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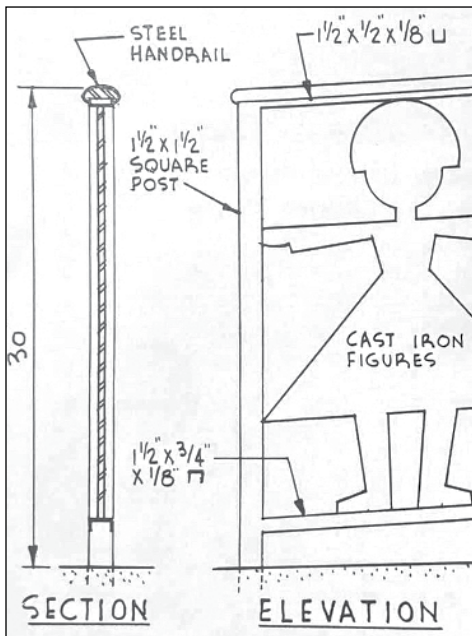
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August 3-16, 2023

## FINDING LINLEY: North Fant Elementary

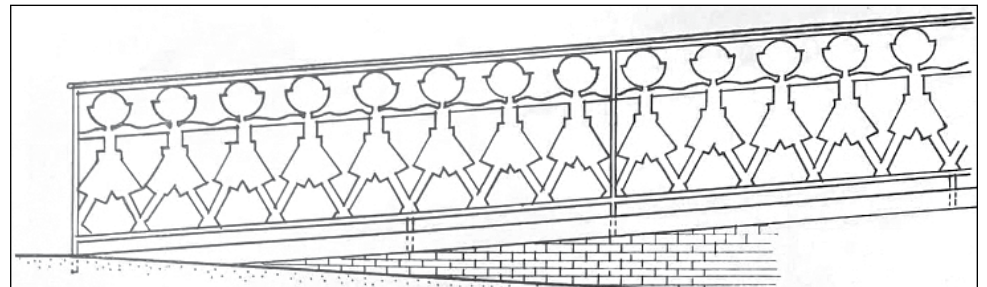
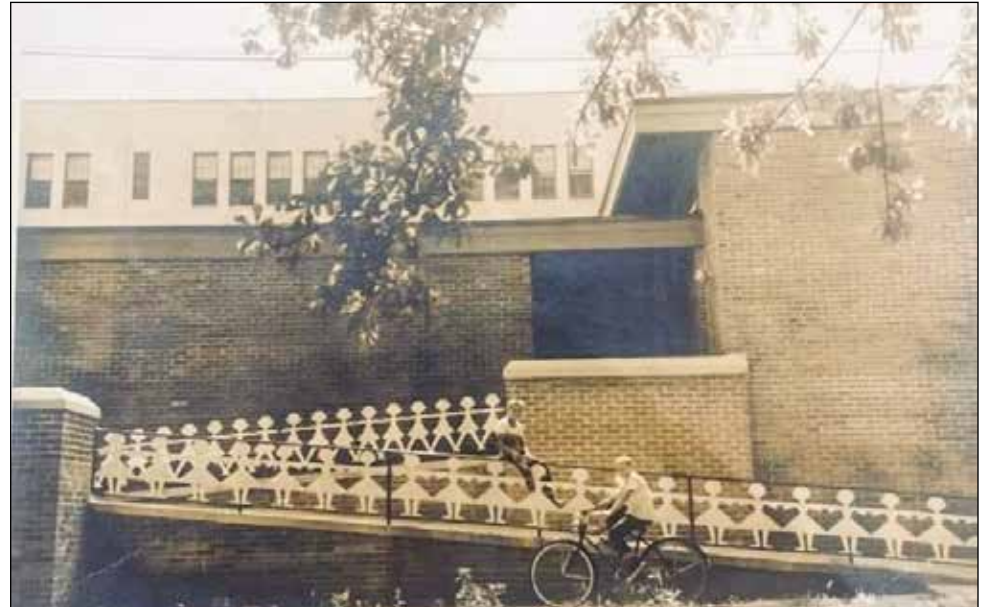


BY AUBREY NEWBY

By the time this issue of The Electric City News arrives in mailboxes, driveways and distribution boxes, the children of Anderson will be off to the start of another school year. The start of a new school year is one of those quintessential childhood experiences that no matter the distance of time never really changes. Like thousands of Anderson students before them, this year school children will be bundles of nerves, freshly cropped haircuts, clothes that have been fretted over and bookbags filled with perfectly lined paper and the smell of unopened Crayola boxes not yet dulled or broken from use.

In 1956, students starting first grade at North Fant Elementary School, had the additional excitement of a new school building to welcome them to the new year. The main build-

SEE LINLEY ON PAGE 2



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# Reading is still COOL in middle school!

Talking about middle school is a little awkward for me as a teacher (and mom). Not only have I not ever taught middle school, but I've never experienced middle school as a parent. However, I don't want to leave out my middle schoolers because reading is STILL important for them! After all of these years invested, now is not the time to give it up.

When I think about what I read in middle school I think about Number of the Stars, The Great Gatsby, and The Hobbit. I don't necessarily remember reading many books for pleasure but instead, reading books required in class. In the past I always resorted

to reading things that were immediately interesting to me- The Babysitters Club particularly. My middle school teachers opened my eyes to a whole new world by introducing me to a variety of literature. Through



**Katie Laughridge**

reading the books required of me, I discovered a whole new world

and I loved it! I want to encourage you to do two things: continue to provide books for your middle schooler in which they enjoy reading- but also, books they may not automatically resort to when looking for a new book to read. I think they'll be pleasantly surprised at what they may find! Below you will find a few suggestions for you to start with:

- A Duet for Home by Katrina Von Glasser
- Clean Getaway by Nic Stone
- Becoming Muhammad Ali by James Patterson
- New Kid by Jerry Craft
- Out of my Mind by Sharon Draper

- Ghost by Jason Reynolds
- The Canyon's Edge by Dusti Bowling
- Rump by Liesl Shurtliff
- Refugee by Alan Gratz
- I Can Make this Promise by Christine Day
- The Voyage of Sparrowhawk by Natasha Farrant
- Ali Cross by James Patterson
- Skyborn: Sparrow Rising by Jessica Khoury

"I wouldn't be a songwriter if it wasn't for books that I loved as a kid. I think that when you can escape into a book it trains your imagination to think big and to think that more can exist than what you see." – Taylor Swift

## Linley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing of North Fant dated to the early 1900s and the original 8 classrooms had served a number of different ages over the years. In order to continue to adapt and meet the needs of changing times and increased enrolment the building underwent a number of renovations and additions over the years, including the removal of the buildings original domed central area.

