



# GRAINGER NISSAN of ANDERSON

## LIFETIME WARRANTY

# THE Electric City News **FREE!**

Your Connection to Local News, Sports, People and Happenings

[www.TheElectricCityNews.com](http://www.TheElectricCityNews.com)

February 18-March 3, 2021

# Yardi Gras



BY DIANN STATHAKIS

Growing up in New Orleans, Mardi Gras has always meant grand balls, celebrations, dressing up in costume, parades and of course, king cakes. The king cake used to be available only during Mardi Gras but is now available year round in many Louisiana bakeries. Mardi Gras day always falls on a Tuesday (Shrove Tuesday), but the celebrations and parades begin weeks before the actual Mardi Gras day.

Traditionally the king cake was oval shaped with purple, green and gold sugar. Purple represents justice, green represents faith and gold symbolizes power. You could always find a baby in the king cake which symbolized baby Jesus. As children, as soon as king cakes were available, it was customary for us to bring a king cake to school at least once a week if not more. While traditionally finding the baby inside the cake meant that you would have good luck or get a prize, in school it meant you were the one to bring the next king cake. Today you can find king cakes in all different shapes and sizes with different color icings and toppings and filled with cream cheese, praline filling, jelly filled and numerous other varieties.



The Mardi Gras parade is unlike any other parade you may have seen. The floats are pulled by tractors and may consist of numerous attached flatbeds. Each Krewe (club or organization that puts on a parade) has a theme that changes yearly and the floats are decorated to represent the theme. The same floats are used every year and the decorations are either repainted and re-purposed or put aside for future parades. The decorations are

often made of papier-mâché or layers upon layers of Styrofoam which they sculpt and paint and can be changed or repainted yearly.

(As a side note, the Kern Family who owns Mardi Gras World which designs and decorates many of the floats are also responsible for creating the cows seen in Chick Fil A billboards.)

For the first time since a police strike in

**SEE MARDI GRAS ON PAGE 2**



**\$10.00 Off Next Purchase of \$40 or More  
On Premise Dining or Curbside Pickup**  
This offer may not be combined with any other discount, coupon, dining bond, or specially price entrée.  
Offer Expires Jan 31st, 2020




McGEE'S  
Scot-Irish Pub  
116 W Orr St  
Anderson, SC 29625  
1.864.261.6401  
[www.mcgeesirishpub.com](http://www.mcgeesirishpub.com)

Mon/Tues: Closed to public. Private functions available.  
Wed - Fri: 4pm - 10pm Sat/Sun: 11 am - 10pm (Brunch Menu 11am-3pm)  
Kitchen closes at 9pm during regular business hours.



## Mardi Gras

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1979, Mardi Gras has been canceled due to Covid. However, there is nothing that can prevent the city from embracing tradition. New Orleans has been hit with hard times like many other cities most notably surviving Hurricane Katrina. New Orleans, being predominantly a tourist town and port, relies on the influx of visitors during such times as Mardi Gras, Jazz Fest and conventions, all of which have been canceled this past year.

However, New Orleanians are very protective of their city and their traditions and pull together during hard times, always embracing a good time. This year in lieu of floats and parades, the city has pulled together for the

first time ever to celebrate “Yardi Gras”. Yardi Gras, a mobile porch parade, is a way of decorating yards and homes to resemble the floats and celebrations of Mardi Gras. Some are taking their Halloween decorations and transforming them into Mardi Gras decorations, some are creating their own Mardi Gras decorations and some are purchasing old float props and decorating their homes as home floats. Homes and business owners have linked up with local float makers and artists to recreate some of the same visually stunning and cleverly themed floats that Mardi Gras is known for, right on their front porches.

The city has always enjoyed decorating for Christmas and Halloween but Yardi Gras has taken it to a new level. It has given the city an opportunity to embrace a new twist to an old tradition.

Happy Yardi Gras!

# The benefits of makeup

Makeup has been around since early Egyptian times. I honestly love it. It's fun and can instantly give us that boost of looking well rested and confident. I definitely don't wear it every day, especially since the pandemic happened, but I enjoy it and use it as a ritual of sorts. It relaxes me.

My everyday makeup look is pretty natural and if I go out in the evening I make it a bit bolder. For starters, I'm partial to a lot of drug store finds. I've tried it all from Dior to Maybelline and really I can't tell a difference. In eyeshadow palettes however, you can tell somewhat and you do get what you pay for. As for the rest, you're basically paying for the name. I like to start with a primer so my foundation goes on smoothly. I like NYX professional.

I love their lip butter too. I then add a good concealer. Right now I'm using Maybelline age rewind. It has the cool little pump and brush that gives you a fresh look.



Kristine March

I also use Maybelline fit me foundation. I then add a banana powder under my eyes and let it sit. It's called baking, which sounds bizarre, but the warmth of your skin sets the powder for a flawless finish. I add a brown eyeshadow. I'm using a brand called IBY in the color Into The Woods which I apply to my crease and then add a liquid eyeliner and mascara. Blush and bronzer by

Tarte is my absolute favorite and then I use a lipliner and lipgloss in the Wet n Wild brand.

I know, don't judge me but I've been wearing the shade Sun Glaze since my freshman year of high school. If they discontinue it, I will not know what to do with myself. I finish off the look with a bit of highlighter in a brand called OFRA. I love brushes by Firma and I have to have a good beauty blender to really make it look natural and not caky.

Showing our skin is beautiful and we don't need to hide it. We just need to enhance our already lovely features. The most beautiful thing we can do to ourselves is be radiant from within. What's your makeup routine like? Remember to make the sidewalk your runway. Pamper yourself and be happy.

RED ROCKET PUBLISHING OF ANDERSON, LLC

### PUBLISHERS

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

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

### LAYOUT/DESIGN

#### ART DIRECTOR

Zack Mauldin  
zack@upstatetoday.com

#### GRAPHIC DESIGN

Nate Thomason  
signal43@live.com

### WRITERS

Neal Parnell  
dnparn@gmail.com

GARDEN & FLORAL  
Susan Temple  
gardningirl@yahoo.com

#### SPORTS

Bru Nimmons  
bnimmons3@gmail.com

#### MENTAL HEALTH

Mary-Catherine McClain Riner  
drmarycatherine@riner counseling.com

#### FASHION

Kristine March

#### COLUMNISTS

Coach Jim Fraser  
Kim Acker Von Keller  
Katie Laughridge  
Ann K. Bailes  
Amie Buice

#### 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.

# THE CITY OF ANDERSON PRESENTS...

The City of Anderson is excited to present the year-long series

**B.Y.O.B.:**

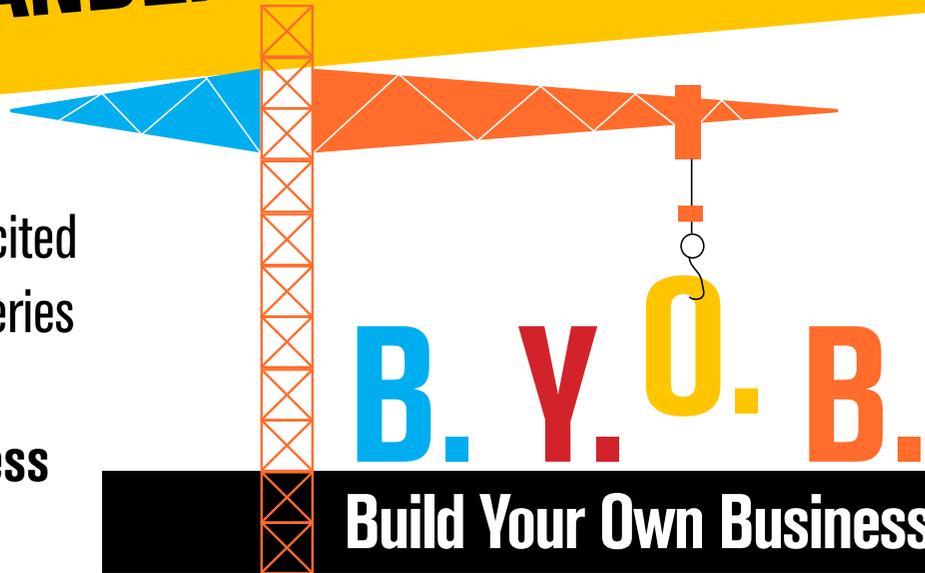
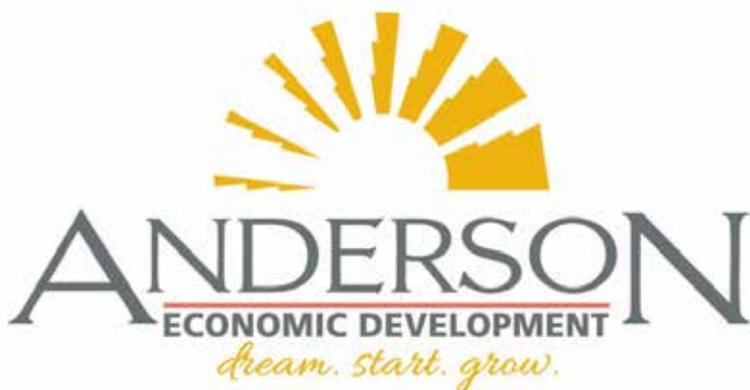
**Build Your Own Business**

