-like face into a pumpkin, like the ones you saw on the Today Show. It took three hours and four Band-Aids for you to concede that your Taylor Swift was actually Mick Jagger.

Fall in Anderson can be quite tricky. We can leave the house in the mornings wearing a sweater and long pants, and come home stripped down to our shorts and T-shirt. We long to curl up by the fire with our favorite blanket, book, and a bowl of homemade vegetable soup, but we're still on the couch, half-naked, licking a popsicle, hoping the A/C will kick back on. Fall is supposed to be the time of harvest, when the growing season ends and bugs and birds pack for warmer climates. Not in Anderson, my friends. I've seen our mosquitoes carry a plastic pumpkin and ring doorbells on Halloween.

The calendar says FALL, and by gosh, I'm doing it. Who's going to know that last September, Helena took my scarecrow sitting on a hay-bale off to see the wizard? Go ahead and laugh at my basketball-sized pumpkin that is now a Football on my porch. If you see me out in my front yard raking a bag of fake fall leaves I bought at Hobby-Lobby, I don't care, I'm doing Fall!



Neal Parnell



LILIA DAY SPA

Rooftop Apartment Daily Rental

Beautiful 2 bedroom 2.5 bath rooftop apartment
Weekday and weekend rental available
Great for game day, showers, parties and more
Call for pricing and availability

116 E Benson St
Downtown Anderson
864-225-4542

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

ERIC TILSTRA — DRIVING THE FUTURE, ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

EARLY LIFE & TENNIS CAREER

Born in a small fishing town at the end of Long Island, Eric Tilstra grew up with the rhythms of the sea before life carried him to New Orleans. There, his passion for athletics took root, and by the age of 18, he embarked on what would become a 20-year career in tennis. From the courts, his journey led him into ministry, serving as pastor of Beacon Church in Watermill, NY, where his leadership and compassion touched many lives.

FAITH & LEADERSHIP

Those years on the tennis court and in the pulpit shaped Eric in powerful ways. As a player and coach, he learned the values of discipline, teamwork, and problem-solving under pressure. As a pastor, he grew in communication, encouragement, and servant leadership. Today, behind the wheel of his school bus in Anderson, South Carolina, Eric tries to model those same qualities to his students every day. By show-

ing up with consistency, patience, and a steady hand, he demonstrates how those lessons translate to everyday life.

DRIVING WITH PURPOSE

For Eric, driving isn't just about transportation—it's about shaping lives. Every morning and afternoon, he greets young riders with kindness, setting a positive tone that often carries into their school day.

STUDENT CONNECTIONS

Eric goes the extra mile by displaying student artwork and creative writing on his bus, just as a proud parent might post them on the family refrigerator. These small acts show students that their voices and creativity matter. "It's incredibly fulfilling," Eric shares. "I want my riders to feel valued and encouraged every single day."

INNOVATION ON WHEELS

In 2024, Anderson District 5 made a forward-looking leap by adding 12 new electric buses to its

fleet. Recognizing Eric's reliability and enthusiasm for innovation, the Director of Transportation, Darryl Webb, asked him to oversee their daily care and operation. Eric has embraced the responsibility wholeheartedly, seeing it as a chance to be part of the future of transportation.

THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION

These electric buses don't just run cleaner and quieter—they are equipped with cutting-edge safety and monitoring systems. From high-tech collision avoidance systems to lane-changing assist, they provide drivers with tools to keep students safe on the road. The buses also come with high-definition exterior cameras designed to catch drivers who illegally pass a stopped school bus during student pick-ups and drop-offs, ensuring stronger enforcement of safety laws.

Families also benefit from the My Ride K-12 app, which allows parents and guardians to track their child's specific bus in real time. The app provides notifications and updates about the bus's whereabouts, helping families feel more secure and connected to the school day.

Each bus is also outfitted with a driver's tablet, which streamlines operations by tracking student loading and unloading while also offering detailed route maps to follow. This technology not only improves efficiency but ensures that every student is accounted for safely and accurately.