Linley and Watkins were contracted by the local school board to design a new addition to the venerable old building that would include a new wing to house first grade classrooms and a new auditorium. Linley was already well established as a leading residential architect. By 1956 Linley and Watkins were at work on the Anderson County Jail. The design for the North Fant school addition allowed Linley the opportunity to be a little more creative, adventurous and even playful in the elements of his design.

There are few photographs and no plans that document the design for the North Fant School addition in the Linley Manuscript Collection in the University of Georgia Archives. We do know from former students that it contained two first grade classrooms with bathrooms and an auditorium. What was perhaps the most interesting aspect of the design was the approach to the building. As in other projects before this one such as the Children's Clinic building, this design reveals Linley's attention to detail and the intended use of the building as an elementary school. Linley was keenly aware of design ideas that were happening beyond the confines

of Anderson South Carolina. In 1954 The Museum of Modern Art had an exhibition and design contest judged by among others, noted modernist architect Phillip C. Johnson. This exhibit highlighted the creative play being encouraged among children with modular building blocks, creative seesaws, and particularly interesting playground designs.

Likely inspired by the ideas seen in Creative Playthings and The Museum of Modern Art exhibition Linley designed the railing for the entrance to the new addition to replicate the look of a paperchain of boys and girls locking arms. The design is remembered fondly by those fortunate enough to have attended North Fant post 1956. Linley and Watkins promptly applied for a patent for the design, which was issued by the United States Patent Office on May 19, 1959,

shared equally between Linley and his partner David P. Watkins. For several years Linley and Watkins attempted to offer the design for production through several catalogs and manufacturing companies with no success. The design won several awards and was featured in a number of publications including the Architectural Metals Magazine, and The Southern Architect.

Linley and Watkins would go on to design a number of buildings for the Anderson School system including the Kennedy Street School, the Southside auditorium, and the Reed Street School. In the mid 1970's North Fant closed and students were relocated. The ensuing years and the expansion of the local hospital brought demolition to the North Fant building. It is unknown if any of the Linley and Watkins designed paperchain railing survived.

## RED ROCKET PUBLISHING OF ANDERSON, LLC PUBLISHERS

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

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

## ADVERTISING SALES

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

## LAYOUT/DESIGN

ART DIRECTOR  
Zack Mauldin  
zack@upstatetoday.com

## GRAPHIC DESIGN

Nate Thomason  
signal43@live.com

## WRITERS

Neal Parnell  
dnparn@gmail.com

Jana Mackin  
janamackin@yahoo.com

Rich Otter  
ottwill@bellsouth.net

GARDEN & FLORAL  
Susan Temple  
gardningirl@yahoo.com

## MENTAL HEALTH

Mary-Catherine McClain Riner  
drmarycatherine@rinerounseling.com

## FASHION

Kristine March

## SPORTS

Bru Nimmons

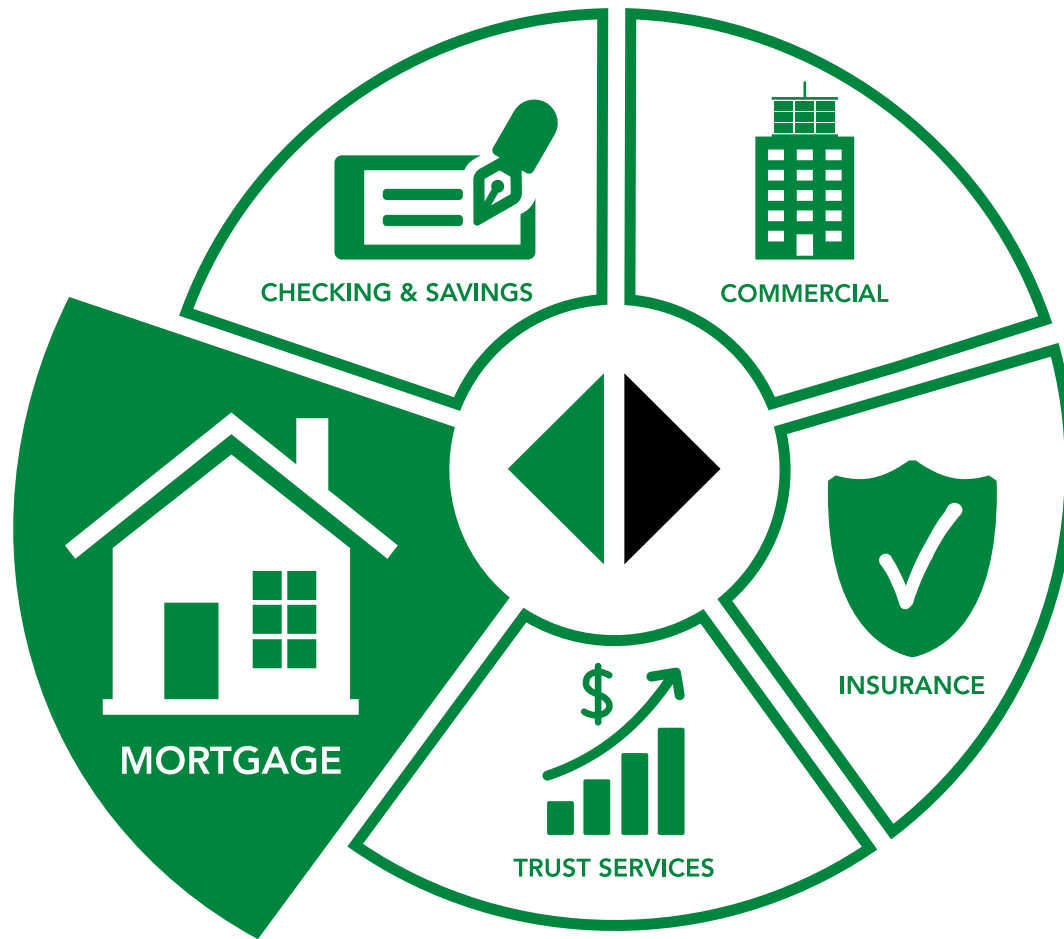
## COLUMNISTS

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

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# HOAs: Unraveling the pros and cons

Homeowners Associations have become a common feature in many neighborhoods across the country, and in the upstate. I often find clients wondering whether living in an HOA community is the right decision for them. We have all heard stories about “Karen” from the HOA measuring the height of a neighbor’s grass with a ruler, but what about the neighbor that puts a motorhome in their front yard for family members to live in? When purchasing a home, buyers need to delve into the pros and cons of HOAs to help them make an informed choice that aligns with their lifestyle and preferences.