A program designed to equip you with the information, skills, and resources in order to create a successful business

The third Thursday of every month features topic experts who will give you the tools to build your business

**All sessions are free!**

**Registration is required for lunch**



A year-long series that will help you build your business from the ground up!

**MAR 18<sup>TH</sup>** Legals and Licenses: Before you dig

**APR 15<sup>TH</sup>** Marketing: Framing the message

**MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>** Human Resources: Building your crew

**JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>** Paid Advertising: Nail your platform

**JULY 15<sup>TH</sup>** City Resources: Grab your toolbox

**AUG 19<sup>TH</sup>** Artist to Entrepreneur: Put on your hardhat

**SEPT 16<sup>TH</sup>** How to Start a Food Business: DHEC approved

**OCT 21<sup>TH</sup>** Accounting: Pour concrete results

**NOV 18<sup>TH</sup>** Trending Business Tools: Hammer it out

**MONTHLY WORKSHOPS: ON THE THIRD THURSDAY**

**RSVP TO: CGADDIS@CITYOFANDERSONSC.COM or 864.231.2604**

[andersoncityeconomicdevelopment.com](http://andersoncityeconomicdevelopment.com)

# Additional unmarked graves located in Clemson University's Woodland Cemetery

*University scheduling virtual meetings to get community help in identifying who might be buried in unmarked African-American graves*

Recent surveys using ground-penetrating radar in Woodland Cemetery on the Clemson University campus located another 63 unmarked graves, bringing the total number of unmarked graves discovered at the site to 667.

Many of the 667 unmarked graves are thought to be those of enslaved people who worked at the plantation and later as sharecroppers and Black laborers, including convicted individuals involved in the construction of Clemson College from 1890 to 1915.

The Community Engagement Council established by Clemson University to provide feedback and input into the preservation and memorialization of the unmarked graves in Woodland Cemetery has been hard at work since the start of the year.

Led by Dr. Rhondda Thomas, the Calhoun Lemon Professor of Literature at Clemson University, the Council is comprised of members from local communities in Anderson, Clemson/Central, Pendleton and Oconee County. They are seeking local residents' help in identifying who might be buried in this historic and sacred site.

Members of the Council from the Anderson community are J.C. Boseman, Jack Henderson, Nekaun Swinger and Bea Thompson.

The virtual meetings will be open to the public starting this spring and anyone interested in attending should visit <https://www.clemson.edu/about/history/woodland-cemetery>, a Clemson University website dedicated to telling the history of the gravesite, documenting the university's role in Woodland Cemetery and giving voice to the African Americans who are buried there.

Initial GPR work last summer revealed the locations of more than 200 unmarked graves in Woodland Cemetery believed to date back more than a century. Subsequent testing in other areas of the cemetery located additional grave sites primarily on the western, northwestern and northern slopes, as well as many in an area to the south and southeast previously identified as the "Site of Unknown Burials."

Most recently, a team hired by Clemson used ground-penetrating radar to survey about 4 1/2 acres of previously unmapped ground. Crews recently cleared undergrowth



White flags with pink ribbons mark unmarked graves at Clemson's Woodland Cemetery

in order to access the areas with their equipment. The recently surveyed areas are in the northeast and southeast corners of the cemetery. The survey team completed the work during the last week of January.

The team has begun work to create a detailed map of the cemetery. That work is

expected to take several weeks.

Anyone with information is asked to call (864) 656-8855 or email [afamburials@clemson.edu](mailto:afamburials@clemson.edu). Inquiries about the operations of Woodland Cemetery should be directed to [cemetery@clemson.edu](mailto:cemetery@clemson.edu) or by calling (864) 656-5615.

## American Christian Fiction Writers set to meet Feb. 27

The American Christian Fiction Writers' South Carolina Chapter will meet Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021, at 2:00 PM at North Anderson Baptist Church, 2308 N. Main Street, Anderson, SC. The meeting is free and visitors are invited. A free workshop led by Elva Cobb Martin, "How to Plot a Novel," will be offered, then a critique of members' manuscripts. Visitors are invited to sit in the critique sessions and offer feedback. We request attendees wear a mask.

To learn more about the chapter, check out the chapter blog at <http://scwritersacfw.blogspot.com/>. Visitors to the meeting are encouraged to come early and to park on the side of the church with the long handicap ramp behind the white house or church office. Come in the small door beside the double glass doors this time, due to repairs in progress, and go up the stairs to the second floor and down the hall to a class room. Signs will be posted. For more information about this meeting contact the President, Elva Martin at [elvamartin@gmail.com](mailto:elvamartin@gmail.com) or call her at 864/226-7024.

### PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LIEN

Pursuant to SC Statutory Law, personal property from the following unit will be sold on

February 26th, 2021 at 10:00 am at [www.StorageTreasures.com](http://www.StorageTreasures.com) by Stowaway Self Storage, 4350 Highway 24, Anderson, SC 29626.

Unit C47, T. Liddell - Unit appears to have the following: Dressers, TV Stand, Tripod, Coffee Maker, Large Ceramic Vases, High Top Chairs, Mattress, Furniture, Toys, Rug, Hoverboard

Property being sold to satisfy a lien for storage rent.

Terms of sale: Cash Only

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



Applying is fast & easy. Call, click or see a Loan Officer today.  
800.868.8740 | [scscu.com/apply](http://scscu.com/apply)

Rates As Low As  
1.99% APR<sup>^</sup>

**SCU**  
STATE CREDIT UNION  
Taking Members Where They Want To Go

<sup>^</sup>Terms and conditions apply.  
See branch for details. Federally insured by the NCUA.



**FOOTHILLS WRITERS GUILD  
MEMBERS SALUTE BLACK  
HISTORY MONTH**

## TWO GIRLS

BY SHARMEN OSWALD

Loretta, but a child when she came to school in third grade.  
Hair in braids, dressed in Sunday's best  
Right down to lace-trimmed socks.  
I sat behind her and loved the soap smell, a clean smell.

On the playground we held hands,  
Climbed monkey bars, pushed each other on the swings,  
Jumped rope, Loretta being the expert.  
Two girls, one white, one tan.

We whispered in each other's ears  
Stories of what we would be when we grow up,  
Stories of where we would go when we grow up.  
Two girls, one white, one tan.

Loretta came two more weeks in third grade,  
Sitting in front of me.  
For two more weeks we climbed monkey bars,  
Pushed each other on the swings  
And whispered secrets to each other.  
Two girls, one white, one tan.

Then one day Loretta did not come to third grade,  
And sit in front of me.  
Another day and another day went by,  
And Loretta did not come to third grade.  
Two girls, one white, one tan.  
Only the white girl was in third grade  
Missing the tan girl.

I asked the teacher, "Where is Loretta?"  
The teacher replied, "Child, she has gone back to her school."  
I promptly replied, "I thought this is her school."  
The teacher replied, "Child, we are not there yet,  
We are not there yet."

Two girls, one white, one tan trying to figure out the world.  
One white girl stayed, one tan girl gone.