Electric bus technology offers a triple win: lower operating costs compared to traditional diesel models, significant reductions in air pollution, and quieter streets thanks to reduced noise pollution. These benefits not only make a difference for the district's budget but also for the health and well-being of the community. With an app that allows him to monitor the buses 24/7, Eric ensures the new fleet is always run-



For Eric Tilstra, the role is more than just a job—it's a calling. Whether it's the students he greets each day, the artwork he proudly displays, or the electric buses he carefully monitors, Eric continues to build a legacy of service, leadership, and care.

ning at peak performance.

For Eric Tilstra, the role is more than just a job—it's a calling. Whether it's the students he greets each day, the artwork he proudly displays, or the electric buses he

carefully monitors, Eric continues to build a legacy of service, leadership, and care. His story reminds us all that the path to shaping the future can begin with something as simple, and as powerful, as driving a bus.



DRIVE THE BUS WITH US



WE'RE HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

GREAT BENEFITS:

- Competitive Hourly Rate up to \$30.00
 - On-Site Paid CDL Training
 - State Insurance and Full Benefits
 - No Required Summer Work
- Full-Time and Part-Time Hours Available (30-40 Hours per week)
- Reflective Vests and Jackets
- Opportunity to Help Mold and Mentor Young Children

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION



**SCAN THIS CODE
FOR A SIMPLE
WAY TO APPLY**

**COMMENTS, QUESTIONS,
OR CONCERNS?**

**CALL 864-260-500
ext. 10287**

Take advantage of our \$500 referral bonus by recommending someone (Person must be employed for 6 months)



Inspire

BY RICH OTTER

It was initially known as a Homestead program, providing an outlet for individuals of all ages of special needs with an opportunity to understand and participate in the growing of food commodities. The mystery of things evolving from seeds to something that could actually be consumed was fascinating but also offered great satisfaction of accomplishment, instilling in participants an opportunity to be productive in their community.

The county offered a long-term lease of six acres for the program north of the Anderson Sheriff's office on land off Camson Road between Hembree Road and Powell Road. The property has now been developed with a pavilion, a large area supporting sun flowers, and a greenhouse adjacent to rows of blueberry plants for the program. It is an amazing start, but just the beginning.

The pavilion can be used for meetings, events, and picnics, as well as providing shade and a cool breeze on a hot day. It also offers convenient facilities and storage. Parking is adjacent to the pavilion.

An exciting aspect of the program is that products are being raised in a hydroponic, soilless, environment. The water is pure and flows through channels under the plants and can be recirculated. In the greenhouse, there is a nursery where the plants are started and then graduated at regular growth intervals through different water channels as they mature in size. Utilizing their abilities, the employees are functioning on a cutting edge of agriculture.

The first greenhouse is near the Powell Road entrance to the property with blueberry plants stretching parallel to Powell Road. A much larger structure is to be developed in stages across the drive from the current greenhouse that will have four, interconnected, guttered facilities.

The program provides employment for up to ten individuals, offering an opportunity to



Hydroponic units and lettuce



Pavilion

acquire trades useful to the program, but also preparing them for outside employment at market wages available in a rapidly developing hydroponic industry. Preparing these individuals for independence is a critical goal of the project.

What they are doing is not just participating in a supportive program. They are involved in an active business enterprise. It is an operation utilizing their abilities in a productive manner. It will permit workers to attain

self-sufficiency to the greatest extent possible.

The first hydroponic greenhouse is currently growing several varieties of lettuce. Lettuce is a marketable commodity throughout the year. The product is sold to businesses in the area and is also utilized by the AIM (Accept, Inspire Minister) program for distri-

bution to needy individuals.

The products are available to the general public through the Clemson Area Food Exchange web site: Clemsonareafoodexchange.com

Breaking new ground may be a strange idiom to describe hydroponic gardening, but hydroponic gardening reflects an innovative procedure that may also introduce other Anderson residents to a new gardening activity they could enjoy. They may gain guidance from folks leading an adventure who were previously considered as having limited horizons.

The former Homestead program has been rebranded as the Greenhouses Hydroponic Farm. Events are expected to be forthcoming at the site to introduce the public to the facility. There will be demonstrations and likely a farmer's market. Varied activities will grow with the products as the facility expands.



