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October 4-17, 2018

bye bye baby

By Kay Willis Burns

I remember it like it was yesterday...that lazy Sunday afternoon many years ago. I was in the den listening to CNN and sorting through old family photographs, and looking forward to the Kay Family Reunion in Anderson that night.

As I was deciding which pictures would make the family reunion cut, I heard the faint sound of a feminine, English accent coming from the television. I turned to the TV and began listening to this woman's story of how she had never known her father. Her name was Barbara Cowin. She was the product of her English mother and an American soldier stationed in England during World War II. Her mother had led Barbara to believe that her first husband was Barbara's real father. But under pressure from Barbara, she had told her daughter the truth.

Barbara and English writer, Pamela Winfield, were on a media tour promoting the organization TRACE, (Trans Atlantic Childrens Enterprise) and providing support to English children who were searching for their American fathers. Pamela had created the organization.

In the CNN segment I was watching, Barbara said that she had been looking for her biological father for years, and that he was from North Carolina and his name was "Will Willis."

At this point in the CNN segment, I began to get cold chills. I knew that my own father was not who Barbara was looking for.... BUT:

1. My father had served in England in World War II
2. He was from the Carolinas (South Carolina)
3. His last name was Willis.

The cold chills were coming faster. What does this mean? What am I supposed to do? I felt like I was having an out of body experience!

SEE BABY ON PAGE 2



Pictured above is a letter and photo from Janet Rowe, the daughter of an English mother and an American soldier, who was reconnected with her father in North Carolina with help from Kay Willis Burns.




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Baby

continued from page 1

I picked up the telephone. I called the Atlanta headquarters of CNN and told them that I had just seen their segment about TRACE and that I believed I could help these English war babies. The staff person I spoke with told me to call their CNN desk in London, and he gave me that number. I called the CNN London desk and explained why I was calling. They gave me the phone number of Pamela Winfield of TRACE. I called Pamela and spoke with her at length. I told her that I would like to assist these war babies in any way I could. After our conversation, she began sending me cases. Pamela had told me that she especially hoped that I could find the father of a woman named Janet Rowe. Janet had been trying to find her father for a long, long time. The only belonging she had of her father's was his military Bible.

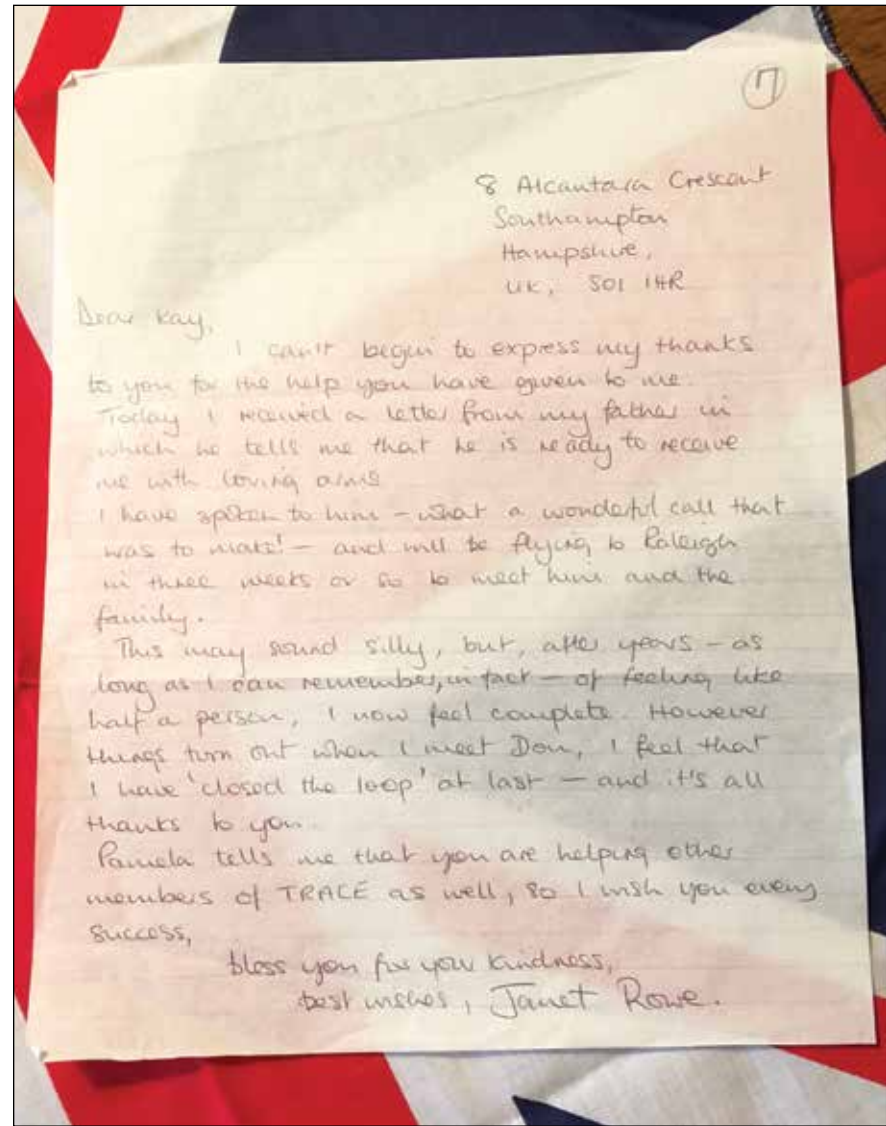
After my conversation with Pamela, Janet began mailing me background information on her family. As I began corresponding with Janet in England, I learned that Janet's biological father was named Donald Ray Vance and that he had met Janet's mother in Kingston-upon-Thames. Janet's father had been stationed at Bushy Park. Janet said that her mother and father were engaged and that after her father returned to the U.S., they corresponded for some time after her birth. Janet's mother had dissuaded Janet from continuing the correspondence, and the communication withered away.

In one of her letters, Janet wrote: "...I would be so grateful if you could find out anything for me. I realize that there is a chance he is dead, he must be in his 70's now, but perhaps I have other family...Of course, they may want to have nothing to do with me—it's a risk I have to take..."

I began researching in earnest. I learned that a relative of Janet's biological father had — at one time — lived on Buncombe Street in Greenville, SC. However, that was a very long time ago.

I continued trying to access any and every avenue to find Janet's father. With so little to go on, I decided to try anything, regardless of how unlikely the chance of success might be. So, I began to haunt local libraries, examining any helpful guides or military resources available. As I pored over volume after volume of information, I finally sat down with the phone books and city directories. With no Internet in those days, I was pretty much shooting from the hip.