According to realtor.com, an HOA helps ensure that your community looks its best and functions smoothly. If you are buying a condominium, townhouse, or single-family home in a neighborhood

with shared common areas and amenities (such as swimming pools, tennis courts, or security gates),



Tina Brown

odds are high these areas are maintained by a homeowner’s association. The number of Americans living in homes with HOAs is on the rise from 1% in 1970 to 27% today according to a national study.

There are many advantages of living in a community with a Homeowners Association, such as community amenities and maintenance. These amenities vary by neighborhood, but can include pools, tennis courts, playgrounds, and common gathering areas.

HOAs take care of the maintenance and upkeep of these shared spaces, saving homeowners from the hassle and cost of managing them individually. Another advantage is aesthetics. HOAs often enforce strict architectural guidelines, ensuring a cohesive and visually appealing neighborhood. These guidelines typically regulate house colors, landscaping, and exterior modifications. This consistency can enhance the overall curb appeal of the community and potentially lead to higher property values. Many HOAs organize social events and activities, fostering a sense of community and encouraging residents to get to know one another. And lastly, when conflicts arise between neighbors or issues related to common areas, HOAs offer a structured dispute resolution process. This can help maintain a peaceful and harmonious

living environment, as disputes are addressed fairly and efficiently.

Though there are advantages, there can also be disadvantages. Living in an HOA community comes with monthly or yearly fees, which vary depending on the services and amenities provided. These fees can increase over time. Additionally, in case of major repairs or unforeseen expenses, HOAs may impose special assessments on homeowners. HOAs also impose rules and restrictions on homeowners, which can limit personal choices and preferences. For example, there might be restrictions in terms of pet ownership, exterior decor, or parking options. Some homeowners may find these rules too restrictive and feel that their freedom to customize and personalize their property is compromised. HOAs are managed by elected boards, and the efficiency

and effectiveness of these boards can vary significantly. A poorly managed HOA may result in delayed maintenance, ineffective governance, or misuse of funds, leading to discontent among homeowners.

Living in an HOA-managed community can be a rewarding experience for many homeowners, providing a range of benefits such as shared amenities, consistent aesthetics, and dispute resolution services. However, it is crucial to consider the potential downsides, such as fees, loss of personal freedom, possible mismanagement, and resale restrictions. Before deciding, evaluate your lifestyle, preferences, and financial capacity to determine if an HOA community aligns with your needs and priorities. As a realtor, I encourage my clients to carefully weigh these pros and cons and make an informed choice that suits their unique circumstances.

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# Anything goes this fall

I don't know about you, but I think this has definitely been the hottest summer that I've ever experienced in my 38 years of life.

To say that I'm ready for Fall is an understatement. I'm beyond ready for Fall. Never in my life have I longed for that cold, brisk, fall air than now. Scientifically speaking, it definitely is the hottest summer on record. In Death Valley the weather got up to almost 120°. That is just absolutely gross and quite scary.



Kristine March

So, with that being said, how are we going to transition our wardrobe? It's so warm that you can't even think about jackets or boots right now, but it's a smart idea to go ahead and get prepared. The trends this year are headed into that western chic vibe. Which I'm not mad about, because I love it. Think suede fringe jackets, lace slip dresses and crocodile skinned boots. It's easy to have something light underneath and layer.

If the Western look isn't your thing, you can always

go for minimalism and soft textures, a striped sweater with a navy blazer and a tailored trouser looks classy and sophisticated. You can add chunky gold jewelry to it to give it a little more pizzazz. Metallics are going to be everywhere this season and the color red is going to be huge.



Mini skirts aren't as big this year, but circle skirts are. Think 1950's, but with a modern twist. Dark romance is trending. Ruffles and pops of dark hues, high neck collars and delicate sheer fabrics will be everywhere. Perfect for Halloween. And last but not least the '80s are back again, but in the best way possible. Blazers will never go out of style and I'm starting to own too many.

The power suit will be trending, but it will be perfectly altered to fit the body. Polka dots and acid wash will be big as well. Velvet dresses and patch work denim jackets and baggy jeans are still trending, but you can make it your own and make it chic. Studs and sculptured hand bags will be major this season.

I personally think anything goes for Fall 2023. So what fashion trends will you be wearing? Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters. Stay cool, y'all!



## Saad family reunites

The children of Tom and Ceil Saad of Anderson celebrated an extended family reunion in June. Along with their Greenville cousins, the Saad siblings hosted four generations of relatives from the west coast, the Midwest, MidAtlantic, and Northeast. The three-day celebration kicked off with Carolina barbecue, live music and dancing at the old Anderson Country Club. The festivities moved to Greenville where the 70+ descendants of Alfred and Zahiya Saad delved into their ancestry, toured Springwood Cemetery, and attended a Roman Catholic Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary. They then enjoyed a Q&A discussion with their witty and wonderful 93-year-old aunt Martha, and concluded with an authentic Lebanese feast. In tribute to their heritage, the extended family raised \$1,775 to benefit Gestures From the Heart, a non-profit in North Lebanon that provides meals and companionship to the elderly.



L to R - Camille, Chris, Tony, Kent, Mimi, Greg and Ceci.

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# OSCAR THE OSPREY

My friends named him Oscar, and one hot morning earlier this summer he learned to fledge off the top of their chimney.

Nick and Gina, good friends who live about a mile from our house, texted me to say that a young osprey was hanging out on their roof. A known osprey nest is located on a nearby cell tower, and they've been watching the activity there for several nesting seasons already. But on this morning, they got an up close and personal look at a young bird.

Ospreys, commonly known as "fish hawks," are white underneath, with a brown back, and a small head that is both brown and white. People on Lake Hartwell sometimes see

ospreys plunging feet-first for fish. Though they are often confused with eagles because of their size, these large birds are in a category all their own.

Ospreys have been nesting here ever since tailor-made nesting platforms began springing up all over the area a few years ago - namely, cell phone towers. With the lake so close by, the combination makes perfect osprey real estate. Look up at a tower, and it's likely you'll see a large, messy nest on top. And if you look at just the right time, you'll see a bird poking its head out.

Oscar perched on Nick and Gina's chimney for about an hour without much movement, just looking around the neighborhood and perhaps getting up the courage to move about a little. That's when I got the text from Nick, along with a photo: "Fledgling in our back yard! Momma was flying around calling." I went by there a little later to get a close up



look at Oscar clinging to the bricks. This young bird made little baby-like squeaks - so different from the fledgling red-tailed hawks that frequent our back yard. They make

squeals. Obnoxious, ear-splitting squeals. Ospreys are much more pleasant to hear.