Greenhouse and blueberry plants



10% OFF ONE ITEM

SHOW THIS AD TO REDEEM
CERTAIN EXCLUSIONS MAY APPLY

****EASY IN-HOUSE FINANCING****

**509 NORTH MAIN STREET
ANDERSON, SC 29621**

864-225-5496

IT'S BOOT SEASON

It's time to pull out those boots again! The boot trend this year is so good! My dream pair that I've been eyeing all year are the Isabel Marant slouchy boots. Particularly the



Kristine March

Edrika boot in the color Cognac. They're almost giving Peter Pan, but I'm obsessed with them. In fact, I want all of Isabel Marant's Fall line this season. They're bringing back that early 2000 Bohemian phase that Sienna Miller and Kate

Moss just totally owned and in my early twenties, I too wore it and rocked it. Now it's time to wear it again. I don't think I've ever stopped rocking it though. I'm seventies style obsessed, even though I was born in 1985, I think I'm just an old soul.

Now, we're going to move on from the slouchy boot portion, to the high flap style with the pointed toe. This look is almost a modern western appeal. It makes the leg look

extremely elongated and gorgeous! You can wear these with a pair of denim cutoffs, some brown tights or you can wear them over jeans. Free People makes the Felicity fold-over style that is just so dreamy. You can add knee socks to them if you prefer since the temperature is still pretty mild and pair them with a skirt.

Next on the list is the ankle Boot. I personally love a snake skin style. Just to add a bold pop to a simple outfit. Especially if you're in a hurry and you quickly need to look really "put together", you can just slip on a pair of snakeskin ankle boots with something slightly plain and look really stylish. H&M carries a kitten heeled pair for 54\$, but if you prefer a block heel, which is much easier to walk in my humble opinion, then DSW carries the Marc Fisher Gaylen bootie and they're also right at 55\$. If you want a more expensive price point, Donna Karan New York sells them out of



Saks fifth avenue and they're completely gorgeous. Although, if snakeskin isn't your thing remember that these ankle boots also come a large quantity of different colors and in leather and suede.

Lastly is the tall riding boot. These are for the classic lady. Anthropology has them and the Maeve buckle strap style is really lovely and clean with crisp cuts. These aren't your typical brown boots that everyone wears. These look very authentic and high-toned and you can just pull them on. The outfit ideas with these are infinite and can be worn here, there and everywhere. These will run you about \$220, but look more expensive than that. All of these boots come at a really fair price point and are really going to look snazzy on everybody.

What boots are you going to buy this year? What are your favorite trends and styles? Treat yourself, and

I think if you look good, you always feel good.

Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters.

Happy boot season y'all.

M. Cindy Wilson, Associated Real Estate Services & Consulting Licensed in South Carolina & Georgia

140 +/- acres fronting BHP Highway and Floyd Wright Drive

Just a few minutes from historical Belton, SC,
(the Tennis Capital of SC) offering privacy & convenience.

Perfect location for potential commercial and/or residential developments. This property has approximately 800' road frontage on BHP Hwy (Hwy 76), and 2000+' on Floyd Wright Drive. Available as an entirety or 30 to 50 acre parcels.

Belton Honea Path Hwy (Hwy 76) exposure would be ideal for a commercial or industrial site. The rest of the beautiful wooded lands fronting Floyd Wright Dr. would be super 30/50 acreage tracts for possible residential development or family homesteads with Hen Coop Creek flowing through it.

Approximately 12 miles to downtown Anderson and 30 miles to downtown Greenville. It is currently being managed as timberland.

School District 2 and close to BHP High School, Electric – Duke Power, Gas – Piedmont Natural Gas (4" line on BHP Hwy). Water – Belton Honea Path Authority (12" line on BHP Hwy, 8" line from BHP Hwy down Floyd Wright Dr. for 1600' + fire hydrant), Sewer – Septic Tank. Rail siding on BHP Hwy. (Greenville Western Railroad)

Short Term Seller Financing Possible
Contact Cindy for additional information or to schedule a tour.

1.71 ACRES in downtown
Belton fronting high traffic
Anderson Street &
Academy Street.
Zoned general commercial.
Excellent location near the
famous Belton Tennis Courts,
First Baptist Church,
the library, post office,
museum, town hall and with
amenities & walking paths
close by.
\$200,000

Typically, our company leaves our clients with more money in their pockets & a satisfying experience. Put 50 years experience to work for you.