# GAMAC holding benefit quilt raffle

The Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium (GAMAC) will present Key Connections 2020, a quilt raffle from February 16, 2021-March 16, 2021. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit GAMAC's mission to entertain, educate, and inspire the Anderson community and surrounding area with the best in musical performance and education opportunities. The winner of the raffle will be announced on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 during an online performance featuring pianist Howard Kim.

The Key Connections 2020 quilt was designed, pieced, and bound by GAMAC Chorale members Joyce Miller and Diane Schonauer with quilting created by Meg Stewart. At 60x60 in size, this stunning work of art features expertly curated blocks swirling with musical instruments and notes which combine to create a grand piano design. A detailed backing in shades of red highlights beautiful musical motif quilting which covers the entire quilt. All three quilters are very active with Quilts of Valor and philanthropy quilting. Joyce Miller is an active member of the GAMAC Chorale alto section and has been a blue ribbon winner at



the Anderson Quilt Show. Diane Schonauer is also an active member of the GAMAC Chorale altos and was named Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail Quilter for 2016. Meg Stewart is president of the Prickly Fingers Quilt Guild and has been a blue ribbon winner at the Anderson Quilt Show.

All proceeds from the Key Connections 2020 raffle will benefit GAMAC. Established in Anderson in 1990, GAMAC's concert stage has been a favorite place for the community to enjoy, explore, and create beautiful music. As one of the only musical performing arts organizations in the United States to present

volunteer, professional, and semi-professional ensembles under one management "umbrella," GAMAC showcases 170+ vocalists, instrumentalists, and exceptionally talented young people for the community annually through its 5 ensembles: GAMAC Chorale, Anderson Symphony Orchestra, GAMAC Chamber Orchestra, GAMAC Children's Chorus, and the Electric City Big Band. Though live performances have remained on hold since March 2020 to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in the community, the organization recently presented small ensembles throughout the community

during the holidays and hopes to have live offerings in the summer.

The Key Connections 2020 quilt will be on display at The Anderson Arts Center from February 16-March 16, 2020. Raffle tickets are priced at \$20 and available for purchase online at [gamac.org/specialevents](http://gamac.org/specialevents) or by calling the GAMAC office at (864) 231-6147. Only 300 tickets will be sold. Ticket buyers will receive a link to the online drawing event featuring a special performance by pianist Howard Kim. Tickets must be purchased by Tuesday, March 16, 2021. No tickets will be sold at the Anderson Arts Center.

**FOOTHILLS WRITERS GUILD MEMBERS SALUTE BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

## Sometimes the Good Guy Wins

BY PATRICIA JONES WOOD

It was fifty years ago.  
I remember his first name was Lane.  
Can't remember his last one.  
He was middle-aged;  
I was just barely out of my teens.

Lane showed me what it meant  
to be a person of color  
and be a person of purpose  
and of humble dignity.

He had worked in the mail room  
for many years, quietly going  
about sorting and delivering  
the mail at a local bank populated

by "good old boys," who felt  
and acted privileged.

"Connected" young white men  
--management trainees--  
slid into into all the good positions.  
Never mind there were no opportunities  
for people of color  
or females of any ilk.  
Everyone knew Lane and loved him—  
always present even though  
he was diabetic and didn't always feel well.  
That was during the golden age of  
automatic matching funds to your IRA  
from your employer with soaring investments.

I was just figuring all that out,

and then I left to roam the east coast  
and Midwest with my husband.  
When I returned to that same bank  
many years later, Lane had retired  
with a rumored million dollar IRA,  
an astronomical amount at that time.

Those matching employer deposits  
had all disappeared in the intervening years,  
and returns were much less spectacular.  
Good-hearted, polite Lane had won  
the day over the bright young "entitled"  
men and had a wonderful, well-deserved  
retirement before he passed.

Sometimes the good guy wins.

# A PROFILE OF INGENUITY

Those whose creativity is their dominant gift, usually begin creating in one area and evolve into others. Nitra Pressley grew up in Anderson and attended Westside High School. Early on she was interested in hair design. She spent her junior and senior years traveling to the McDuffie High School campus, enrolled in their cosmetology curriculum.

"My senior year, 1994, our teachers drove us to Columbia to take our state boards. I began working as a hair stylist when I was 18 years old," Nitra recalls. "My first job was at Snaz-Z Salon and I was the shampoo girl!"

From there, she went to work at J C Penney's in their salon. Moving forward, she worked at Hair Crafters on Hwy 28. After two years, she settled in to her own business and is now at Stylistic Creations, 2307 North Main St. During this time, people would ask her for help with their make-up. She began taking clients and doing their make-up for special occasions.

"Actually, I probably do as many make-up appointments as I do hair," says Pressley. "It's about 50-50."

Nitra also works closely with Sandra Jo



Pictured above with her husband, Kareem, Nitra Pressley works in cosmetology at Stylistic Creations and also recently began her own baking business called Nitra's Sweet Treats.



So, Nitra began baking cookies, brownies and other goodies at home. Her son would post images of the treats on his Snap Chat and soon she was baking treats for his friends. "I would send 20 - 40 treats with him to school in his backpack," she laughs. Now, she is taking orders from family and friends for her delicious baked goods. Nitra doesn't do cake decorating, she just bakes delicious homemade sweets. As she juggles these businesses, she adds, "It just all works out. When I have a day off from the salon, I'll have orders come in for baked goods."

Nitra and her husband, Kareem, have 5 children. Their ages range from 27 to 13. They are active members of Strait Christian Church. When asked how they managed to successfully raise 5 truly wonderful kids, she responded, "Kareem and I talk to them, about everything. We don't expect them to be perfect, but we are always here to listen and help guide them."



4/4

Photography, incorporating her talents into the photo shoots. Together these accomplished female entrepreneurs create visual excellence.

Most recently, Nitra has established a baking business called Nitra's Sweet Treats. For years, she would pick up her children from school, "And every single day we would stop at a convenient store and I let them go in and buy a snack. One day, it dawned on me...I can bake these treats myself."

**25 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL WEIGHT LOSS STORIES!**

Get gorgeous with North America's #1 choice.

Call now for your free consultation at home!

We're your local, neighborhood experts. And we're also backed by North America's #1 provider of custom window coverings. We do it all for you, measure and install - because we think that everyone, at every budget, deserves style, service, and the best warranty in the business.

**25% OFF**  
On Selected Window Coverings\*  
Offer expires March 31, 2020

864-332-0612  
BudgetBlinds.com/Anderson

**BUDGET BLINDS**

Style and service for every budget.™

Blinds • Shutters • Shades • Drapes • Home Automation

\*Applies to selected window treatments and Enlightened Style products from Budget Blinds. Restrictions may apply, ask for details. Minimum purchase required. Valid for a limited time, not valid with any other offers, discounts, or coupons. Offer good at initial time of estimate only. At participating franchises only. ©2019 Budget Blinds, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Budget Blinds is a trademark of Budget Blinds, LLC and a Home Franchise Concepts Brand. Each franchise independently owned and operated.

**25 YEARS** Anderson Bariatric Physicians, Inc. Weight Loss Center

START YOUR STORY TODAY!  
APPETITE SUPPRESSANTS • LIPO-B12 • HCG INJECTIONS

2106 North Main Street, Anderson, SC 864.225.6280 • AndersonBariatrics.com

# Slowing down a racing heart

BY CINDY LANDRUM

Ron Brookshire Jr. had just left a patient's room when his heart started racing.

"If you've had a motor mount break in your car, and the motor just sort of shakes, that's what it felt like," said Brookshire, a former AnMed Health nurse who worked with cardiac and open-heart surgery patients. "My heart was just shaking in my chest."

He had a colleague check his heart rate. It was beating 140 to 160 times a minute. After a trip to the Emergency Department and an overnight stay in CCU (coronary care unit), his heart eventually converted back to a normal rhythm.

But the episodes continued, including one where his heart rate was irregular and his blood pressure dropped while he was eating.

"I had to lie down on the floor to get my blood pressure back up. When that happens, you wonder if you're going to die on the floor," he said.

After that episode, he called his cardiologist. Doctors diagnosed him with atrial fibrillation (AFib) and atrial flutter.

During AFib, the two upper chambers of the heart (the atria) beat irregularly and out of coordination with the two lower chambers (the ventricles). Episodes of AFib may come and go initially but typically become more frequent over time, leading to permanent changes in the heart.