Oscar finally figured out how to flap his wings and raise himself slightly above the chimney. That's called "limbing," and is the process used by young birds of prey to strengthen their wings for eventual flying. He stayed there for a couple of hours, seemingly enjoying the view and perhaps building up his nerve.

Later in the day I got the message: "He flew away while we were in having lunch!" Oscar has not returned, so it's safe to assume that he finally got brave enough to really test those wings, and then use them to fly, fly away - doing what ospreys do. He'll probably stay close to home for a few more weeks, venturing further and further out, until he's totally on his own.

Nick and Gina looked up and appreciated what was going on in the sky around them, and got to observe a beautiful sight that many people may miss. And in doing so they got to have a small part in watching Oscar the osprey grow up.

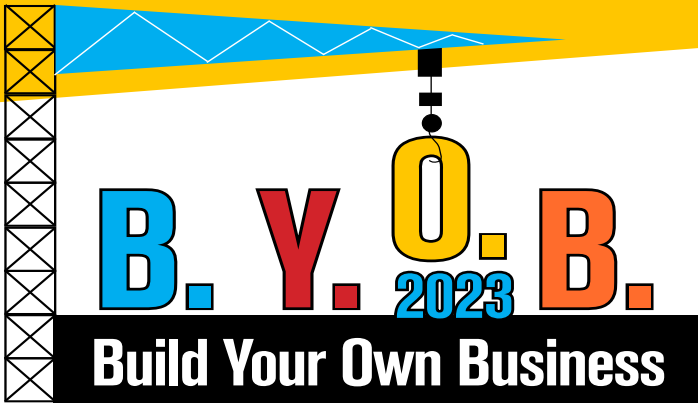


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THE GARDEN SHOP

# Living with, and grumbling about, deer



**SUSAN TEMPLE**  
master gardener

These are days views of the garden from windows are important. Even before morning dew is dry it's just about too hot outside for me. By the time it maybe cools off in the evenings, it seems not worth bothering to start anything outside. Our new dog is gradually learning, and I venture more and more letting him off the leash. It's hard to garden with a dog leashed to one's belt. We go out and water plants in my garden shop area, see what deer are letting grow, be sure there are no signs of armadillos, and now, woodchucks. Just when I thought deer were

bad! Knock on wood, Yogi hasn't run off again. He's getting better about staying close by and not going coyote hunting anymore. The last time he ran off I heard a coyote yapping. That forced me to go looking for him before the pack found him. Either he had decided to hear me calling him or we just happened to find each other.

Deer finally decided they would try the blooms of angel wing begonia. It was beautiful. Red flowers in a navy blue urn, amongst evergreen shrubs, was really making a show. I've planted an angel wing begonia is this urn for two, maybe three years, and they've never eaten it. Never eaten wax begonias either, until this year. Deer damaged the wax begonias more because they ate the tops of the plants too. They just pulled the flowers off the angel wing. They have eaten a lot of blooms off reseeding annual

rudbeckia. I don't know exactly what kind they are. So far, they've left regular black-eyed Susans alone. Forget growing pineapple lilies (*Eucomis*) if you have deer. A clump really must be moved this fall but to where is the question.

I must admit, the front garden looks a little rough. When annual bur clover (*Medicago polymorpha*) died, I never got around to raking it out of some bare spots and now all the dead foliage is very slowly decomposing. Bur clover is a winter annual with yellow flowers that I don't bother fighting. It's a bit aggressive but so what. There should have been other plants coming up to hide the dead foliage. Maybe these patches were reseeding annuals that did not survive. Who knows? I've tried to mark where these spots need filling next year. Deer also have just about eliminated all

the cockscombs. They've eaten most of the flowers so they didn't reseed. Also, deer learned to love cup plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*) and I miss that plant. Butterflies, gold finches, and other birds miss it too.

With all this disappointment, I finally got around to spraying Bobbex. I ordered it last year and it's just been sitting in the garage. It definitely won't keep deer away if it never makes it out of the bottle. I mixed it exactly as directions said, took the advice of a gardening friend to lightly spray, no need to spray till dripping, and sprayed quite a lot of plants. I was pleasantly surprised that it only took a little over half of the gallon sprayer. I could smell this stuff when near it in the garage. Man oh man, did it stink once sprayed. I was concerned my new gardening companion might like it. But he didn't. My friend said her dog



**Angel wing begonia after deer eating blooms**

never responds to it either. Plants were sprayed almost at dark so as not to burn them. Directions say not to apply when temperatures are over 85 degrees. That's kind of hard these days. It does not appear any plants were burned. A patch of crinum lily foliage looks a little yellow but my guess is that is not related to Bobbex, it's just plain ol' sunburned. With no rain (unfortunately), spraying again has not been needed yet. Directions say spray every 7 to 14 days in the summer. But nothing much is putting on new growth with no rain either. Time will tell if this effort and expense is worth it. Otherwise, these deer favorites will be replaced with ones that are not. Such plants do exist...for now.



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# Outdoor Dream Foundation plans 4th annual celebration

BY JANA MACKIN

When the Outdoor Dream Foundation holds its 4th Annual James Robert “Radio” Kennedy Memorial Celebration later this month, Anderson’s best in philanthropy, humanity and goodwill will be honored.

For years, the wish-granting non-profit has gifted hunting, fishing and outdoor adventures to children with terminal or life threatening illnesses. Further, the foundation owes much to local legends Coach Harold Jones and Radio, who inspired, impacted and fundraised for the charity.

Mention the name Radio and most all South Carolinians smile in recognition. The friendship between the coach and Radio, a mentally challenged young man who for decades cheered on the T.L. Hanna high school football team, engaged the community, and was the stuff of a 1996 Sports Illustrated article that later inspired the movie “Radio.”

On August 25, the Anderson Sports and Entertainment Center will host a love fest fundraiser of miracles, nostalgia and gold drenched memories, honoring the 20th anniversary of the foundation and movie release. Featured speakers include American Hero Clebe McClary and bass legend Hank Parker. Further, Coach Jones and his family will represent the charity.

Radio will attend in spirit. Death can’t put

a damper on his spirit. That night, Radio’s spirit will be decked to the nines in gold- his favorite color.

“It’s the 20th anniversary of the Outdoor Dream Foundation and the release of “Radio,” said Brad Jones, founding board member and coach’s son.