I began targeting mid-size to large-size cities. I was searching for entries with the names D.R. Vance, Don Vance, D. Vance, Donald Vance, Donald Ray Vance etc. I called people in Atlanta, Charlotte, Columbia, Knoxville, and other cities.



Above: A letter of gratitude from Janet. Below: Janet Rowe, a WWII baby from England



My eyes were beginning to glaze over. I then decided to look at Raleigh, N.C. I thumbed through the surnames starting with the letter 'V'. I looked and scrolled down and there was an entry of a 'D.R. Vance'. My hands started to sweat. My heart was racing. I decided to just do it. I picked up the phone and called the number. The dial tones began to sound more melancholy the longer they lasted. Finally, someone answered very sweetly and said, "Hello."

"Yes, ma'am, is this by any chance the residence of Donald Ray Vance?" I asked. "Yes it is," said the woman.

I thought I was going to pass out. "May I speak to him, please?" I asked.

The next thing I knew there was a male voice on the line. I began by saying that my name was Kay, and that I was trying

to reach a 'Donald Ray Vance' who had been stationed at Bushy Park in England during the 1940's and 1950's. There was a pause. Then he replied that "yes" he was indeed stationed there at that time. I then asked him if he or anyone in his family had ever lived in Greenville, S.C. He replied "yes," and said he had lived there several years ago.

At that point, I thought I might just spontaneously combust. I then said, "Mr. Vance, I am calling you about something very personal and confidential and if at any time you don't want to talk to me just let me know and I will hang up. But I am calling you on behalf of someone else, someone who has been searching for you for a long time. Her name is Janet Rowe. She lives in Hampshire, England and she says that you are her father."

Mr. Vance, without missing a beat, yelled "Thank God! I wanted to marry her mother and I sent letters but didn't hear back. You tell her that I want to see her and that she has three sisters!"

Later that night, I called Janet in England to tell her that I had found her father. She didn't believe me at first. And then it started to sink in.

After the shock, Janet wrote me a letter to express her thanks and to say that she had just received a letter from her father "in which he tells me that he is ready to receive me with loving arms..."

Four weeks later, Janet Rowe flew to Raleigh, NC to meet her father...for the first time.

THE Electric City News

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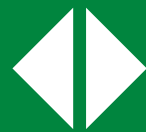
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Local young author holds book launch party

Tessa Emily Hall will celebrate the release of her new book, "Coffee Shop Devos: Daily Devotional Pick-Me-Ups for Teen Girls" (Bethany House) at Figs Cafe & Farmacy (200 N Main St, Anderson, SC 29621) from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 6.

Everyone who purchases a signed copy of the book will receive a free cup of coffee from Figs Cafe. In addition, there will be chocolate, book swag, and other treats. The first 15 people to purchase a book will receive a free goodie bag filled with book swag and a sample of Coffee Shop Devos Specialty Coffee Blend to enjoy at home. Giveaways will be held throughout the party, and a photo booth will be available as well. Guests will also be invited to participate in a DIY coffee cup art project.

"Coffee Shop Devos" — written by local author, Tessa Emily Hall — makes the perfect gift for the teen girl in your life. The book is divided by the teen girls' daily needs in a "Menu of Contents." Included in the book are original recipes for teens to make their own coffee-shop beverage to enjoy while they read.

Tessa's first book, "Purple Moon," was published when she was 19 years old. Since then, she has had three books published (including "Coffee Shop Devos") and currently works for Hartline Literary Agency and Lighthouse Publishing of the Carolinas.

Readers have commended Tessa on her ability to write for teens. "Coffee Shop Devos is everything young ladies need to hear," commented Rayleigh Gray, editor of Pursue Magazine.

Author Bekah Hamrick Martin states, "Tessa's latest book is both relatable and relevant. She takes the reader beyond the surface of Scripture to deeper topics in an engaging yet readable style. I highly recommend this book to all the teens in my life."

For more information about Tessa and her books, visit www.tessaemilyhall.com.

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BUILDING UP THE NEXT GENERATION

How to choose 'just right' books for your babies and toddlers

By Katie Laughridge

Have you ever found yourself browsing around the bookstore or the library wondering, "How in the world can I choose the best book for my child?"

Trying to choose a "just right" book can indeed be a bit overwhelming. The good news is — whether you have a sweet, new baby or a busy, babbling toddler — there is a perfect book out there for everyone.

Here are a few helpful guidelines that will hopefully point you in the right direction.

Babies: It is truly never too early to introduce your child to the wondrous world of reading, learning, and imaginary adventures. Research has confirmed time and time again that reading aloud is not only an excellent way to bond with your baby, but is also an important factor necessary for your baby's proper development. Among other things, reading aloud is a great way to teach your baby about communication, and is a very effective way to introduce concepts such as numbers, letters, colors, and shapes — while still having fun! Reading is also necessary for building listening, memory, and vocabulary skills.

For children of this age, it is best to choose books that have interesting colors, textures, and shapes. Books of this type will help to hold their attention for a longer period of time.

A few book suggestions that may be helpful are:

- "First 100 Words and Numbers", "Colors, and Shapes" by Roger Priddy,
- "Goodnight Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown,

Katie Laughridge

- "Chicka Boom Chicka Boom" by Bill Martin, and
- "Brown Bear, Brown Bear" written by Bill Martin Jr. and illustrated by Eric Carle.

Toddlers: As I'm sure many mothers will agree, reading to young toddlers can be a bit exhausting. Children of this age are busily exploring and eagerly learning about the world around them. Although it may seem like your toddler is getting nothing out of your efforts, this is hardly the case at all. Research has shown that the more words a toddler is exposed to, the better prepared they will be for school — and will also be more likely to eventually enjoy reading books on their own.

At this age, it's important to find books that encourage hands-on participation within the pages such as "lift-the-flap" and "touch-and-feel" books. A few book suggestions include:

- "Spot" books by Eric Hill,
- "Where is Baby" books by Karen Katz, and
- Usborne touchy-feely books such as "That's Not My Tiger."

Some other great books are:

- "Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site" by Sherri Duskey Rinker, and
- "All the World" by Liz Garton Scanlon.

I hope you can find the perfect book for your child because I promise it's out there. Happy searching and happy reading!

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November 15 - November 24

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'JUST RELAX'

By Mary-Catherine McClain Riner
PhD, Ed.S., M.S.