Dr. Brian Miller, a cardiac electrophysiologist with AnMed Health Arrhythmia Specialists, said there are new, state-of-the-art treatment options, such as ablation, for atrial fibrillation.

"Treatment with ablation has been shown to be more effective than any antiarrhythmic medication at reducing the burden of AFib and improving quality of life," said Dr. Miller, one of two cardiac electrophysiologists in Anderson County. "In many patients, especially those with heart failure, ablation has been shown to decrease hospitalization rates and prolong life."

At Brookshire's follow-up visit, his cardiologist suggested he see AnMed Health's cardiac electrophysiologists.

After he conducted an electrophysiology (EP) study on Brookshire to understand the way electrical signals moved through his



Dr. Brian Miller

heart, Dr. Miller performed a cardiac ablation. Cardiac ablation uses heat or cold to make small scars in the heart tissue to prevent abnormal electrical signals from moving through the heart.

Procedures are performed through the veins in the legs and most patients can return home the same day and resume almost all activities the next. Dr. Miller used an

advanced, zero-fluoroscopic technique that does not expose the patient to any radiation.

Immediately after the procedure, Brookshire said he knew something was different.

"I had gotten used to this funny feeling in my chest, and now that feeling wasn't there," he said. "I'm thrilled with the way things turned out. It's wonderful how effective it was."

Brookshire said he knows some people are hesitant to have a heart procedure, but he recommends talking to a cardiac electrophysiologist. Having the procedure has given him peace of mind.

"I had five episodes, and they had been getting worse. I didn't want to tempt fate any longer," he said.

If you have AFib, talk to your primary care provider and ask for a referral to an electrophysiologist.



Ron Brookshire loads firewood following treatment for AFib.



**For all your plumbing, electrical and heating and air conditioning needs.**

**864-716-0560 [www.glenmep.com](http://www.glenmep.com)**

# History of Anderson's Calhoun Hotel

BY RICH OTTER

The construction of the eight story Calhoun Hotel was an enormous leap forward for the City of Anderson, towering above everything else in the city. The hotel was conceived and developed as a community project. Shares of stock were sold and \$300,000 was raised to purchase the land and put up the structure. Designed by local architects James J. Baldwin and Joseph H. Casey, it was constructed of reinforced concrete with a brick veneer. Construction was begun in 1924 and completed in 1925.

Only a large vacant lot stood between the hotel and property of Dr. Joseph Oliver Wilhite, the grandfather of attorney Earle M. Rice. Rice recalled that as a promotion for the new hotel in 1925 the "Human Fly" came to Anderson. He was to scale the hotel without ropes or any means of support. A huge crowd

assembled to witness the unbelievable feat.

Rice said the Fly climbed without assistance to about the floor above the marquee. But then, suddenly, to the horror of the crowd below, he lost his precarious grasp and plummeted to the marquee below. Those gathered knew they had witnessed a horrible death. There was a unified gasp. But, amazingly, the Fly rose to his feet and proceeded undeterred to climb toward the top of the eight stories.

The Human Fly made it to the roof summit and then proceeded to ride a conveniently available bicycle along the rim of the hotel. He put a chair at the edge of the roof and stood on the chair. Rice did not specifically remember but thought he may have stood on his head on the chair. The onlookers knew he would fall but it was not to be the fate that day for the Human Fly. The first tumble was obviously staged to increase trepidation and expectation.

Many years later a 78 year old resident of the hotel, exasperated with the decline of the downtown in favor of shopping centers, decided to bring energy to the center of town by emulating the feat of the Human Fly. He contacted news media of the return of the Fly, the date and time. He climbed out above the marquee and began his ascent. It was successful for a floor or two but, sadly, he gave out below the fourth floor and plummeted to his death.

The hotel became a social hub and location for any prominent visitors to the city. Earle Rice remembered as a youngster shaking hands there with boxing champion Jack Dempsey sometime during the 1930s.

In 1932 an advertisement for the hotel dining room appeared in the Greenville News. Dinner number one with the full works was \$0.75. The next level, still incomplete, was \$0.50. And, best of all, two paved roads were announced going to Anderson. Easy transportation to an elegant facility with a fine meal.

Weddings, birthdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas, receptions and a romantic meal were all available in Anderson's most glamorous surroundings. It was also a popular location for group meetings. Roberta Hopkins

remembered even the kids could enjoy a rendezvous at the soda shop.

State and national politicians spoke in the hotel's meeting rooms. Possibly the last Presidential candidate to attend a function at the Calhoun was Governor George Wallace in 1964 before he was to speak at the Anderson Recreation Center. President Johnson and Senator Goldwater, the other presidential candidates, were also invited for separate occasions but did not respond. In those surroundings virtually everything was newsworthy from the society pages to politics. Also, the Chamber of Commerce maintained their offices conveniently situated on the ground floor facing the street.

In later years with the advent and popularity of motels, then owner/manager Charles R. Johnson, Sr. constructed a motel behind the hotel with a penthouse that at that time was a highly desired visitor accommodation in the city. The hotel then was transitioning to a facility for generally retired permanent residents providing easy access to Anderson's downtown facilities.

The Calhoun Hotel remains an important segment of the City of Anderson infrastructure.



The Calhoun Hotel

*Want the lake life?*

COME TO GREENWOOD - WHERE LAKE LIFE IS THE BEST LIFE!  
Lakefront lots \* Interior lots \* Lakefront homes available

**Weichert**  
REALTORS  
Bradshaw Group

Jan Bradshaw, Owner, Managing Broker  
422 Montague Avenue, Suite 5 Greenwood, SC 29649  
864-993-1144

## NIBBLE &amp; SIP

**HERE'S TO YOUR (EMOTIONAL) HEALTH**

Dionne Warwick has a point. When we ask our friends for snack recipes, we're seldom looking for anything healthy.



Kim von Keller

I know that if Ted ever came home on a Friday and found a vegetable tray and

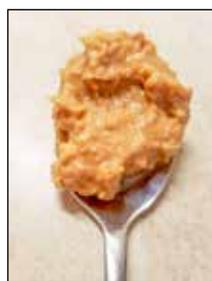
a big glass of kombucha waiting for him, he would get right back in the car and drive to the nearest Wild Wings Café. If it's just the two of us on the sofa, what we want in a Nibble and Sip is something that has lots of flavor with no nutritional value. It's the sort of snack that your doctor might warn you about at your annual physical, but at the end of a long week, it can be just the thing for your emotional health.

Spicy Peanut Butter and Bacon Bites are exactly what your doctor didn't



order. These two ingredients, mayonnaise (!), and some flavorful seasonings, spread on toast and popped under the broiler, make a quick, delicious, and decidedly non-nutritious snack.

A sweeter cocktail will complement the savory bite, and one of the easiest ways to make a sweeter cocktail is to combine spirits and soda. Unlike a martini, where a cheaper brand can't hide, a lower-price spirit can be used to make great drink if the soda is of high quality. The vodka and cherry soda in the Sofa Sipper pair well with the peanut butter and bacon bites and that really



soft spot in your couch.

#### Spicy Peanut Butter and Bacon Bites

¼ c. peanut butter  
1 t. brown sugar  
2 T. minced scallions, white only

1/8 t. cayenne  
¾ t. soy sauce  
½ t. lemon juice  
¼ t. minced garlic  
1 ½ t. mayonnaise  
1 slice cooked bacon, drained and finely chopped  
10 1 ½ -inch bread rounds, toasted

1 T. scallion greens, minced  
Preheat oven to broil. Place the rack four inches below the heating element. Line a rimmed

cookie sheet with foil and spray with a quick-release spray such as PAM.

In a small bowl, combine the peanut butter, brown sugar, scallions, cayenne, soy sauce, lemon juice, garlic, mayonnaise and bacon. Mound approximately 1 teaspoon of the mixture on each of the toasted bread rounds. Place the bread rounds on the prepared cookie sheet and place under the broiler for 1-2 minutes, WATCHING CAREFULLY, until they are slightly puffed and golden. Remove from the oven, sprinkle with the scallion greens, and serve immediately. Serves 2-3.