“As kids, we watched my dad care for Radio and his family,” Jones said. “He died in 2019, and this is the fourth memorial dinner in his memory.

The foundation started after Jones lost a special young hunting companion to leukemia (Isaac Ponder). Further, major wish granting organizations had dropped hunting from their programs, he said.

The program grants outdoor hunting, fishing and other wishes and mentoring to very ill kids and youth under 21. They have provided wishes for over 2,500 kids since their inception, Jones said.

“We take children who don’t have a whole lot to smile about. We take their mind off things for a week or so and make them smile,” said Jones. “A lot of them we teach from scratch (to hunt and fish). We have a network of outfitters, land owners, ranchers in North America that we work with,” Jones said.

“It’s a lot of fun,” he said.

The foundation is rooted in selfless

humanity and giving. It is a natural outgrowth of the impact Coach Jones and Radio’s friendship had on their family, Hanna High School, and Anderson. In 1996, Sports Illustrated writer, Gary Smith, profiled in “Someone to Lean On” Radio and Coach Jones. This feature later inspired the movie “Radio” released in 2003. Their story gained national acclaim.

Smith writes:

We begin way over there, out on the margin. We begin with a dirty, disheveled 18-year-old boy roaring down a hill on a grocery cart, screaming like a banshee, holding a transistor radio to his ear. No one ever plays with him, for he can barely speak and... can’t read or write a word. All of which might explain why his grocery cart keeps taking him to a football field at McCants Junior High in Anderson, S.C. It’s autumn 1964. Everything on that grid is so different from life out on the margin.... From a safe distance, the boy watches T.L. Hanna High School’s junior varsity team practice on the McCants field and mutely absorbs it all.

One day the players hear noises and look over. The boy on the margin is commanding his own team...The players giggle...The young coach, whose future hinges on his ability to maintain discipline and precision on that grid, turns and looks too.

The choices that make or unmake a life are so small.

“Come over here, boy,” calls the coach.

For more than 50 years, Radio was T.L. Hanna’s everything. In fact, he was named a perpetual class junior so he would never have to graduate and leave the school. During this time, coach included him as the sideline cheerleader, good luck charm etc. at the high school’s football games. Coach also made him part of his family.

Later, coach and Radio became deeply involved in the foundation through volunteering, fundraising and speaking appearances. When Radio died at age 73, Anderson wept, the state mourned and the nation nodded to his legacy and spirit.




The Outdoor Dream Foundation carries on that selfless love, humanity and simple compassion shown when coach spoke to Radio so many years ago.

From then on, Radio lived on the sidelines at football games but never lived on the margin again.

“Radio loved it. He loved the events. He loved the kids. He was involved,” said Coach Jones.

“We miss him. He was like family,” said Coach Jones, 87 years old. “He carries on.”

“I think God,” Coach Jones said “had his hand in this.”

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual James Robert “Radio” Kennedy Memorial Celebration

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*It’s the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Outdoor Dream Foundation & the release of the “Radio” Motion Picture. Don’t forget to wear Radio’s favorite color, gold, for childhood cancer awareness. There will be a special drawing for those wearing gold.*

**WHEN:**  
Friday, August 25, 2023 at 6:30 PM

**WHERE:**  
Anderson Sports & Entertainment Center

**SPECIAL GUESTS:**  
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The Outdoor Dream Foundation is a non-profit organization that grants outdoor adventures to children who have been diagnosed with terminal or life-threatening illnesses.





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# NO, THE DOG DAYS DEFINITELY ARE NOT OVER

BY KIM VON KELLER

Anybody remember a song from 2009 called “Dog Days Are Over”? It was a hit single from Florence + The Machine’s debut album, “Lungs,” and its snappy little hand-clapping riff was contagious. I love the song, although I’m not entirely sure what it’s about. There are references to hiding behind beds, happiness being like a bullet to the back, and expecting a lot from a relationship. There is a lot of talk about horses. There’s also the chorus which repeatedly states, “The dog days are over. The dog days are done.”

I am all for poetic license, Florence, but you and The Machine are seriously wrong about that.

Since an early human first referred to a wolf as a “very good boy,” there has never been a better time to be a dog. Our canine friends are now welcome in hotels, restaurants, airplanes, and senior living facilities. There are bakeries that sell only dog treats, boutiques that sell only dog clothes, and YouTube channels that show only dog videos. But none of these hold a candle to what I saw recently in the Atlanta suburbs.

I was driving through Alpharetta when it caught my eye. I noticed the fence first, then a stage, then tables and chairs, and then strands and strands of outdoor lights. I thought it was a bar, or maybe a music venue. Turns out that was both, but with a twist:

It was a dog park.

Now, dog parks are not uncommon. They’re places where you can exercise your dogs and

allow them to socialize. Dog parks are usually just a patch of grass surrounded by benches for humans, but this was like a hip hangout for 20-somethings sporting styles such as Coastal Grandma and Urban Lumberjack. I pulled over to get a better look, but I didn’t go in as I am terribly un-hip. Also, I don’t have a dog.

But I might have to get one after reading more about Fetch Park. With five locations throughout Georgia, Fetch brings together dogs and the humans who love them. There are all sorts of amusements for the pets, and for the people, there are activities like trivia nights, karaoke, bingo, live music, and stand-up comedy. There are even matchmaking nights to help you find your must-love-dogs soulmate.

Personally, I am all for it. During the pandemic years, when so many of us became isolated, we adopted dogs for companionship. By the time the world reopened, they had become part of our families, but they had a lot to learn about being around other people and animals. The same could probably be said for those of us who spent month after month with Uber Eats and Netflix in the privacy of our living rooms. And while “Squid Game” was highly entertaining, it probably wasn’t the best lesson in social skills.

So to all you pups out there, pay no attention to Florence or her Machine. Pit bull or Pomeranian, guard dog or a lap dog, you love us unconditionally, and we love you for it. May all your days be dog days.

## NIBBLE & SIP

# It’s time for a porch party

When air-conditioning has lost its charm, but the Great Outdoors is still unbearable, it’s time for a porch party. These gatherings have



Kim von Keller

become popular over the years as they’re small, casual, and low hassle. All you need is a few neighbors, a shaded porch, a fan, some mismatched chairs, and a table to hold your Nibbles and Sips.

For porch parties at this time of year, I like to make Lemon Drops. These adult lemonades are tart and refreshing, making the August heat and humidity just a little more bearable. And one of the easiest appetizers to put together is Porch Party Shrimp Spread. It’s a creamy version of shrimp cocktail, and it pairs well with the brightness of the Lemon Drop.