Call for Details! 864.261.3980 • MCINDYWILSON.com



Build Your Own Business

A year-long series to help you Build Your Own Business from the ground up!

Register Now!



APR 17

Business Plan Writing

Presented by Ben Calhoun, SC SBDC

MAY 15

Branding

Presented by H3 Marketing

JUN 19

Small Business Bookkeeping

Presented by Sylvia Mesaros



JUL 17

Marketing

Presented by H3 Marketing

AUG 21

Building Your Team

Presented by Drew Barrett

SEP 18

The Art of Selling

Presented by Beth Batson

OCT 16

AI In The Workplace

Presented by Dr. Elicia Frelix

Held on the 3rd Thursday of every month from Noon-1:30pm at 102 North Murray Avenue. Lunch is free but registration is required.



OFFSEASON AT THE OCEAN

I get it - summer will always be the main season for trips to our beautiful South Carolina coast. Excitement surrounds the beach during the summer, and the crowds,

the activity, and even the heat appeal to many people.



Ann K. Bailes

Maybe we're just old and like the quiet, but unless the family is with us, we prefer to go in the offseason. We have gone in autumn, spring, and once in January.

Big advantages abound

in offseason trips, so here are the reasons to consider a trip to the beach during any season except summer!

♦ Though the air is cooler, during the autumn the ocean water is still warm. The temperature of the water heats and cools more slowly than the temperature of the air, which means people can still swim comfortably without braving the brutally hot air

temperatures.

♦ Beaches aren't empty, but people aren't everywhere like in the summer. Walking the shore, finding shells and other creatures, is more relaxing with fewer people around. And for those who want one—you can still get a really good suntan.

♦ Traffic is horrible in the summer, and getting anywhere is an exercise in patience. Offseason? Not nearly as bad.

♦ That mad-house trip to the grocery on check-in day during the summer? You know the crowded aisles, the empty shelves, the people everywhere? Not like that in the offseason.

♦ The locals come back out from summer hibernation and re-take their towns. They're nice to get to know.

♦ Some people don't mind long summer-time lines at popular restaurants, but we do not like hearing from a hostess: "The wait will be two hours." Go in the autumn or spring, and you'll get right in. Minimal or no waits.

♦ For wildlife lovers: the variety of animals in the offseason is different than in the summer. Warblers and other migratory birds are gone, but other interesting species come in to spend the winter in our warmer climate. I saw my first white pelicans during a January beach trip.