#### Sofa Sipper

2 oz. vodka  
½ oz. fresh lime juice  
1 dash bitters  
4 oz. cherry soda, such as Boylan's or Dr. Brown's  
Combine the vodka, lime juice, and bitters in a cocktail shaker filled with ice. Shake briefly to chill, then strain into a Collins glass filled with fresh ice. Top with the cherry soda and stir gently to combine. Serves 1.

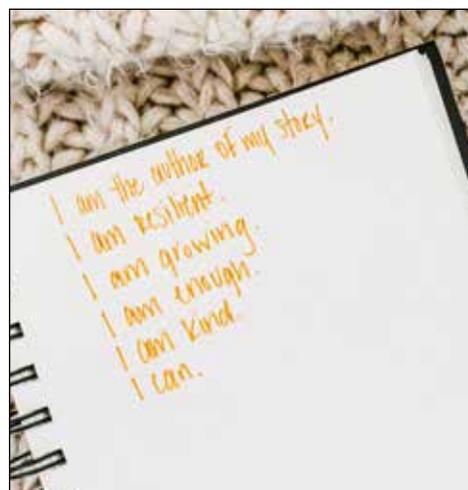
## Words of wisdom and phrases for support



MARY-CATHERINE  
McCLAIN  
RINER

Feeling anxious, overwhelmed, stressed, angry, exhausted, alone, fearful, etc.? Make a list of affirmative statements and words of support. For example, consider the following:

- ♦ Fear and guilt are terrible motivators
- ♦ You must name it to tame it / release it
- ♦ It is important to go through it than around it for growth
- ♦ Feelings are great followers and terrible leaders
- ♦ Do not "should" all over yourself
- ♦ Emotions are energy in motion
- ♦ Intimacy = Into Me I see
- ♦ FEAR = false evidence appearing real
- ♦ Do you want peace or to be right?
- ♦ If nothing changes, nothing changes



- ♦ Two truths can co-exist
- ♦ You can catch the balls being thrown or move aside
- ♦ PAIN = Pay attention inward now
- ♦ Is this solvable or unsolvable worry?
- ♦ No one has ever successfully beat themselves into feeling better
- ♦ Is this a possibility or probability?

- ♦ You cannot go through the river without getting wet
- ♦ Not feeling emotions is dead people goals
- ♦ Expectations do not equal reality
- ♦ Pace yourself to save yourself
- ♦ Hurt people hurt other people
- ♦ Live by what is rather than what if
- ♦ If you don't own it, you can't change it
- ♦ You may not be responsible for how you got here, yet you are responsible for where you go from here.
- ♦ Move more toward the middle
- ♦ Untold stories do not heal
- ♦ Attention seeking behaviors are support seeking behaviors
- ♦ You are allowed to be a masterpiece and work in progress
- ♦ Stay curious
- ♦ We don't see things as they are, we see them as we are
- ♦ It's hard to hug a porcupine
- ♦ What worked in the past may no longer work for you today, and that's OK.
- ♦ Forgiving does not mean forgetting
- ♦ FINE = Feelings I'm not expressing

- ♦ Why are you owning stuff that is not yours?
- ♦ Healing is not linear
- ♦ Fair is where we go to get cotton candy
- ♦ Feelings are not facts
- ♦ You are the sky, everything else is the weather
- ♦ You can't always believe what you think
- ♦ Under stress, we regress
- ♦ You don't plan for accidents
- ♦ Learn to be comfortable with the uncomfortable
- ♦ It's only baggage if you choose to carry it
- ♦ Emotions illuminate needs, and needs require action
- ♦ NO is a full sentence, you do not have to justify
- ♦ Pain is inevitable, suffering is optional
- ♦ You are loved, you are cared for, and you matter

Mary-Catherine McClain Riner, Ph.D., Ed.S., M.S., is a Licensed Psychologist with Riner Counseling, LLC. Visit [www.rinercounseling.com](http://www.rinercounseling.com) or call 864-608-0446.

THE GARDEN SHOP



Tudor Baby Variegata bloom



La Peppermint bloom

# A PITIFUL LA PEPPERMINT



**SUSAN  
TEMPLE**  
master  
gardener

Last year, Zone 7 in Seneca was selling camellias they had put in a collector's category. Their newsletter has some helpful gardening hints if you're interested in signing up for it. That particular newsletter pitched a very limited amount of unusual camellias. I couldn't resist Tudor Baby Variegata and La Peppermint. Camellias can be a favorite of deer but it seems once the plant gets some age, they leave them alone. I still put fence around them starting close to labor day and leave the fences until it gets grass cutting season.

La Peppermint blooms are predominately white with pink splotches and/or stripes. Some blooms may be solid white, solid pink, or half and half as well. The first camellia I saw like this was Lady Vansittart Variegata in the South Carolina Botanical Garden's camellia garden. It was spectacular. Tudor Baby has red blooms with white mixed around the edges. It is also a late blooming variety. Both do not have predominate stamens. No camellias with these mixes of blooms are in my collection. Most are shades of red, magenta, and pink. White By The Gate is a beautiful, solid white, with no predominate stamens either. All these varieties are *Camellia japonica*.

White By The Gate is in more sun than

most japonicas like. My thinking is a cryptomeria should shade it someday, plus give some protection from cold, which zaps the buds into disappointing brown. That day is not here yet but White By The Gate is doing pretty good. Tudor Baby was planted near White By The Gate. La Peppermint was planted next to it and sort of in front of Southern Gentleman holly. He's nothing much to look at any time but is required to pollinate winter-berry hollies. So La Peppermint would hide him some.

A year after planting, La Peppermint is looking quite sickly. It was tended some through last summer but it is not recovering. More than half of the leaves have fallen off. What are left are yellow. Several branches have died. My guesses were poorly drained soil and maybe too much sun. During rainy times, the soil does tend to get mushy in this area. I finally decided last week to dig it up and further diagnose. My first clue was it didn't even have to be dug. It pulled right out of the ground. Roots were not forming correctly. And the soil was too wet. I teased most of the soil from the roots, took it to my garden shop area, and repotted it. La Peppermint will live in the pot until it either recovers or gets tossed into the woods to become compost.

If you want to grow camellias and think there may not be enough space, there are small growing varieties available. It will take a bit of extra searching. They grow slow too. So a three-gallon plant will take years to get some size. They are easily limbed up also to grow as a small tree and do well in a shady container.



Sick La Peppermint camellia

# Listen to your elders, no matter your age

I'd like to direct this column to the young people of the Electric City. (I'll leave it up to you to decide if you belong in this category. I generally feel pretty young, until my hip starts acting up).



Kim von Keller

As you navigate this world, sometimes it's good to listen to people older than you who can offer valuable life lessons: a sibling who knows what it's like to search for that first job; a parent who can teach you to change a car tire; a grandparent

who can share a secret family recipe; or an aunt who, last week, was nominated for membership into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

I'm referring to legendary singer Dionne Warwick. She rocketed to fame in the 1960's with a string of hits like "I Say a Little Prayer," "Walk On By," and "Do You Know the Way to San Jose." In the '80s, she collaborated with Elton John, Gladys Knight, and Stevie Wonder to record "That's What Friends are For," raising over \$3 million for AIDS research. She's appeared on "The Masked Singer," and she's been portrayed in

a "Saturday Night Live" sketch. She's also a bona fide Twitter star at age 80, doling out advice and positivity to almost half a million followers.

And not a moment too soon. Twitter is a tough space, raging with the kind of creative cursing that outshines even British tabloids. But Aunt Dionne, as many of her followers call her, is not interested in that kind of social media experience. Sometimes she's silly, like when she asked her fans to "Tell me something random." She responded later, "So far, a young man has a wart on the bottom of his foot. The internet is an interesting place." After asking for snack ideas, she tweeted, "I am proud of those submitting



The legendary Dionne Warwick

healthy snacks to the #dionnewarwick discussion, but I want to see the ones you're eating on the couch while shouting at the TV. I know it's not celery."

Sometimes she gives us our marching orders, as she did when she tweeted, "Today I want to encourage you to do something kind for someone without expectations of something in return. Have a wonderful Sunday. Bye!" Her followers took her to heart, responding with, "I just took dinner to my neighbor," or, "I just gave a homeless guy my warm gloves with a 20 inside." Following

the recent death of her friend Mary Wilson of the Supremes, she reminded us, "If you love someone, let them know. Tomorrow is not

promised."