### Lemon Drop

1 ½ oz. lemon vodka (I like Absolut Citron)  
¼ oz. simple syrup

¾ oz. fresh-squeezed lemon juice  
Thin lemon slices, to garnish

Combine lemon vodka, simple syrup, and lemon juice in a cocktail shaker filled with ice. Shake vigorously until chilled, and strain into a martini glass. Float a thin lemon slice on top, and serve. Makes one.

### Porch Party Shrimp Spread

3 oz. cream cheese, softened  
2 T. mayonnaise  
1 t. prepared horseradish, or to taste  
1 T. prepared cocktail sauce (I used Heinz)  
8 oz. cooked shrimp, diced  
½ c. minced celery  
2 T. minced sweet onion  
Crackers, for serving

In a small mixing bowl, combine cream cheese, mayonnaise, horseradish, and cocktail sauce. Using an electric mixer, beat on low until well combined. Add shrimp, celery, and onion, and using a spatula, stir until well combined. Refrigerate for an hour or two until chilled. Serve with crackers.

## Boosting self-image in children



MARY-CATHERINE  
McCLAIN  
RINER

Body image relates to how you think and how you feel in your body, and the image you hold about your body. Healthy body images leads to comfort, satisfaction, confidence, and peace more days than not while unhealthy body images relates to dissatisfaction, obsessional thoughts, and constantly wanting to change something about your body. A child’s body image is influenced and impacted by many factors—including family environment, puberty, social media, culture, body teasing, and the attitudes of peers. Pre-teens and teenagers begin to feel more pressure to “fit in.”

While it is common to be aware and conscious of our bodies, consider the following flags:

- Body criticism
- Negative comparisons with others

- Avoidance of social gatherings and not wanting to leave the house because of the body
- Being uncomfortable wearing shorts or not participating in activities that are body focused (e.g., gymnastics)
- Obsessing about weight and appearance about specific body parts
- Desiring to wear make-up and spending more time in front of the mirror
- Focusing more on food, or having guilt and shame for eating
- Perfectionism

To develop a healthier and more positive body image consider talking with your child about their body image ideals, focusing on the whole person, and being a positive body role model. It is important to remind teenagers about what their bodies can do. Talking to yourself in the third person, monitoring feelings prior to social media use, and identifying non-body strengths (e.g., humor, kindness) are helpful. Practicing being brave and stretching the comfort zone are also protective factors.

**LIGHT<sup>the</sup>NIGHT**  
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# A Catdog review...

I'm stepping aside from reviewing books and am instead doing a review of furry companions, or more



Sara Leady

specifically my companion of the past 11 years, Azelynn. Often referred to as "The Great Catdog" (she has a hashtag), she was not the dog I expected

when I brought her home, but was the dog, or rather cat that I needed.

Confused on the cat part? Just about anyone who has heard me describe her as such is always skeptical, but if you'd had the pleasure of meeting her it would have taken you less than 5 minutes to agree that she was in fact more cat in personality than dog. She was listed as a 'red heeler mix,' and those familiar with

the breed are either chuckling knowing their antics, or cringing for the same reasons. Heelers as a breed are not for the faint of heart. Stubborn at best, they take patience, a strong will, and an endless ability to laugh, rather than cry, at their absolute insanity. I recognize that's not a particularly good sell for the breed, and while our time together certainly had its challenges, I wouldn't trade a minute of even the worst moments for anything.

Catdog came to me at a tumultuous time in my life. Depressed, coming off a breakup, and struggling to be a Seattleite in the south, I found her at an adoption event. Azelynn was a rescue and while there wasn't much background info, I know she was pulled from a home by animal control, so I can't imagine her life started well. Listed at a year and a half and rather shy, she wasn't getting a ton of interest. Wary and



watchful, she stood back and judged everyone (a regular habit). Slowly she approached me and, after some scratches, laid down and showed her belly. If you know dogs, you know that move is 100% them choosing you, so I had to take her home.

The Catdog and I had over a decade of shenanigans, and I mean shenanigans. She started quiet, but that heeler crazy came out quickly. Within the first month she'd stolen a stick of butter off the counter, caught a couple bats (she would launch off a tree into the air to catch them), ate a pair of shoes, and put

the whole of the neighborhood's wildlife on notice. Those first few years were full of early mornings with shoes dropped on my face demanding walks, tantrums for car rides, and many a howl over a bowl of chili (her favor-

ite). Unfortunately, these past few months have been bittersweet as we learned she had degenerative bone disease, and we started playing the "comfort and quality of life" game. In the end, I made the hard, but right choice for her.

With her idiosyncrasies and hateful nature (dog reactive and people tolerant) I'm not sure many other people would have stuck with her. She didn't show her love in typical dog ways, or even in typical cat ways, but her affection for me was always clear. She was fiercely protective, my shadow, and while she

wasn't a regular cuddler, she always did when she knew I needed it most (or if there was thunder). Catdog got me through multiple breakups, grad school, six surgeries, several job changes, and many of life's other curveballs.

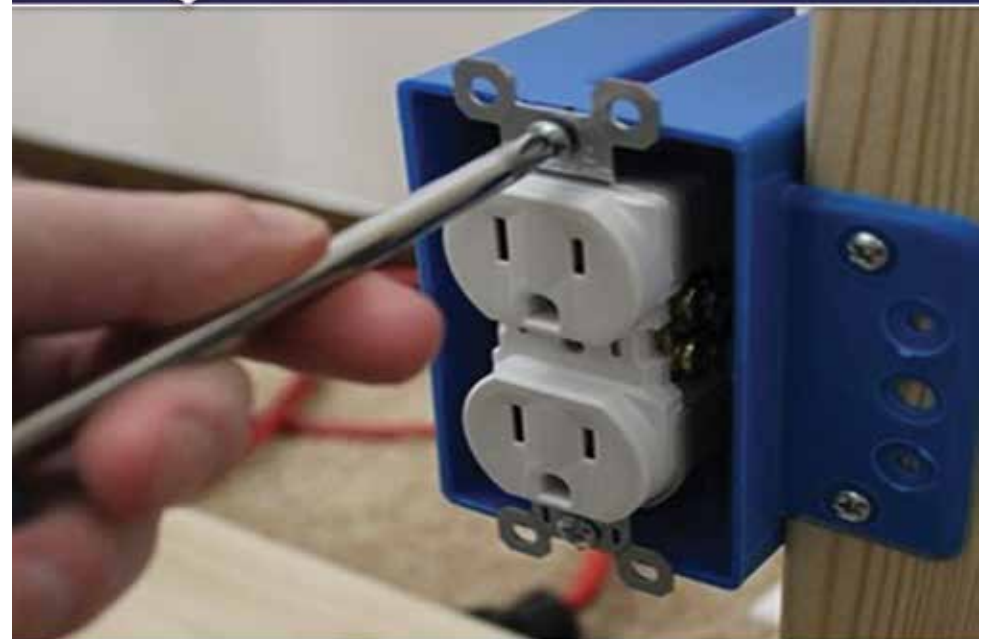
Our journey together taught me a lot, not just regarding pet ownership but life in general, the biggest being to meet dogs/people where they're at, and love them for what they are, not what you think they should be. When you take on an animal whose background you don't know, you have to give them time and patience to settle in, and once they do it can be magic. This isn't just an obit for my monster, but a sales pitch for all the shelter pets out there, crazy quirks and all. The Catdog was one hell of a challenge, but I wouldn't change a stubborn minute of it. So if you've been looking for a sign to bring an animal into your life, take this piece as your sign not just to get that pet, but go to the shelter and give the amazing animals there a chance. It's cliché, but you'll be surprised who rescues who.