"Just relax" is a common yet hurtful phrase across a variety of situations and personal experiences. For example, a freshman is home for the holidays and a family member asks, "What is your intended major?" Feeling pressure and anxiety, the freshman may lower his/her head, provide a response, and walk away feeling defeated and embarrassed not being "certain" of the actual major. Another example comes following college; you are attending a wedding and a friend comments, "You have been dating a long time. When will you get married?" Feeling frustrated and overwhelmed, the friend provides an arbitrary time estimate. Lastly, consider the example of a woman in her 30's who is married but childless. A woman is participating in a girl's night and the discussion of "When are you going to have children" is asked. Feeling alone and in the spotlight, you lower your head. After each of the above examples, "Just relax, it will happen" is stated. Although the intentions may be in the right place, the phrase is often unsolicited, hurtful, and unhelpful.

"Just relax" often feels invalidating for individuals struggling and makes them feel



MARY-CATHERINE
McCLAIN
RINER

unheard and alone. For individuals on the receiving end of this unsolicited advice, it is important to consider how much time you choose to spend with such persons, and what boundaries may be helpful. Other people may choose to be direct and stating, "marriage will come when marriage comes" or "I have a whole team of experts working on my infertility." Individuals who have processed and may be seeking empowerment may also say, "I experienced a trauma" or "I am healing. There is no time limit on my life choices and decisions."

Before opening your mouth, consider asking yourself if the person you are speaking to will be helped or hurt by it. Ask yourself, is this denying his/her experience and struggle, or is it affirming and providing positive support? Words matter. Use them wisely.

Contact the author at www.rinercounseling.com, drmarycatherine@rinercounseling.com or 864-608-0446.



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VOTE - NOVEMBER 6

Updates for the fall season

By Amie Buice Speer

While the temps outside may indicate otherwise, it's official: Fall is here! For many this means pumpkin spice lattes, scarves and boots but for me this means a shift in the feel of home. The sweet transition from long hot days to darker evenings, candles burning, fires crackling (one of these days) and warm cups of coffee. Each season feels like a new beginning, a fresh start, and another opportunity to make subtle changes in your home that reflect a different time in life.

So, I've rounded up some easy and cost-effective ways to update your home for the season.



- ♦ **Get cozy!** A new throw in a great plaid or faux fur will instantly add warmth to your living room. Top it off with a couple of pillows in a chunky fabric or velvet and the space is transformed.
- ♦ **Bring the outside in.** Arranging some whimsical branches from your yard in a tall vase, surrounded with acorns and pine cones is a great way to bring the beauty of the season inside.
- ♦ **Candles, candles, candles.** Stock up on a couple of seasonally scented, and a whole lot of taper and pillar candles. Visit your local thrift shop for some great vintage candle holders and use them! Nothing

gives a home more of a warm and welcoming feeling than the glow of a flickering flame.

♦ **Set up your stoop.** Hang a fall wreath on your door, plant a few new flowers in warm tones and layer pumpkins of different sizes and colors on your front steps. A beautiful entrance sets the stage for a beautiful interior.

To finish it off I've collected some of my favorite affordable Fall items this season, all available at Target. To the left are pictures, but visit the blog on my website (amierspeer.com) for direct links. Now, light a candle, grab that pumpkin spice latte, turn down the air conditioning (only half joking), and enjoy a welcoming atmosphere that will lead us into another beautiful season.

For more info, visit Amiespeer.com or email amie@amiespeer.com.



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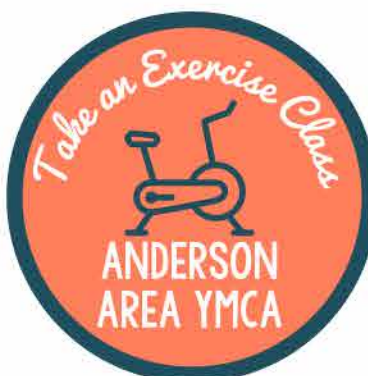
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FOR CONTACT INFO, SEE DIRECTORY IN BACK OF ISSUE

NEWEST EAGLE SCOUT



The Boy Scouts of America 620 District would like to congratulate Anderson County's Newest Eagle Scouts. Kaleb Crowe is a Scout in Troop 84 located in Anderson, SC. Kaleb's Eagle Scout Project consisted of collecting and distributing clothing, supplies and toiletries for children in Anderson School District 5. Kaleb and his Scout Leader, Eddie Aman, and Kaleb's father are pictured at his Eagle Scout Board of Review held on Thursday, August 30.

VIEW FROM THE STANDS

By Dan Lacobie

Well, it seems that football season is at the halfway mark, if you can believe it. It's like we wait and wait for it to get here and then, like most things, poof, it's gone. Although we still have a ways to go I look at the schedules and think how fast it goes by.

In the past couple of games T.L. Hanna has put themselves in the driver seat, so to speak. With wins over rival Westside and Greenwood, Hanna is sitting at 6 – 0 and facing region rival Easley on Friday night.

The Westside Rams, who came off a big win visiting the Laurens Raiders this past week, are sitting at 2 – 1 in region play so far this season and 2 – 4 in overall play are keeping themselves very much in contention for the playoffs with 4 games to go in the regular season.

This past week had a lot to offer in the college ranks as we saw a very familiar face depart one of the area colleges. Kelly Bryant, Wren High alum, decided to transfer out of Clemson. After freshman Trevor Lawrence was named the starter for the Syracuse game, Bryant decided to save his redshirt and transfer.

During the first quarter, as many of you know, Lawrence went down after a big hit by Syracuse and never came back to the game. Chase Brice came in and brought back Clemson from the brink of disaster and finished off Syracuse with



Dan Lacobie

the help of a very good rushing offense and the defense motivated by how well the offense performed.

The University of Georgia saw the Tennessee Volunteers roll into Athens with ideas of upsetting the #2 ranked Bulldogs on their home turf. With the Bulldogs not exactly playing up to par, according to Bulldog expectations, they came away with a very good conference and division win of 38 – 12.

South Carolina's Gamecocks went to Lexington Kentucky to play the Wildcats on Saturday, September 29th. Kentucky is playing extremely well so far this season with a record of 5 – 0. Carolina, who has dropped the last 5 games versus the Wildcats, are 2 – 2 overall this season. With the game versus Marshall's thundering herd cancelled during Hurricane Florence's appearance a couple of weeks ago, Carolina has only played in 4 games this year.

In looking at the dwindling baseball season, we see the Atlanta Braves winning the National League East and awaiting the playoffs. Ronald Acuna has proven to be a most valuable player for them as well as Freddie Freeman, Dansby Swanson, Mike Foltynewicz and Anibal Sanchez. The playoff run looks to be a great one.