She congratulates her followers when they report a 100 on a French test, a year's sobriety, or time spent with their kids in the snow. But when folks get out of line, she reels them back into civility. "I have seen how mean people can be on here," she tweeted. "People have feelings. I hope that kindness can spread like wildfire this year." Or, "People can like things that you might not like. That's how the world works." Better yet, "Please do not bring that foolishness into 2021."

How does any of this teach young people about life?

I like to think that Dionne Warwick's tweets teach us about what life in the 21st century COULD be, online and in person. Instead of sewing discord, we can make each other laugh or encourage our better angels. We can celebrate another person's successes, no matter how small. And when we see the meanness or insensitivity of others, we can call it out without starting a war of words. These are lessons we can all learn from America's Aunt Dionne.

And if she can also teach us how to win a few Grammy Awards along the way, that's good, too.

## Finding a 'just right' book

If you have ever experienced the task of helping a young child learn to read aloud, it's almost guaranteed that you have also witnessed their frustration when they come across



Katie Laughridge

words that are difficult and unfamiliar to them. While this roadblock can cause a child to feel insecure and self-conscious about their reading skills, there are many helpful strategies you can employ that will help them learn to pronounce and understand new words on their own, gain confidence and improve their reading skills. By

learning these easy to use techniques, your young reader will quickly gain the skills and confidence required to help them grow into excellent and confident readers!

The first, and perhaps most crucial, first step is to make sure the book your young reader is attempting to read is appropriate for her skill level. An excellent way to determine if the book is just right is to use the 5-Finger Rule. To use this strategy, have your child open the book to the middle and begin reading. For each word she does not know, ask her to put up one finger. If at the end of the page she has five or more fingers up, the book is too



The Anderson County Library

hard and challenging. If four fingers are up, the book is very challenging; if two to three fingers are up, the book is just right. If zero to one finger is up, the book is too easy.

Another way you can find a "just right book" is by searching the shelves at the Anderson County Library. You will find multiple sections in the Children's area designated for your reader and their needs/interests. You will find picture books, early readers (a great place to find books for those beginning readers), graphic novels, and more! If you are wondering about a specific reading level, you can search the title on Scholastic.com, Scholastic's new Book Wizard app on your mobile device, or Amazon.com. Once you've found the just right book, your young reader is ready to begin.

Happy Searching!

# BEWARE

OF THE \$45 TERMITE LETTER  
(CL-100) WHEN BUYING A HOME



# W.E. BLACK

## TERMITE & PEST CONTROL, INC.

STATE CERTIFIED • 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE • INSURED & BONDED

# 375-1899

2840 S. MAIN STREET

# Northern harrier vs. progress

BY ANN BAILES

I first saw a northern harrier several years ago in the large triangular field bounded by Whitehall Road and Highways 24 and 187 in west Anderson. It's an uncommon hawk for South Carolina, present only in the winter, but often visible if an observer goes looking for one in the open fields of our area. The harrier's defining field marks are its white rump (easily visible when it is flying) and its way of holding its wings at an angle when it flies. Its body is slender. It often sails with the wind currents, and also sometimes hovers over prey.

The harrier is large--about the size of a red-tailed hawk, which is a much more common hawk around here. Also for comparison, the tail of a red-tailed hawk looks like a rusty fan, but the harrier's tail is long and narrow. The female harrier is dark brown, and the male is pearl gray.

That bleak winter day, I pulled off to the side of the road and

watched that sleek lovely bird for fifteen minutes or so, enjoying the beauty of seeing it sail back and forth on the wind currents above the waving grasses, as it looked for small mammals or any prey that pleased its fancy for supper. I've kept that memory ever since.

Then, within months, "progress" took over. The field was bulldozed and leveled. A shopping center was built. A grocery store, a restaurant, several smaller offices, and a sea of asphalt replaced the waving grasses.

I missed the beauty of the field, and seeing sights like that beautiful harrier - but did get used to the homelike atmosphere of the grocery. It was smaller and more intimate than the other groceries in the area. The deli workers always knew exactly how I wanted my order sliced. One of the checkout ladies would ask how my school year was going, and I would ask her about her children. The store was a welcoming and friendly oasis on a busy road.

Maybe this change wasn't all bad.

And then--another form of "progress" occurred. The grocery chain announced their business model: to close that lower-volume store (and others like it), so they could build new ones in different areas that might produce greater profit. Since the grocery was the anchor in the center, the domino effect caused many of the other businesses to shut their doors as well.

And now the grocery store is boarded up and quiet, and has been for a long time. Other smaller businesses come and go in the center, but some storefronts stand continuously empty.

I don't know much about business models. I just know that a nice neighborhood grocery has been closed for several years now, and a large and beautiful field has been covered with a mostly unused parking lot. And I also know that northern harriers don't search for their supper over asphalt and empty buildings.



Powered by

Aggressive Business Assistance

+

Entrepreneurial Programming

We Spark Business Success in Anderson, South Carolina



# Think and do

Miss Nickels was my first grade teacher at Kennedy Street School in 1961. From the eyes of a six year old she appeared very old and tired of having thirty kids around her for nine months a year since the beginning of time.

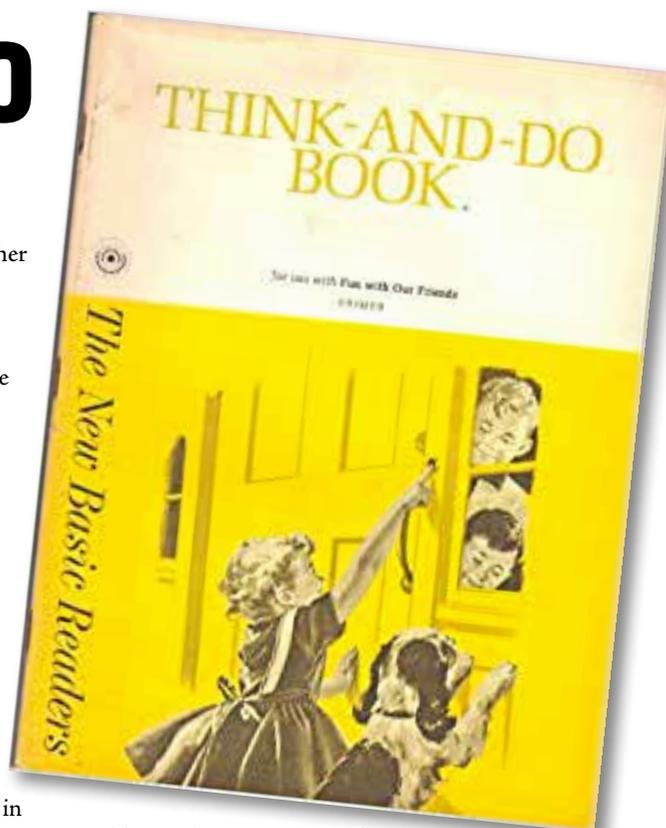


Neal Parnell

It was the day before Valentines Day, and we were all making home-made Valentines. I was in puppy-love with two girls in my class, Jill and Ann, and they liked me. I had made a Valentine for them, and at recess I planned to give them to each girl. At recess, Ann, Jill, and myself walked out behind a very large oak tree where we were hidden from view.