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- Philly S.,  
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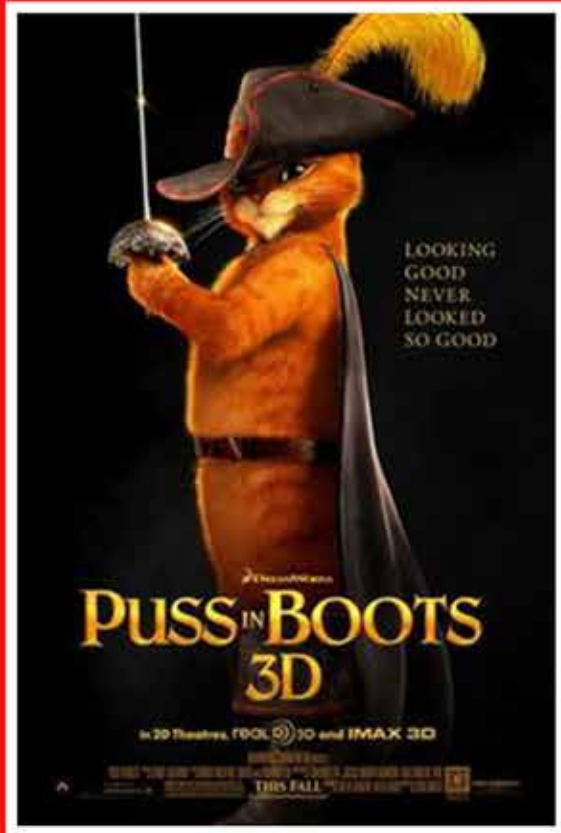
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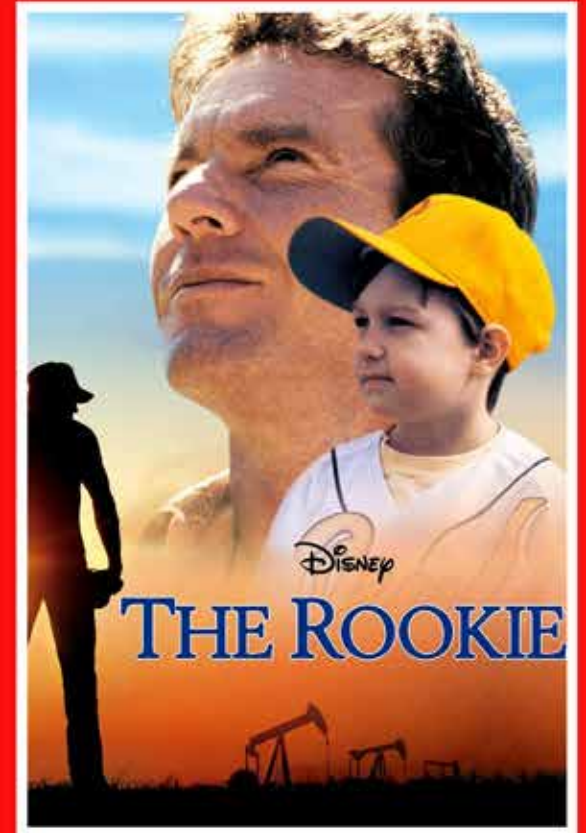


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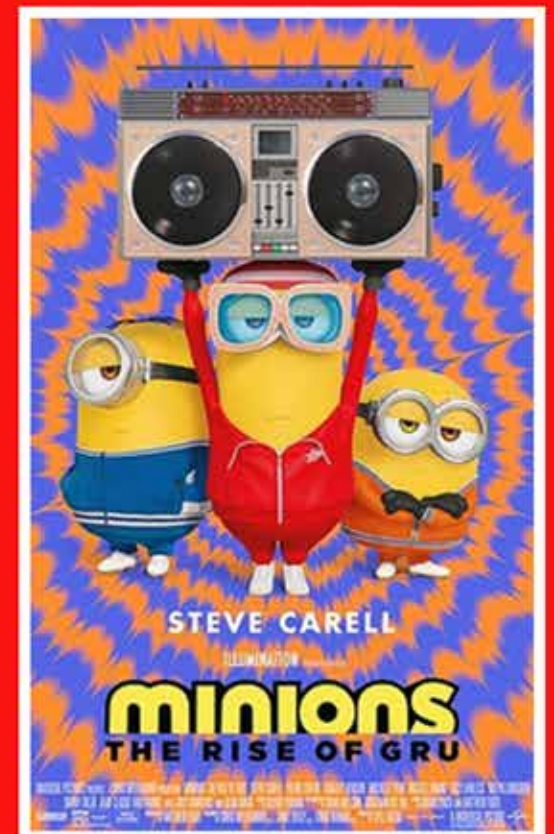
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Friday, August 11 @ 8:30pm



# FLAT TOP

I've told how as a kid, my dad would take me to Strickland's Barber Shop to have my head mowed to within an eighth of an inch of my



Neal Parnell

scalp, at least once a month. Strickland's barber shop was located just across South Main Street from the offices of Orr Mill.

Did you know that there were

shower stalls in the back of the shop that some men paid to use because the Mill houses didn't have showers at the time? Mr. Strickland would place a padded board across the arms of the full-size barber chair, pick me up, and plop me down. My six-year-old friends all had the haircuts that their mothers wanted them to get.