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Anderson YMCA recipient of national basketball campaign

Dick's Sporting Goods, in partnership with the NBA, Spalding, and the YMCA of the USA, hosted the 2018 Nationwide Basketball Campaign 'Buy One Give One' to benefit YMCAs across America.

Anderson Area YMCA was awarded 120 basketballs to be used by youth at their after school sites and summer day camp.

Chad Alewine, Wellness Director, and

Seth Furr, Athletic Director from the Anderson Area YMCA, also donated some of these basketballs to local schools Centerville Elementary, Whitehall Elementary, and Anderson Christian School to be used for their gym classes and youth basketball.

Contact Chad Alewine at chada@andersonareaymca.org with questions.

ACM Hall of Fame celebrates 15 years

On Tuesday, October 16, The Anderson County Museum (ACM) Advisory Committee will celebrate the 15th year of inducting deserving individuals into the Hall of Fame. This year, they are honoring John Martin, in addition to highlighting all 35 Hall of Fame recipients since the induction began in 2003.

The ACM Advisory Committee members are appointed by the Anderson County Council. John Martin was chosen from among 20 outstanding applications.

Martin was nominated by Dr. Julia Barnes. When asked about the nomination, Dr. Barnes said, "Anderson County gave a significant contribution to South Carolina's effort in the War of 1812. Unfortunately in 2018, our county's participation

is nearly forgotten. Colonel John Martin was a continuation of the tradition of Anderson County citizens making a significant personal sacrifice to preserve and protect our freedom."

Born about a half mile from Ebenezer Methodist Church on September 1, 1793, John Martin was known for his military career and civil leadership. At the age of 19, he volunteered in Captain Thompson's company, made up of men from Pendleton and Abbeville, with whom he served through the War of 1812. He also built a reputation as a lawmaker and became a representative in the state legislature in 1832. In the years leading up to the Civil War, Martin emerged as a proponent of Secession. In 1860, he was a delegate from Anderson County to the state convention, which

drafted and signed the Ordinance of Secession.

John Martin lived out his days in the same place he had been born. He and his wife, Cynthia Rutledge, had a total of 16 children, though five of them died early deaths.

Martin passed away on December 28, 1880, at the age of 87, and was buried at Ebenezer Methodist Cemetery. His leadership brought Anderson County and South Carolina through many of its most formative years and saw to the building of a more united nation after our most divisive conflict.

The ceremony will begin at 5:30 p.m. on October 16, followed by a reception. Both are free and open to the public.

For more information, call 864-260-4737. www.andersoncountymuseum.org.

HOT HITS

Cher covers ABBA

By Justin Tyme

At 72 years old, she's released her 26th album and this time Cher covers ABBA.

The 10 song disc was produced by Mark Taylor, the guy who thrust her back into the spotlight and the club scene in the late 90s. When I heard the album, I felt as if these



Justin Tyme

songs were meant for Cher. The first time I had heard of ABBA was in 1994. My Dad and I were at a bar in Grand Central Station. I

was going home from a week long visit with my pops. A song called "Take A Chance" by Erasure was played. My Dad insisted it was a remake, originally done by the 70s disco legends. He found the song on the jukebox and we listened to it. My dad would pass away a week later. Needless to say, I hold on tight to that memory, and



anytime something ABBA related is brought to my attention I embrace it and think of my Dad.

I am grateful that Cher — whom I've seen in concert 12 times — is the one who did this album. By the way, Cher is back on tour to support this tribute to ABBA. Her "Here We Go Again" Tour hits Charlotte on January 29.

Justin Tyme can be heard on HOT 98.1 Saturdays and Sundays at 3 p.m.



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Countybank celebrates grand opening in Anderson

Countybank is proud to announce the grand opening of their second location in Anderson, SC. The bank kicked off the celebration on September 19 with a ribbon cutting ceremony presented by the Anderson Chamber of Commerce, followed by a hot dog lunch that was open to the community.

“We can’t wait to open our doors for a new opportunity to connect with our customers,” said Glenn Buddin, Vice President, Anderson Market Executive of Countybank. “An event like this that incorporates the community as a whole allows us to show our dedication to the city of Anderson.”

The ribbon cutting ceremony

began at 11 a.m. with the lunch celebration continuing until 1 p.m. The event took place at the new branch located at 2125 N Highway 81, Anderson, SC 29621, which is now open to the public. Countybank is delighted to be at home in Anderson and continue to serve the Upstate community.

“Countybank is thrilled to be expanding across the Upstate with our second location in Anderson,” said Ken Harper, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Countybank. “It is our hope that this new location will bring not only convenience, but top-notch service to our customers in the community.”

Having recently celebrated its 85th anniversary, Countybank, known for its excellent reputation in commercial banking and mortgage lending, is excited to serve the Anderson market by offering retail-banking services, further providing a convenient option to downtown merchants and the Anderson community. Countybank also provides products and services through Countybank Insurance Services, Inc., Countybank Investment Services, Inc., Countybank Mortgage, Countybank Trust Services, and its affiliate, Greenwood Capital Associates, LLC.

To learn more about Countybank, visit www.ecountybank.com.



The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Countybank in Anderson was held on Wednesday, Sept. 19.



A rendering of Anderson Regional Airport's new terminal.

Anderson airport expands

On Thursday Sept. 27, Anderson County leaders ushered in a new era at Anderson Regional Airport with a groundbreaking ceremony for the airport’s new terminal.

This celebration coincided with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the grand re-opening of the airport’s main runway, which has been closed since June for a major pavement rehabilitation project.

“Today marks a very special day in the history of Anderson County, and we would not be celebrating these milestones without the support of a lot of people,” said Anderson County Council Chairman Tommy Dunn. “Our partners at the S.C. Aeronautics Commission, S.C. Commerce, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the FAA have all made great contributions, but I would be remiss if I did not give special recognition to S.C. House Ways & Means Chairman Brian White.”

“This is a monumental time for our airport and for our community,” said Tom Allen, Chairman of the Anderson County Council’s Ad Hoc Airport Committee. “Anderson

Regional Airport receives almost 14,000 visitors each year and generates \$13 million annually in local economic activity. We provide services to several local industries and help to make their presence in our community feasible. These are worthwhile long-term investments we are making.”

“I am so very proud of what we have accomplished here at Anderson Regional,” said Airport Advisory Board Chair Don Acevedo. “We are thankful to be working with a County Council that recognizes the value that these investments will generate for years to come.”