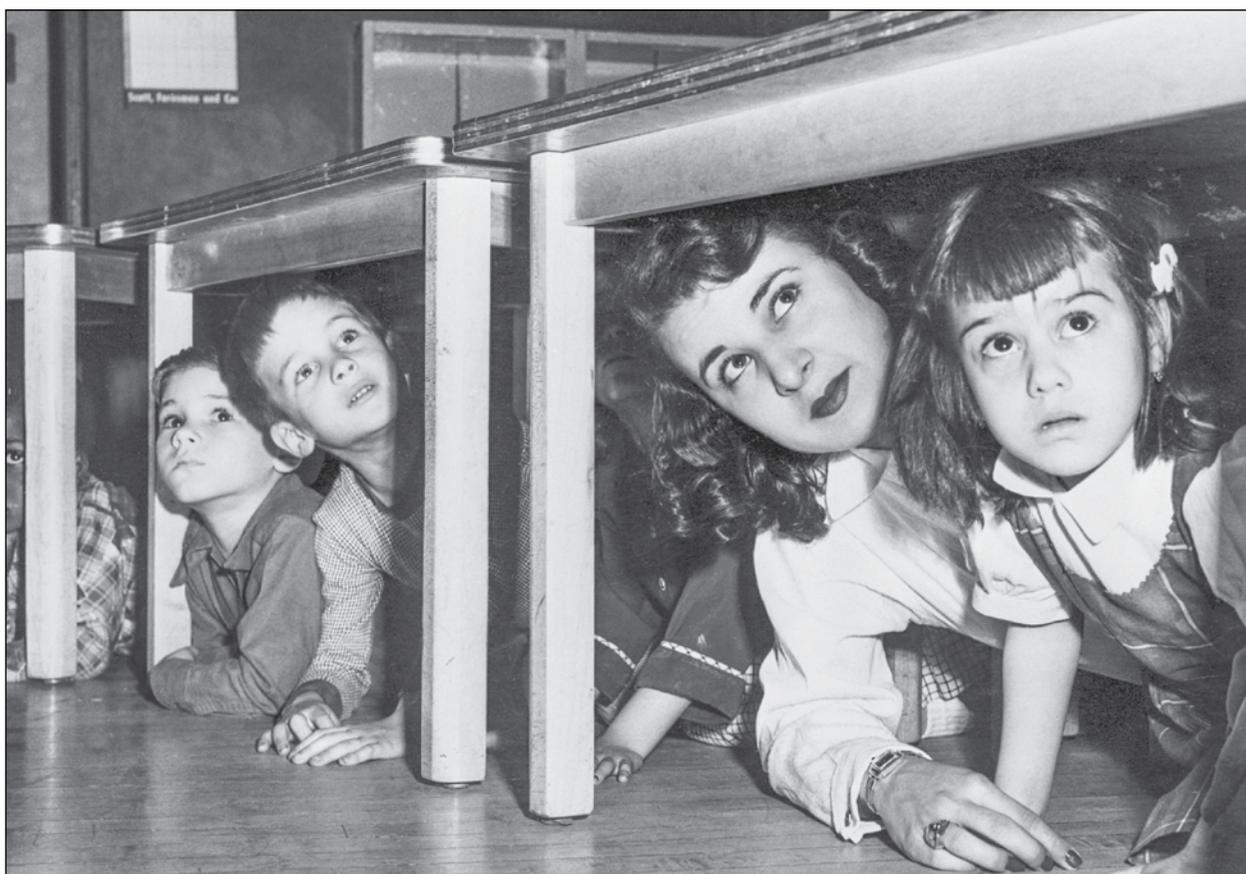
I handed Jill her Valentine and she surprised me by kissing me on the cheek. With a red face I kissed her back on her cheek. I then handed Ann her Valentine and she did the same. Just as I was kissing Ann on her cheek my arm was grabbed by Miss Nickels and I was quickly escorted back to her classroom and told to sit behind her desk and wait. I was in shock as she led the class back into the room with all eyes staring at me and wondering why I was in the teacher's seat. She had the class move their chairs into a semi-circle and she sat on a stool. She then ordered me to come and sit on her lap.

"Now Neal, tell the class what you did at recess today." I was frozen and didn't say a word. "Ok then, show them what you did", as she stuck out her cheek. There was a rumble in my stomach as I hesitated, then kissed her cheek and quietly spat, as the class roared with laughter at me. It was like kissing a perfumed chalkboard eraser that had never been cleaned. "Now kiss my other cheek". I was seething with terror and humiliation, and unknown to anyone, as I bent to kiss the other eraser, I lost a bodily function. I jumped down from her lap and quickly grabbed a chair and sat. No one knew that my front was now soaking wet, and seeping into my chair. Miss Nickels then said, "Neal,



would you please pass around the 'Think and Do' books? These were small weekly magazines with stories and puzzles. I didn't budge, and I wasn't sure that I could. "Neal!, pass out the 'Think and Do' books! I slowly peeled my sticky self from the chair, and was about to expose my wet shame when the siren for the Atomic Bomb drill sounded and everyone was directed to crouch under the tables till the 'All Clear' was given. While under the table I had a chance to dry and air out somewhat, and shortly thereafter the bell rang to end my horrendous day. I'm glad that no one ever found out about one of my most embarrassing situations, although I did notice that on the way home, my then pregnant Mom was looking at me strangely, and had the car window down.

On February 16 my Mom called me from the hospital and asked what I wanted to name my new little sister. I said, "Jill and Ann," and so it was.



## HOT HITS



Britney Spears attended the announcement of her new residency, "Britney: Domination," at Park MGM on Oct. 18, 2018, in Las Vegas.

# FREE BRITNEY

Last week I watched the New York Times documentary called "Framing Britney Spears." It was highly emotional for me. My last impression of Britney Spears was the night my



Justin Tyme

friends and I had driven from Reno to Sacramento for the weekend to see Britney Spears in concert. It was double sweet because opening for her was one of my favorite girl groups ever, The Pussycat Dolls. Nicole and the rest of the dolls killed it. They put on such a great show. Then came the star of the night, Britney Spears. After performing four songs my friends and I left, disappointed and sad. She was checked out

of the performance, mumbling, falling, and not knowing what city she was in. I was mad at her for 10 years.

But then she got her Vegas residency. The reviews have been incredible. I decided I would forgive Britney and let her make it up to me. I never made it to see her though. She abruptly canceled her second residency before I made it. Not only did she cancel it, but the night of the announcement. MGM resorts had spent millions of dollars preparing for "Domination." Thousands of fans gathered to see her perform. When she came on stage Britney didn't say a word, instead she walked off the stage down the aisle and out the back door leaving everyone speechless. She later announced a work hiatus on social media.

The New York Times documentary sheds a new light on the pop stars troubles. Now 39 years old, Britney has not been in control of her own life since shaving her head 13 years ago. Her father is in charge of her conservatorship. Britney has refused to work until he gives that up. She's not even allowed to have a cell phone. Last year she had to go to court and ask a judge to grant her permission for an iPhone. She was denied. It's really quite sad. There's a huge "Free Britney" movement, made up of her fans and other pop superstars. I'm no longer mad at her and I hope that someone is able help her out of the prison she lives in. You can watch Framing Britney Spears on HULU, as well as other platforms online.

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

info@uhssc.com

864-209-8245



### Upstate HealthCare Services

Home and Senior Care  
Medical Supply and Delivery

www.uhssc.com

3 Locations Serving  
Anderson, Oconee, Pickens, and Western Greenville

### 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-

## Apple Dumplin' ANTIQUE MALL

14,000 sf - Over 70 Booths

Tuesday - Saturday  
10am - 6pm

**864-642-2797**  
500 North Main St Downtown Anderson

### STONE FOSTER FILMS

Videography & Filmmaking

Wedding videography, commercials,  
music videos, real estate footage,  
and everything in between!

Inquiries:  
stone@stonefosterfilms.com  
(864) 617-3170  
@stonefoster.films

### Brows By Barbara

NOW AT NEW TRENDZ HAIR SALON

BROW WAXING - TINTING - SHAPING  
LIP CHIN AND FACE WAXING  
EYE MAKEOVERS - FULL FACE MAKEOVERS

BRIDES - BRIDESMAIDS - WEDDING PARTY  
MOTHER OF THE BRIDE/GROOM

NOW BOOKING BRIDAL BROW PARTIES

CALL OR TEXT FOR APPOINTMENTS

BARBARA SIMS  
4109 LIBERTY HWY, ANDERSON SC  
706-372-0292

*Best Brows in the Business!*

### CITY SEED

at the STATION  
garden • home • birds

520 North Murray Avenue

donna@cityseedatthestation.com  
(864) 225-7511

## SHOP LOCAL. EAT LOCAL. BE LOCAL.

*A New Year - A Reason to Cheer!*

418 NORTH MAIN STREET  
ANDERSON, SC 29621  
PHONE: 864.225.2021

### WESTAR



**WESTAR Auto-Truck Tire  
& Alignment**

Corner of Bleckley & Murray  
PO Box 400  
Anderson, SC

864.224.2248 • 864.224.2254

### PALMETTO'S BEST LAWN CARE

RESIDENTIAL MOWING, HEDGE TRIMMING,  
YEAR-ROUND MAINTENANCE,  
MULCH, PINE NEEDLE INSTALLS.