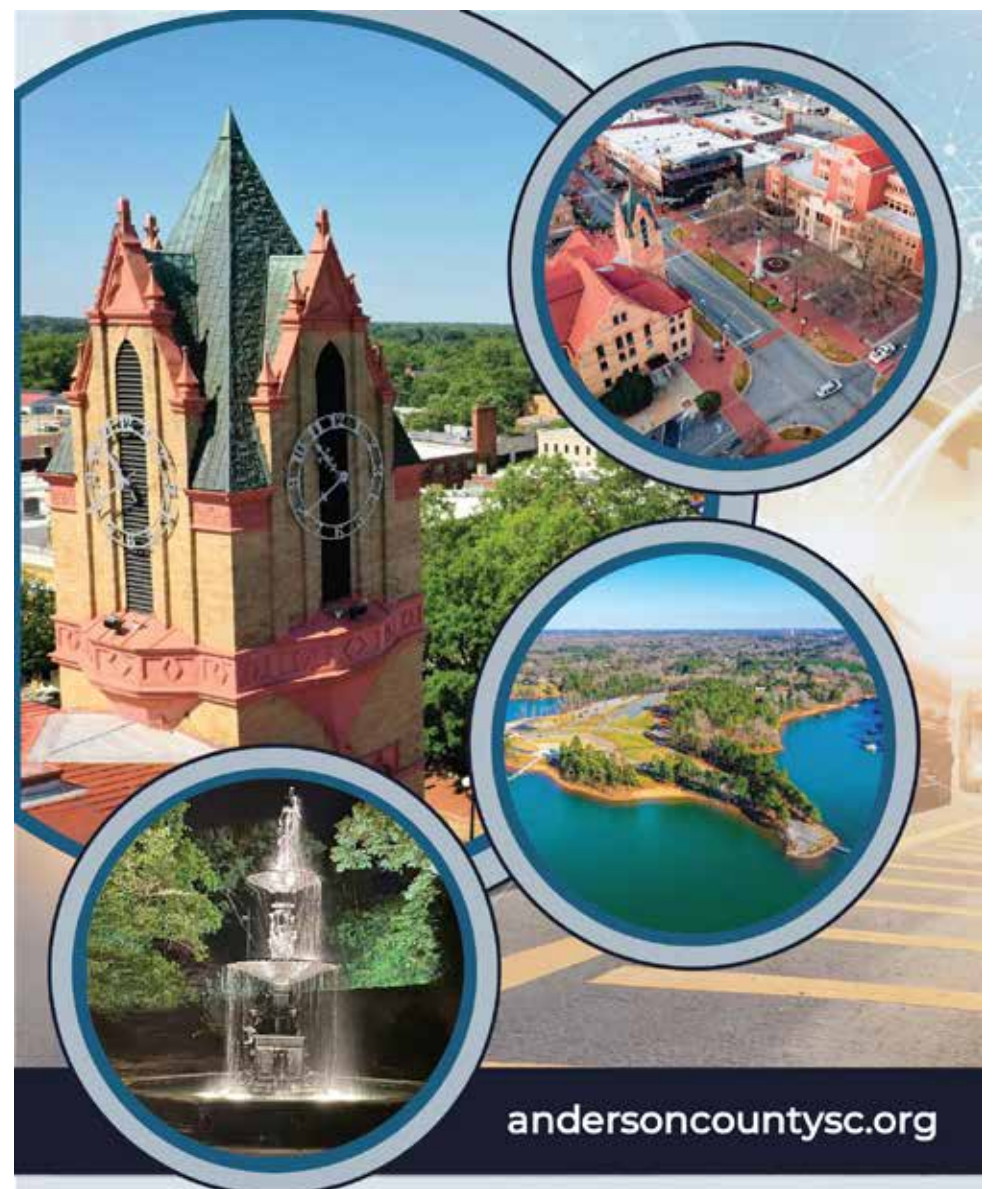
♦ And for astronomy lovers – Fewer lights brighten the coast with fewer people there, so everything is darker at night. Therefore, the sky is more beautiful in the offseason, particularly the winter.

♦ It makes sense that most places are

weekly rentals in the summer, because most people are coming for an entire week. But in the off-season? Those companies, Airbnb, and VRBO renters are happy to rent for partial weeks. They'd rather get some of your money than let those places stand empty week after week.

♦ And speaking of those agencies? Beach rentals—condos, houses, or inns—are all cheaper. Sometimes a lot!

So there you have it. If circumstances allow, go in the offseason! It makes for a great trip!



ANDERSON COUNTY
SOUTH CAROLINA

EXPERIENCE EXCEL ENJOY

SMEG for the springtime!
It's what every kitchen wants.



**The Kitchen
Emporium & Gifts**
Gourmet Food, Wine and Bar



ANTIQUE MALL
ANTIQUES | COLLECTIBLES | GIFTS

500 N. Main St.
Anderson, SC
864-642-9727

appledumplinantiques@gmail.com



WESTAR Auto-Truck Tire & Alignment

Corner of Bleckley & Murray
PO Box 400
Anderson, SC

864.224.2248
864.224.2254

**YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE!**

Price Driving School

217 West Whitner Street, Anderson, SC 29624
864-226-1320 - www.pricedriving.com



Tommy Price
Owner - Instructor

Private Driving Lessons - All Ages Welcome
Certified Instructors

(864) 209-8245 www.UHSSC.com

Enjoy Personalized Healthcare

Ready to embark on a journey of personalized support, care, and overall well-being?

Our highly trained personal care specialists assist in providing compassionate support for seniors and individuals with special needs right in the comfort of their own home.