Known to aviators by its FAA designation KAND, Anderson Regional Airport has served the community for over 75 years. While still providing service for general aviation users, KAND has evolved over the years into a critical component of Anderson County’s Economic Development program. “The Anderson Regional Airport, in many ways, is the most important Main Street in our community — it’s usually the first part of our community that a corporate decision-maker

will see,” said local aviator Hugh Oldham. “The ability for the airport to provide a positive first impression, meet the ongoing needs of corporate travelers, and handle cargo and other traffic generated by local industry, are critical components of Anderson County’s economic development strategy.”

The rehabilitation of the airport’s main runway to its current dimensions (length 6,003’, width 150’) was deemed crucial to the county’s efforts to provide service for current and future businesses and industries.

The new airport terminal is under construction adjacent to the existing terminal. The new terminal will be fully ADA compliant, enhance overall functionality for general aviation users, and provide special focus on the needs of corporate traffic, offering amenities such as: improved parking for up to 80 vehicles; covered access with adequate clearances; wireless access; laptop work areas; separate flight planning and quiet rooms for pilots; conference room facilities for up to 40 persons; and a catering/food prep area.

DO RE MI

By Ginny Bailes Fretwell

Shape note singing – how many remember that? Anderson native, Lena Davis, not only remembers, but continues to use her talent in this area to sing and direct The Community Workshop Choir.

Following her mother’s early death, her older brother, Johnny Lawrence Davis, helped fulfill their mother’s wish and began teaching Lena at a young age to sing in this fashion. Johnny told his sister, “Now you know it. What you do with it is up to you.”

Lena eventually learned to play the piano from Professor Fant. Soon after, she played a hymn at church, eventually becoming the first member of King David Baptist Church to serve as the Sunday School musician.



Anderson native Lena Davis founded the Community Workshop Choir with other shape note singers.

Over the years her music ministry grew. Lenawasselectedastheorganist for Generostee Baptist Sunday School Singing Convention as well as the InterdenominationalSinging Convention. She sang alto for the conventions as well. Some of her awards include Receiving the Key to Anderson, Phyllis Wheatley Living Legend Recipient, Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Award, National Association of Professional Women and Apprenticeship for Master Artist from the South Carolina Arts Commission and Shape Note Singing Display at the Anderson County Museum.

Following health problems that affected her vision acuity, she relinquished her seat as organist.

Her desire to continue to create

music in this form, she and other shape note singers founded the Community Workshop Choir. Over the years, the members who are trained in this type of song, have become fewer. It is Lena’s hope to keep it alive.

The choir practices on Tuesdays at First Baptist Church in Anderson. In order to revive this genre of music, she has plans to provide private instructions.

Anyone interested in joining the choir or taking shape note singing lessons can contact her at Lenadavisshapenote@yahoo.com.

She is also searching for a small building to lease, enough room for a piano, a few instruments and a few students. Anyone with such a space available, should contact her.

THE GARDEN SHOP

Will obedient plant live up to its name?

More of that spontaneous design has given me a pleasant surprise in a few places in my yard.

Years before the house was built, I started a mixed hedge of winterberry hollies and Formosa azaleas near the edge of the woods. Winterberry hollies are deciduous and make a great show when bare stems are covered in red berries. There's a bit of dark golden fall color starting now on the leaves. Berries will last well into winter.

In one part of the hedge, obedient plant (*Physostegia virginiana*) is blooming now. I don't remember planting it. Maybe it came with the azaleas. I did not realize obedient plant is native, from Canada to Florida and into New Mexico, until I confirmed the botanical name. I fought obedient plant when I lived in town. Part of the mint family, it can be an aggressive spreader by rhizomes and seeds. (It's called obedient plant because the flowers will stay the way they are bent, not because it behaves.) Obedient plant is important for bees and occasionally hummingbirds are seen visiting to get nectar from the flowers. The site I was reading about



SUSAN
TEMPLE
master
gardener

native info said "like most plants in the mint family, mammalian herbivores do not eat them." Well, it's nice to know zebra and giraffes won't eat it. Neither do deer. Nor do they eat the hollies. If grown in too much shade or soil too rich, obedient plant stems will need to be staked.

As part of the earliest plantings, I started a tree patch that is sort of in the middle of the side of the pasture where the house is. The pasture is divided by an area where water goes down to the creek. We call it the trench. A willow oak (*Quercus phellos*) and a pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) are part of the tree patch. Both grow pretty fast for oak trees and they are shaping up to be beautiful trees. I've limbed the pin oak up and have only planted one azalea under it. The original idea was to have big azalea patches under both. Several azaleas are under the willow oak. It has not been limbed up and the branches are



Winterberry hollies have red berries.

weeping down. It reminds me of oaks in Charleston and lower parts of the state. Shade under it is right dense.

One azalea died shortly after planting it. As the azalea was dying, I noticed something else growing there. It is obedient plant. I wasn't aware a freebie



Obedient plant is part of the mint family.

was coming with the azalea. First thought was to dig out the obedient plant. But I've decided to leave it and see how well it will bloom. There is also a variety with white flowers. It supposedly will bloom better in more shade. This could be a nice addition under the oak. White flowers would look nice in the dense shade, and since no other perennials will be planted under the oaks, the white and purple could fight it out and spread however much they want to.

Contact Master Gardener Susan Temple at gardningirl@yahoo.com.

Wedding trends: Expect the unexpected

By Kristine March

It's wedding season and whether you're invited to one this year, or you're in one, or you are the bride, let's face it, wedding ceremonies can be stressful to prepare for. So here are some ideas on all things wedding.

For starters, trends for the bride this year are going to be on the less traditional side. Brides and white dresses have become a thing of the past. Champagne and even pink gowns are the "it" colors now. The grooms are wearing cobalt blue suits instead of black and white. Bridesmaid dresses are actually tolerable, you may even wear the dress again. Most brides are doing different styles of bridesmaids' dresses that fit everyone's body shape instead of those poof-sleeved disasters that made you look like lemon meringue icing back in the day.

If you are a guest, please don't wear white. That will always be a no-no. Wear something that you feel comfortable in and allows you



Kristine March

to dance the night away. Weddings are becoming really fun events to attend, thanks to trendy

designers that have made them like a fabulous party instead of an uptight ceremony.

Trends this year and for 2019 are amazing.

- Putting your adorable four legged friend in the hand of your flower girl to walk down the aisle with matching flower accessories.

- Big flower crowns instead of veils.

- The royal wedding this year made brides want to feel like a princess with the tiara trend.