**CESAR DIAZ**  
OWNER/OPERATOR

610-248-0284 **LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED**

(864) 772-2777

beeclean383@gmail.com



We are a commercial and residential power washing  
service with over 10 years of experience. Licensed  
and insured. Let us restore your property.  
**100% satisfaction guaranteed.**

www.beecleanllc.com



**LaTisha  
Y. Willis**

Independent Beauty Consultant

Office: (704) 936 - 6794

Call for a complimentary  
skincare pampering session!

*You're Invited to Worship*



**Starr United  
Methodist  
Church**

The Rev. Peter Michael Lack  
Pastor, Starr UMC

624 Professor Brown Lane  
(formerly Highway 81 South)  
Starr, South Carolina  
Sunday Worship @ 10:15am

## MUSINGS OF AN OLE BALL COACH

**SOME THAT LEFT US THIS YEAR**

I'm submitting my annual list of the great and not so great who departed their mortal life. Kenny Rogers whose rendition of, "I Remember You," gave me comfort at my LW's funeral. He succumbed a scant two months later. Helen Reddy, best known for "I Am Woman." But for me it was "Muskrat Ramble." Paul Hornung, a centerpiece of Vince Lombardi's Green Bay Packer Teams. Basketball's great Koby Bryant. Bob Gibson whose fast ball could not be seen, only heard. Whitey Ford, crafty left hander who led the Yankees to and has more World Series victories than anyone. Tom Seaver, whose boyish looks and demeanor



Jim Fraser

made him seem indestructible. Jack Welch, synonymous with the G.E. Brand. Chuck Yeager who flew through at record speeds. Regis Philbin, My L.W.'s favorite talk show host. Superhero Kirk Douglas. Another superhero, Chadwick Boseman, who surprised and made proud most of Anderson where we lovingly called him one of ours. Sean Connery, better known as, "Bond, James Bond." Olivia de Havilland remembered by octogenarians, like me, as Melanie in "Gone with the Wind." What could be happening on weeknight television, but "Jeopardy," hosted by Alex Trebek who became a household name. If Harriet Beecher Stowe was told by Lincoln, "Oh yes, you're the little lady that started this Civil War," he would say to Ruth Bader Ginsburg, "Your passing took away some balance on SCOTUS.

Check out this trifecta of music makers

that had many of us humming their hits. Bill Withers, "Ain't No Sunshine When She's Gone," and "Lean on Me." Charley Pride America's first black country star, whose mel-low voice was silenced by complications of Covid XIX at 86. Lil Richard, one of the most copied R & B Star, "Gone Golly Miss Molly," and "Tutti Frutti." Phyllis George brought a host of football aficionados with her looks as well as her expertise on "The NFL Today" at 25 years of age at only 70. Sumner Redstone owner of Paramount Viacom CBS. Jerry Stiller, George Costanza's dad on "Seinfeld." Roy Horn, Siegfried & Roy, of Covid XIX. Siegfried died January 13<sup>th</sup>. All of these people are remembered for their legacy. They did something unique or did something better than anyone else. Each of us has that capacity. I used to tell my classes at Hanna, Aiken, and Bennettsville, "It's a sobering thought, but out

of the billions of people in the world you can do one thing better than anybody else." Wage a relentless search during your life for that thing and do it. The story is told of the biggest scofflaw, as he was being viewed in his coffin. The usual comment was, "Ole Joe was the sorriest excuse for a human being I've ever seen. He was a nerd who had not redeeming qualities." Another said, "Yes, but he was one hell of a whistler." Happy Musings!

*Jim Fraser was the athletic director and head football coach at T.L. Hanna High School from 1968 to 1985. He was also a full member of the faculty and taught U.S. History.*

**'To be a good doctor, you must first be a good human'**

BY JIM HARRIS

"To be a good doctor, you must first be a good human." Those words from Dr. Sanjeev Kumar's father have guided a career which has served Anderson well for over fifteen years. That same credo was the impetus for creation of a palliative care practice, Divine Hospice LLC, that involves home visits by Dr. Kumar himself. Even though "house calls" have been rare for decades, Dr. Kumar believes they help provide the optimal patient care.

Dr. Kumar was born near the Himalayas in India. After completing medical school, he and Rashmi were married. Sakshi was their firstborn. After she was behind pace with several progress markers, it was determined that she had Down's Syndrome. Facing a lack of medical options, Dr. Kumar began to investigate moving to the U.S. to access the best possible care for his daughter.

Kumar had to pass the U.S. Medical License Exam. Stops in the Bronx as a medical observer and residency at West Virginia University Hospital led to a position with AnMed.

Initially, AnMed had no protocol for palliative care. Alongside Dr. Harry Morse, they began work on creating a compassionate and comfortable care program for those fac-

ing the most serious diagnoses.

In 2015, Dr. Kumar was offered a director position with a firm specializing in Hospice care. This experience led to the creation of his firm, Divine Hospice, LLC. In 2016, Dr. Kumar's father fell seriously ill. On the return flight from visiting his father, thinking about his care protocol, he recalled the words of two nurses from years before. They had encouraged him to set up his own practice and assured him they would join him. Once back home, he began putting his new model together, with an emphasis on comfort care as well as ensuring that the patients and their families are kept fully informed of all treatments and medications. In March 2017, the firm accepted its first patients.

Dr. Kumar estimates he typically works with 100-125 patients each year, with each visited multiple times. These patients come exclusively from word of mouth. Sometimes, visits are in response to emergencies, like falls. He has even been known to make house calls in the middle of the night when needed.

Dr. Kumar's compassion extends beyond medical care. When a terminally ill patient who had been a chef wanted one last time preparing food, Dr. Kumar created a cookout where the patient could cook for a group



Dr. Sanjeev Kumar

of people. Another patient who had climbed Table Rock often in his

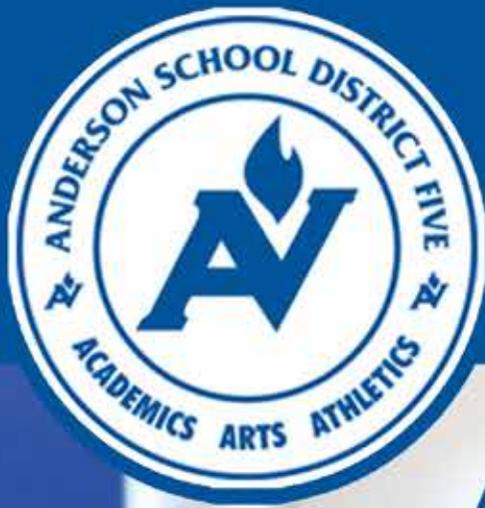
youth wanted to return for a final visit. Sanjeev made arrangements for

an ambulance to carry the patient there. Dr. Kumar and his team joined the patient and his family for lunch at the foot of the mountain. The family of another patient asked Dr. Kumar to speak at her memorial. The list of lives touched by this gracious provider is immense.

Last year, Dr. Kumar received a call asking for help for a patient with a very short life expectancy, whose home was so filthy it was impossible for nurse visits, and he did not have a bed. Within a matter of hours, Dr. Kumar had assembled volunteers, including his staff, thoroughly cleaned the house and called a medical supply company to have a hospital bed delivered that evening. TV stations covered the actions of Dr. Kumar and his team.

During the pandemic, Dr. Kumar posted on social media his willingness to help anyone with any Covid related issues, including home visits, even though they weren't patients. The response was huge, and Dr. Kumar was able to help a large number of individuals.

Dr. Kumar is also an attending physician with Condor Health with 50 patients. He helps fund a therapy facility in his hometown for challenged youths. He and Rashmi welcomed a second daughter, Siya, in 2010. Sakshi, now 21, is doing well and in her last year at T.L. Hanna.



# Thank You

## Anderson Five School Nurses!



**For your continued care and compassion in meeting the health care needs of students and staff on a daily basis, and for your leadership in managing the health and safety of our schools amid the Coronavirus pandemic.**

**We see you, we support you, and we appreciate you!**

**Anderson School District Five**