We Take Care of:

- Household Duties
- Shopping
- Transportation
- Personal Care & Hygiene



Mobility Plus

Scooters Ramps Lifts

- Scooters
- Powerchairs
- Ramps
- Stairlifts
- Lift Chairs
- Vehicle Lifts

Sales, Service and Rentals

**Bring in this ad and receive
10% off total purchase!**

1017-A Whitehall Road, Anderson
(864) 401-8722

**Where EVERYDAY is
Independence Day**

**health
markets.**

HealthMarkets Insurance Agency
Health | Medicare | Small Group | Life | Supplemental



Debbie Whitworth
Licensed Insurance Agent

(864)226-8205
(864)760-2700

debbie.whitworth@HealthMarkets.com



LOCATED INSIDE

SURFGOAT

500 N MAIN ST.

LAKE/BOAT/BEACH

APPAREL & MORE

Your complete home maintenance expert!



SERVICES

- Pressure Wash/Gutter Cleaning
- Flooring • Electrical • Painting • Carpentry
- Fence Repair • Tiling • Window Cleaning
- Dock & Deck Repairs / New Decks
- Remodeling & Additions • Plumbing
- Duct Work • Landscaping

NO JOB IS TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL!

FREE ESTIMATES

Call Marcus Dean to Schedule Today!
864-776-8888



Southern ProScapes
Landscaping + Hardscaping

Local and reliable team that guarantees
quality work on every project.

SouthernProScapes@outlook.com
(864) 932-7347

**YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE!**

Yellow Jackets rally for victory over Greenwood

T.L. Hanna's football team trailed Greenwood 21-9 at the half last Friday night, but the Yellow Jackets had a plan.

"We got the second half kickoff and we knew we had to do something with it," Hanna coach Jason Tone said.



Brian Hodges

"We put together a good drive and scored. All of a sudden, it's 21-16, and the pressure was on Greenwood."

Perfect plan on an imperfect night.

Hanna scored again early in the fourth quarter for a 22-21 lead and made that score stand up in beating previously unbeaten Greenwood in the Region 1-AAAAA opener for both teams.

The Jackets have won three in a row after a season-opening loss to Byrnes.

Hanna vs. Greenwood has been a storied rivalry, sometimes playing on Thanksgiving Day back in the 1960s. The Eagles won last year's game 25-21 to lead the overall series, 46-16.

But this one belonged to the Yellow Jackets.

Hanna's 12-play scoring drive in the third quarter took 7 minutes off the clock, cut-

ting Greenwood's lead to 21-16. Brock Cole, Emari Nance and Elijah Grimes repeatedly hammered the Eagles with inside runs. Jaylon Watson scored from the 2.

After forcing the Eagles to punt, Hanna drove 86 yards for a touchdown and a 22-21 lead. Greenwood missed a 38-yard field goal try with three minutes to go and that was their last gasp.

Hanna rushed for 272 yards (6.2 yards per carry) in the game.

Brock Cole had 79 yards on 11 carries and Grimes had 47 yards on 10 carries and scored a touchdown.

Nance had 8 carries for 44 yards and also had 5 kick-off returns for 154 yards (30.8 yard average).

And all this with Hanna playing a backup quarterback.

First-team quarterback Gavin Magin suffered a head injury in the Sept. 12 win over Wren so coach Tone turned the offense over to Will Mayfield, a junior with a steady hand.

"Mayfield did a good job," Tone said.

"You put him in as a starter in a game like



this and it's time to grow up. I was proud of him."

It's too soon to know if Magin will be available for Hanna's Sept. 26 game against Mauldin. As of last Friday night, Magin said he still had headaches.

Greenwood senior quarterback Triston Lewis was a serious headache for Hanna's defense in the first half. Lewis, a South Carolina commitment, is a sizable athlete

who led the Eagles to two first-quarter scoring drives and Hanna was in a hole, 14-0.

The Jackets got a touchdown from Grimes, but Greenwood responded with a TD and it was 21-7 Eagles. However, when Greenwood was finally forced to punt, the ball was snapped over Lewis' head and through the end zone for a safety and it was 21-9.

Hanna had a chance to cut into the lead late in the first half, but two holding penalties smothered a drive.

"We kept shooting ourselves in the foot," Tone said. "Those penalties hurt."

Hanna had 13 penalties for 110 yards.

Still, Tone knew this was a good night.

"The kids showed a lot of heart," he said.