- Bringing the outdoors inside with rustic branches and elegant twinkle lights and lanterns.

- A mix of china patterns and big candelabras for your tablescapes.

- Food is on the lighter side, with



some just having dessert or hors d'oeuvres instead of heavy sit down dinners.

- For outdoor settings, canoes and even old claw foot bath tubs filled with beverages and ice instead

of an open bar setup.

- Chandeliers and beautiful billowing fabric thrown over trees make it simple and modern.

- Colors of dark wine and dusty pinks were big this year.

- Sky wish lanterns flown into the air at the time the bride and groom depart instead of the traditional bird seed from years ago.

- Funky photo booths with props to entertain your guests with fun keepsake photos.

- A full on firework display set the fairy tail tone.

- Wedding cakes have really evolved – geode crystal designs to drip cakes, color blocking and even hand-painted cakes.

- The naked trend of no icing and layers of berries and powdered sugar and flowers were everywhere this year.

Weddings don't have to cost a fortune to be beautiful. Many couples had small ceremonies this year and asked their guests to donate to their favorite charities instead of bringing wedding gifts. That should be a must, no trend necessary. A wedding should be something you will never forget and most importantly, fun and spiritual. So make memories, take it all in, and enjoy your special occasion.

Drug Store Kitchen

By Laura Nation Atchison

I swore it would never, ever happen to me. I viewed it at others' houses, tried to understand all the why's and what for's, and still.

It would not happen in my world.

If you're of a certain age, this thing might already be happening to you.

If you have parents of a certain age, you're probably where I was with it and would swear by anything holy it will never happen to you,

either.

The time of reckoning has come. My kitchen counter looks like the pharmacy aisle at Walmart.

This happened gradually, and I fought back pretty hard for a while.

It was all Gruffy's fault, right after he turned about 50 and started having some various health concerns.

I suppose I should just go ahead and say "aging," but I'll be kind.



Laura Atchison Nation

He was getting all back into working out and had begun his serious whitewater kayaking pursuits, and had thus discovered that the old knees had suffered a little blow out damage through the years.

He'd been a cross country runner in his youth, survived a rough four years in the Navy, and I'm thinking he thought all his pieces were still pretty well glued together.

Well, not quite.

So, he started picking up this and that supplement and vitamin, and oh yeah, he'd just been told following a few encounters with a GI specialist he needed to add some fiber into his diet.

Well, those items took up space slowly and surely, and slowly and surely, I'd place them all back into the kitchen cabinet conveniently located just above.

This went on for weeks, and I grew tired of the struggle. I also caved into his need for the collection of vials and bottles to be placed where he might not forget to utilize them.

I do care about his well-being.

Then along came the type 2 diabetes scare, and we're adding more to the collection to fight this monster.

OK, it was getting serious. I completely stopped looking at that corner of the countertops. I care far more about my husband than I do about what anyone walking into my kitchen thinks about my tidiness or that it looks like an old person's house in there.

You know, it's true how often things will come back to bite you.

I've had a couple of years letting me know they've passed, and I've gained my own collection of tubes, bottles and vials.

The dry eye drops, the allergy concoctions, the occasional need to relieve the new burn in my belly too much coffee can deliver.

You get the idea.

What goes around, comes around.

I'm really glad I didn't continue my expressions of dislike for Gruffy's kitchen counter pharmacy. I've come to build my own now, and really, I like to have it all in one place where I can grab what I need in a hurry and not be bothered with looking for it.

It makes sense. It's not pretty, but it's what is. It's just an "old people's house."

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STUCK IN A RUT

By Mary Haley Thompson

I am in a rut. A total rut. Contrary to my "I have an exciting life" social media posts, I have been in a complete fog for several weeks.

I am embarrassed to say that my days have consisted of nothing but work and sleep. The highlight is always coming home to my cats, Hansen and Sparrow.

Dear God, someone help me.

In effort to save my own well-being, today's message features the art of climbing out of a rut. Upon researching countless articles and asking friends and family, I have compiled a short-list of tips and tricks to help those of you (and especially me) clear the air to your foggy life.

1. Do something different. You probably have your route to work all set. This week, try mixing it up. Take a different road. Walk along different streets. Instead of writing off this part of your day, look at it as an exciting journey and be sure to notice what's around you on your travels. It is through patterns, routines and habits that life can lose its sparkle — changing your route to and from work is great a first step to shedding light on new perspective.

2. Get out of your comfort zone. My Friday nights have consisted of working extra jobs and going to bed early. It is easier and less stressful than going on a date or to dinner with friends. My first step out of my comfort



Mary Haley Thompson

zone was reconnecting with a guy I really like and making plans to see him tomorrow night. The butterflies are back; I forgot how great it felt to look forward to something!

3. Dress to Impress. Let's face it, the better we look, the better we feel. The past few weeks I have sported a messy-bun hairstyle more times than I have in a lifetime. My lack of confidence in my appearance affects my mood and interest in interacting with people during or after work. This week I decided to set my alarm 20 minutes earlier to make time for a solid hair and makeup routine. I already feel better, refreshed and rejuvenated. I also look forward to retiring my Friday night sweatpants for my new pink-suede skirt for tomorrow's date.

It may not be the most scientific list, but it works. For those of you stuck in a rut, no matter how deep it seems, there is always a way out. The word "stuck" is a state of being that is meant to be temporary, but it will take effort to combat its resistance to keep you down.

I plan to put in the work to get out of my rut. But don't worry, the cats are coming with me!

MUSINGS OF AN OLE BALL COACH

Remembering an excellent athlete and person

The year 1970 was ultra important at T.L. Hanna, and indeed all schools in the south. A landmark Supreme Court ruling decreed that all schools would be integrated, that separate but equal was a misnomer.

The nation held its breath and prayed that this grand experiment would be successful. Never before had African Americans and white youngsters been asked to go to school together. Hundreds of years of tradition and prejudices had to be compromised or the results would be disastrous.

As athletics appear to be the common denominator, sports teams were in the spotlight. Football started in conjunction with



JIM FRASER

the beginning of school, so it was essential that this racial transition be successful.

That 1970 Yellow Jacket team would go 10-1 in the regular season, only to lose to Eau Claire in the Upper State Championship at Sirrine Stadium. It's obvious success, the bonding and teamwork, and the absence of racial barriers on the team, jump-started the entire school to help make Hanna's integration endeavor a successful one.