You know, short, parted on the side, with a little Pompadour in front, sometimes known as the Ivy League cut. My Mom always told Dad to request the Ivy League for me, but I'd come home sheared like a summer sheep. You may think that my dad had my head buzzed to cut down on my haircut frequency and save money, but this was not the case. Apparently, Mr. Strickland wouldn't use the scissors near my constantly bobbing head and had to restrain me with one hand, while shearing me with the other. I was the only kid in second grade being called cue-ball, egg-head, and Yul Brenner on a daily basis. Name calling was not considered bullying back then, and all kids including myself had an arsenal of comebacks for any verbal assault. At eight years old I was allowed to ride my bike to the barber shop alone. As I waited my turn, I read a



Sad Sack comic book and watched as the man ahead of me asked for a Flat-top haircut. I had no idea what a flat-top haircut was until I saw a chart on the wall with all the men's styles. Oh, I said to myself, that's the same haircut as Vic Morrow, the guy that plays in my favorite tv show, COMBAT! I hopped in the chair as Mr. Strickland asked if I wanted a shave and all the men laughed as I said, "No sir, I want a flat-top". He says, Son I don't think I can put a square peg in a round hole. All the men laughed again, but I didn't get the joke and said, "I want a flat-top".



I'm not sure if it was the witch hazel or the cigarette smoke that caused my quick sneeze and a "BOY I TOLD YOU NOT TO MOVE!", from Mr. Strickland, but my flat-top was

"Ok son, but you're going to need to be very still".

As he cut the sides and back of my Charlie Brown head, I dreamed of how tough I'd look with my plastic army helmet and my Mattel machine gun. They wouldn't be calling me cue ball anymore, they'd have to call me Sarge. The sides and back were finished. He stood in front of me with the electric trimmer and told me not to move a muscle as he started to shape a square top on a round head.

now a half-a-mohawk and all the men were rolling on the floor. My dream of a flat-top was over and I went home with the same haircut I'd gotten since birth. My Mom never saw an Ivy League cut on me, but my dad rubbed my fuzzy head and said, "Good job Sputnik". That was his nickname for me. Sputnik was the first satellite in space, but I didn't realize till years later why he called me that. The photo of Sputnik I found was just a large chrome ball.

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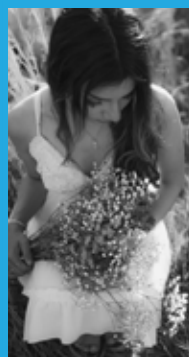
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# Robert Mills' impressions of Anderson

BY RICH OTTER

It is interesting to garner comments of their impressions from visitors to Anderson but particularly fascinating when such observations come from a South Carolinian who was the architect, engineer and designer of the Washington Monument and other historic structures. Robert Mills presented an epic view of the area through his book *Statistics of South Carolina*.

Mills traced the history of what would partially become Anderson County, then part of the Pendleton District that had evolved from the original Ninety-Six District. The publication of his book in 1826 actually corresponded with the date of Anderson County's birth but was not envisioned when the section was actually written. It was then wild country with minor occupation following previous conflict with its Native American inhabitants.

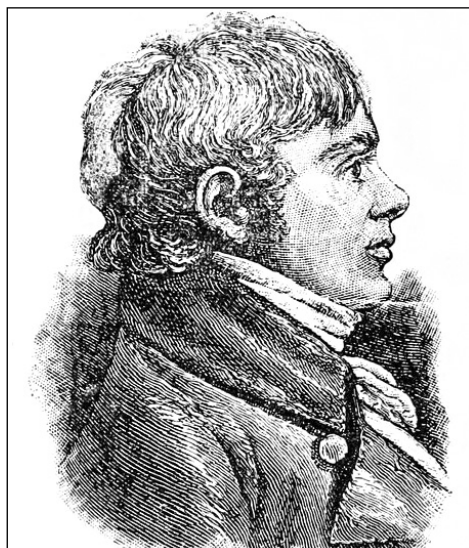
The most prominent community at the time of his study was the Town of Pendleton hosting a new courthouse and jail as well as an estimated 40 homes. Mills stated that "little progress has been made in manufactures, except in the domestic way. Every family manufactures cotton cloth for their own use, which gives employment, during wet weather, to idle hands. There is one cotton factory...in the district which manufactures for sale, on a small scale. A rifle gun factory is established on the Chatuga creek."

Already the benefits of the upcountry were recognized by the low country folks. "The climate of Pendleton is one of the best in the United States, and equal to any in the world." As a result, "There are no local diseases, except in the neighborhood of mill ponds, or in similar damp situations, where a deleterious air is produced by the decay of vegetable matter."

But, take heed. "There is another curious fact. The honey collected by the bees in places where the *Rhododendron laurel* abounds, is deemed poisonous, and causes violent vomiting, even in cases where it has been sparingly used."

In addition to the town of Pendleton, another community challenged dominance in the area – Andersonville, a river community prominently but precariously situated. It was "A town laid out by General Anderson on the Tugaloo, or Savannah River, at the junction of the Seneca...It is situated at the very point of a peninsula, and is a most romantic spot. The project of making it a commercial town failed.

"In this place two mills and a forge...were built, and a manufactory of small arms established. About one hundred had actually been made, when peace put an end to the scheme... At this place there is now a store, which collects from the Indians the *spigelia marilandica*,



Robert Mills

(pinkroot,) [a medication to get rid of intestinal worms] ....

"There are also sent to market from this place about 1000 lbs. of ginseng, and several hogsheads of snakeroot, both of the black and Seneca kind." Andersonville was a trading center for medicinal cure-alls, a status later to be achieved by the city of Anderson with Doc Durham's Vim-Herb.

Mills described the profusion of streams in the area and the utilization of the land for agriculture. "The general face of the country presents a high, rolling, and thin soil, bottomed mostly on red clay, susceptible of great and lasting improvements, from its capacity to retain manure. On all the rivers there are considerable bodies of rich bottom lands, with pine intervals. The soil, generally, of the district is well adapted to the culture of wheat, Indian corn, cotton, rice, barley, oats, hemp, flax, indigo, buckwheat, Irish and sweet potatoes...."

Mills stressed the potential for utilization of locally available natural resources including the abundance of timber covering the territory, and potential for making bricks from the "excellent clay." He felt that "Being so far from a market, its soil was best calculated for the cultivation of grains which are bulky, and expensive to transport by land carriage. [As a result,] Pendleton [District] wants the improvement of its water courses, so as to be put upon a comparative equity with the neighboring districts below."

Mills had not anticipated the water course would be impractical after the invention of the iron horse. It was not on the horizon at that time - nor was Hartwell Lake.



Robert Mills' Washington Monument

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