"We've got to enjoy this one for 24 hours, then get ready for Mauldin next week."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to SC Statutory Law, personal property from the following unit will be sold on October 16, 2025 at 10am at Stowaway Self Storage, 4350 Highway 24, Anderson, SC 29626.

Unit C9/10 – A. O'Brien Unit appears to have the following items:

Childs pink car, strollers, toys, large stuffed unicorn, microwave, dryer, home and holiday decor, Bissell Vacuum, dining chairs, floor jack, compressor, weed eater, car parts, boxes, totes, bags

Property being sold to satisfy a lien for storage rent.

Bidders must sign in prior to sale at www.storagetreasures.com Unit availability subject to prior redemption by tenant.

Stowaway & Speedy Storage
4350 Hwy 24
Anderson, SC 29626
864-260-0220
www.andersonscstorage.com

W.E. BLACK

TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL

375-1899

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

NPMA National Pest Management Association
Our Mission is Your Protection

SCPCA SOUTH CAROLINA PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

W.E. BLACK TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL, INC.
2840 SOUTH MAIN STREET • ANDERSON, SC

MASTER TERMITE TECHNICIAN

30th ANNIVERSARY 1993-2023

PMP Pest Management PROFESSIONAL

Tips from the Trenches

NOW ACCEPTING NEW CUSTOMERS!

Ralph Hayes
TOYOTA

SHOWROOM
HOURS:
MON.-FRI.
8:30AM-7PM
SATURDAY
8:30AM-6PM

**PRE-OWNED
CENTER**



CERTIFIED USED VEHICLES

RALPH HAYES

RalphHayesToyota.com

**WE SELL ALL MAKES,
ALL MODELS,
ALL THE TIME.**

**WE WANT TO
BUY YOUR CAR!**

Used car values are currently at an
ALL-TIME HIGH. Your car is
probably worth more than you think.

ANY YEAR • ANY VEHICLE

**GET TOP DOLLAR FOR
YOUR VEHICLE!**

**WE'LL BUY YOUR VEHICLE EVEN
IF YOU DON'T BUY FROM US**



OVER 100 VEHICLES TO CHOOSE FROM!

2011 BUICK LACROSSE CX
STK#P9815 **\$6,998**
2017 SUBARU CROSSTREK
STK#P9125A **\$9,400**
2013 TOYOTA PRIUS V
STK#P5748A **\$10,990**
2022 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
STK#27351A **\$15,500**
2014 TOYOTA TACOMA
STK#27333B **\$16,471**
2022 NISSAN SENTRA SV
STK#P1383 **\$16,998**
2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
STK#27437A **\$16,990**
2016 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED
STK#27568A **\$20,990**
2019 SUBARU BRZ LIMITED
STK#P3275 **\$21,500**

2023 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
STK#P3275 **\$21,990**
2023 FORD EDGE SEL
STK#27436B **\$21,900**
2018 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500
STK#27472A **\$21,998**
2017 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED
STK#27406B **\$22,498**
2019 BUICK ENCLAVE ESSENCE
STK#27535A **\$22,997**
2014 LEXUS GX 460
STK#27494A **\$23,651**
2018 CHEVROLET TAHOE LT
STK#27288B **\$23,997**
2024 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
STK#P1199 **\$24,595**
2021 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LE
STK#27500A **\$25,846**

2024 TOYOTA CAMRY SE
STK#P8878 **\$26,481**
2023 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE
STK#27567A **\$26,865**
2024 CHEVROLET BLAZER LT
STK#P4978 **\$26,990**
2023 GMC ACADIA SLT
STK# P5596 **\$27,800**
2022 FORD MAVERICK LARIAT
STK#P2652 **\$27,900**
2025 KIA SPORTAGE EX
STK#27338B **\$28,791**
2024 KIA SORENTO S
STK#P6990 **\$28,835**
2021 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
STK#27464B **\$30,773**
2021 JEEP GLADIATOR OVERLAND
STK#26424A **\$30,931**

**4008 Clemson Blvd.
Anderson, SC 29621**

**Ask for Marty Crossley
for your personalized deal.**

800-868-8066

Prices plus applicable tax, tag, title, registration and includes \$224 closing fee. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Picture for illustration purpose only. Expires 9/30/25.