Steve Whitfield and Jim Ed Rice formed one of the most prolific passing combos in South Carolina Prep Football in 1970. Steve was a lithe 6' 165 pounder with a rather cherubic face, black curly hair and all the normal body parts, except God attached a bazooka where his right arm should be. He was white.

Jim Ed Rice was a muscular 6'2" 200 pounder who was faster than a small town rumor. He was African American.

Steve was tossing bombs to Jim Ed when the general consensus on passing was that three things could happen when you passed a football, and two of them were bad.

We were locked up with big,

bad Gaffney in a pivotal semifinal at historic Sirrine. We got inside Gaffney's 5 yard line setting up a first and goal. That's bully of the block, elbows to butt holes football, and Whitfield throws to Rice on first down for a touchdown.

After the win I accosted Steve, "Son, you know we run the ball, not pass it, when we're in the shadow of the goal posts." He replied, "Coach, you told me any time I could get the ball to Rice, to change the play and do it. I was just following instructions."

That was Steve Whitfield, gritty, bash, and oozing confidence.

That 70's team produced a few doctors, several lawyers and busi-

ness men. Steve went back to his neighborhood and ran the family machine shop. Jim Ed Rice went on to a Hall of Fame career with the Boston Red Sox.

Steve passed away last Friday. He left no progeny, no estate, and in fact he had no funeral services, no gathering of coaches and friends at a wake. But don't feel sorry for this kid. His love of the games (he hit over .400 in baseball), and his leadership, led his school through some tumultuous times. I know of an ole ball coach who feels indebted to him.

Jim Fraser was the athletic director and head football coach at T.L. Hanna High School from 1968-1985. He also taught U.S. History.

Visit the state fair for food, attractions, and a little espionage

By Kim von Keller

It's been almost six months since the Great Anderson County Fair, so if your cholesterol is back in the normal range and you've regained the hearing in both ears, I have the perfect event for you: The South Carolina State Fair in Columbia.



Kim von Keller

An easy two hours-plus drive from Anderson, the fairgrounds are just a couple of blocks south of the capitol. And just like the proceedings that occur within that granite edifice, the State Fair is truly a spectacle to behold.

To start, there's nothing more delicious than fair food. You can pick your nutritional poison, from cotton candy, funnel cakes, turkey wings, or Italian sausages. Then there's the ever-changing offering of Foods

That Shouldn't Be Fried, But Let's Fry Them Anyway, such as fried Oreos, fried Twinkies, fried mini cinnamon rolls, fried Coca-Cola(?), and fried butter (???). Personally, I stick with Fiske's french fries and a Daley's Dogs corn dog. I would like to be able to see my grandchildren someday, and also my own feet.

Next are the attractions. This year you can watch a border collie herding exhibition, robotic dinosaurs, and racing pigs.

My favorite attraction is people watching, and my favorite people to watch are couples on a date. They're easy to spot. Her clothes say, "I could be a Kardashians," and she's usually carrying an oversized stuffed animal. His clothes say, "I just mowed the lawn," and his pockets are usually stuffed with ATM receipts.

The best part of the State Fair, though, are the competitions, the ones that recognize the arts, crafts, and agricultural products of our state. Any South Carolina citizen can enter baked goods, canned goods, flower arrangements, produce, homemade wine, or

livestock with the hope of winning a ribbon. If you've never entered anything before, the registration is closed, but that's OK. This is not your year to enter. This is your year to spy.

I know because I've done it. For years, I entered baked goods in the State Fair, and I have a drawer full of red ribbons, blue ribbons, and one elusive purple best-in-show ribbon. Before I ever entered, though, I spent a couple of years analyzing the winning entries. What were the precise dimensions of the winning brownies? Was there a crack in the winning banana bread? How many layers were in the winning carrot cake? You may think that a chocolate chip cookie is just a chocolate chip cookie, but I never entered them without weighing out each portion of dough to the gram and randomly arranging (wink-wink) the same number of extra chocolate chips on top. I know it's not rocket science, but – wait, who am I kidding? This is a baked goods competition, and it IS rocket science!

Once you've decided what you want to

enter in the future and studied the entries, write down the names of the winners. Visualize them. They are not your peers. They are not your guideposts. They are the enemies standing between you and a year's worth of bragging rights. When I was preparing my entries, I always pictured my arch enemy, whom I'll call Rose, pinching the edges of her pie crusts or scooping dough into her muffin tins. "Eye of the Tiger" playing in my mind, I made sure my edges were the sharpest, my muffins the roundest. When I finally beat her in the pecan pie category, I did an end-zone dance in the middle of the exhibition hall as my daughter pretended to have a different mommy.

I hope you'll make a trip to the state fair, which runs October 5-21. It really celebrates the best of South Carolina. Just remember to pack a roll of Tums, a roll of cash, and a small notebook.

Kim von Keller is a closed caption editor whose interests include literary fiction and global politics.



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BELTON-HONEA PATH BEARS



By Dan Lacobie

So far the BHP Bears have an overall record of 4 wins 2 losses and in region play 0 wins and 1 loss. With a region rival away game at Palmetto on the slate for BHP's next game on October 5th, the Bears look to get their first region win with anticipation of the playoffs coming up in just a few weeks.

BHP as a team is seeing 220 yards of receiving per game. With 144 yards per game of total rushing and a total of 24 touchdowns the Bears have a potent offense.

Defensively BHP is averaging 55.8 tackles per game with 9.0 sacks and a total of 4 interceptions they show they can play defense as well.

#18 Cameron Bratcher is having another good year so far, passing for 1,332 yards on 135 attempts completing 81 of those passes. Bratcher also has 13 touchdown passes with 16 interceptions.

With a team leading 365 yards rushing #5 Jaquez Dixon has an average of 5.8 yards per carry on 63 attempts. Coming in behind Dixon is #20 Jeremiah Johnson carrying the ball 26 times for 216 yards, an average of 6.0 per carry.

#3 Xavier Nance is leading the team in receiving. Nance had tallied 448 yards on 33 catches for an average of 13.6 yards per catch. #4 Jacob Howard has 334 yards of catches himself. On those 13 catches he is averaging 13.6 per catch. Close behind is #21 Bralyn Oliver totaling up 322 yards on 11 catches, averaging 29.3 per catch and 53.7 per game.

The teams leading scorer so far this season is Oliver with 30 points on 5 scores. Next on the list is Howard with 4 touchdowns for 24 points scored. Dixon has contributed 3 scores and 18 points. Four other team members have tied with 2 touchdowns each for 12 points.

A team leading 53 tackles for #21 Joseph Sloan IV and 32 assisted, Sloan is averaging 8.8 tackles per game. #40 Devan Bolt has 30 tackles and 4 tackles for loss. #65 Tysheik Galloway has tackled 28 times with 7 tackles for loss an average of 4.7 per game.

Interception leaders are #7 Semaj Groves, #10 Anatreus Pressley, #23 Wes Newton, and #40 Devan Bolt, each with one interception.

After visiting Palmetto on October 5, the Bears will take on the Pickens Blue Flame in an away game on Friday, October 12.

**ANDERSON
SCHOOL
DISTRICT 2**

PENDLETON BULLDOGS



By Dan Lacobie

As week 6 has come and gone for the Bulldogs, they have picked up "W" #3 and #4 with wins against the Clinton Red Devils and West-Oak High School 39-6 and 48-0, respectively.

As a team, after 6 games, Pendleton is averaging 201 yards passing per game. Backing up the passing game the team is rushing for 156 yards per game with 21 total touchdowns.

Defensively the Bulldogs are making 65.8 tackles per game with 12 total sacks and 3 interceptions. The 6 game record is standing at 4 wins, 2 losses and a region record of 1-0.

Individually passing leader for the team is #7 Jamal Blakley, serving up 116 attempts with 68 completions and 903 yards. This gives Blakley a completion percentage of .586 and 13.3 yards per completions, 10 touchdowns and an average per game of 180.6 yards.

Rushing leaders include Blakley as well with a team leading 347 yards an average of 7.5 per attempt, (based on 5 games). Closely behind Blakley is #4 Jason Wright-Mann with a 5 game total of 282 yards carrying an average of 7.2 yards.

Receiving leaders are #15 Payton Bunch having hauled in 27 passes and 369 yards. This gives Bunch an average per catch of 13.7 yards, (5 games). #2 Sidney Mattison is following up with 295 yards on 21 catches and an average per catch of 14 yards.

Leading the team on the defensive side of the ball with a total of 52 tackles, 28 solo and 24 assisted is #34 Tanner Stuetgen. #8 Cameron Williams and #53 Jarrod Galloway are tied for a close second with 35 tackles each. Leading the team in sacks is #32 Antwin Jackson with 5.

In interceptions #6 Tamyus Davis has 2 for 20 yards, a 10 yard per interception average.

Leading the team in scoring is #4 Jason Wright-Mann with 6 touchdowns scoring 36 points, (5 games). The number 2 leading scorer is #15 Payton Bunch, having 5 touchdowns and 30 points scored.

Pendleton's next game is a home region game against Powdersville on October 5 at 7:30 p.m. Following up with Crescent High School on Friday, October 12 at Crescent.

* Note: Some stats were based on 5 games.

Anderson
School District 4

T.L. HANNA YELLOW JACKETS



By Dan Lacobie

The T. L. Hanna Yellow Jackets have really been “stinging” opponents this season with a record of 6 - 0 and a region total of 3 wins and 0 losses. Hanna’s next opponent will take them to Easley to visit the Greenwave in a region contest on Friday, October 5th.

Hanna’s team totals are 287.8 yards rushing per game and 63.5 yards receiving and having 36 touchdowns. In tackles per game the Yellow Jackets are averaging 46.3 per game and 12.0 sacks with 9 interceptions as a team.

In 6 games the passing leaders are #1 Alex Meredith with 14 completions on 19 attempts for 270 yards and 4 touchdowns, (based on 4 games played). Right behind Meredith is #14 Logan Milford with a total of 4 completions on 6 attempts for a total of 103 yards and 2 touchdowns.

Leaders in receiving #23 Isaiah Norris has brought in 8 catches worth 176 yards for a team leading average of 29.3 yards per game. #9 Jay Lagroon has totaled 114 yards on 5 catches for an average of 22.8 yards per game.

Leading in team scoring is #23 Isaiah Norris with 54 points on 9 touchdowns. The number 2 leading scorer is Gamecock commit #6 Zacch Pickens with a total of 48 points on 8 touchdowns. #3 J.J. Hudson is contributing 4 touchdowns for 24 points as well.

Leading the defense with a total of 37 tackles, 17 solo and 20 assisted, and 7 tackles for loss is #44 Cameron Chandler. #22 Jaydon McKinney has 29 tackles, 20 solo and 9 assists and 5 tackles for loss.

#20 Ja’nike Truesdale has a team leading 3 interceptions for 72 yards. #5 Jahiem Handy has 2 interceptions with several team members with 1 interception each. #9 Jay Lagroon, #11 Trey Palmer, #24 D.J. Brownlee, #35 Kobe Harrison, and #55 Devonte Jones each have 1 fumble recovery for the Jackets

The last 2 weeks have shown Hanna defeating crosstown rival Westside by a score of 42 -14 and longtime rival Greenwood 29-3. After the October 5th trip to Easley the Yellow Jackets will host the Wade Hampton Generals at home.



WESTSIDE RAMS



By Dan Lacobie

The Westside Rams, while having an overall record of 2-4 they are 2-1 in region play. After a disappointing loss to cross town rival T.L. Hanna High 42-14, the Rams took on the Laurens Raiders in a home contest that saw the Rams crush the Raiders by a score of 66-21.

As a team, Westside is averaging over 210 yards per game passing. With over 700 yards of rushing. Receiving as a team, Westside has hauled in an average excess of 220 yards per game.

Leading the team in passing is #17 Elijah Harper with a better than average 130 yards per game and closely behind Harper is #2 Shedrick Smith Jr. with an 82.5 yard per game completion record.

In the receiving area is #8 C.J. Plantin with an average per game of 54.50 yards. Plantin also leads in yards per reception with an average of 27.25

Rushing leaders look like #23 Paul Johnson as usual. Johnson is tallying about 57 yards per game. Shedrick Smith is following as the next leader rusher with an average of 40 yards per game.

Defensively for Westside, there are several leading in tackles made, #78 Xvavion Glenn, #12 Kiante Miller, and several other are vying for the lead in tackles.

Punt returns see #1 Traye Carson leading the team with an average of 15.50 yards per return and 7.75 yards per game. Kickoff return leader is also Carson, averaging 45 yards per game. Just behind Carson is #23 Paul Johnson averaging 21.67 yards per return.

After hosting J. L. Mann high school on Friday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. for a region game, the Rams will visit Woodmont High school on October 12 for another region game. If Westside can pull off these two wins they can put themselves hopefully into a playoff spot. With two region wins and only 1 loss this team should not be overlooked.

Please note all stats for Westside's 6 games are incomplete and will be updated next issue!