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THE BIRDHOUSES OF ANSLEY CLIFF



BY JOEY LEE AND JULIE ORR

Upon receipt of your birdhouse from "From The Ground Up", you are immediately transported back in time to a miniature land inhabited by Hobbits and forest creatures. The attention to detail is breathtaking and we honestly expected small puffs of smoke to emerge any moment from the chimney. But the reality is these birdhouses are a product of a very talented artist, owner of "From the Ground Up", Ansley Vestal Cliff who grew up in Anderson and now resides near Columbia, SC. In a phone interview, we asked Ansley how she came to this artistic point in her life:

"For twenty years, I worked at a hectic pace as an IT professional until a diagnosis of Lyme disease in 2015 ended my career. After five years of a very slow, grueling recovery, I found nature offered more to life than a successful IT profession. Last Christmas I received a gift



(a rustic, cute wooden birdhouse) which triggered an artistic focus in me which still burns with intensity each day I wake up."

SEE CLIFF ON PAGE 2

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Cliff

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We were absolutely mesmerized by the exquisite details of the miniaturized elements which adorned the birdhouse and so we asked Ansley to tell us a little about collecting these gems:

“I have an advantage: The woods are out my back door where the forest offers treasures of different sizes, shapes and colors. I am fascinated with moss and the array of varieties. Bark has become one of the most beautiful things in a forest to me — the way it grows, the colors, shapes, the crevices and textures I love. I believe nature is Gods playground and I find it a place of healing.”

Our conversation then turned toward the subject of Ansley’s recovery from Lyme disease and the symbiotic relationship with her art:

“As part of my recovery, I exercise by taking long strolls through the woods. My husband was encouraged to see me emerging into life; he made house frames and convinced me to continue making these houses. As my ‘Fairy houses’ evolve with each house, new ideas form and off into the woods I go: for the right chimney, moss, curly vines, acorns, lichens ... it’s all at my back door. And with each house I continue to heal — through the meditation I find walking the woods and the art therapy from making a house. I now to listen to the sounds of the woods — these are the sounds that clear my mind and breathes life back into me. Each house has a multitude of blessings; and for each I am thankful.”

Ansley’s health has improved remarkably and for that we are grateful. And her recovery has been enhanced by her Fairy House projects for which we are equally grateful. When asked what her advice would be to a prospective buyer of one of these precious works of art, Ansley said: “You may find a cocoon on your house and if so, take a walk in the woods — and listen!”



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WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOURS GONE?

BY MARGARET SMITH

Flour, all purpose, bread, 00, semolina, bleached, unbleached, self-rising, rye, cake, whole wheat, white whole wheat, an essential I took for granted, like toilet paper, has almost disappeared from grocery shelves. Where have all the flours gone?

There has been a renewed interest in baking bread lately. The heavy-duty mixers and food processors have made bread making less intimidating; people are even trying their hand at long slow rise artisan breads. A great deal of pleasure and pride come when you start with simple ingredients and create something beautiful and delicious.

Covid-19 has required most of us to stay home. This has given us time to try new things. Why not try something that everyone loves to eat, bread. It only takes a few simple ingredients and time. We can also take out frustrations by hitting and beating the dough; the rough treatment actually makes the finished product better. Bread making has to be simple! Right? Well yes and no. The more you knead and bake, the better you will become.

Bread making requires only flour, some type of liquid, and natural or commercial yeast. The addition of salt adds flavor, sugars (never artificial sweeteners), gives the yeast something to feed on, fat gives flavor and helps the texture, and eggs, a leavening, improves the texture, flavor, and aids gluten development.

Gluten is the protein found in wheat that gives dough the strength to rise. Soft wheat flour, such as White Lily, has less protein and bakes light and tender. Quick breads, biscuits, muffins, and cakes are made with soft wheat flour and should be worked as little as possible;

you do not want to develop the gluten in tender baked goods. All purpose and bread flour are made from hard wheat which has a higher protein content. Yeast breads need to be kneaded, (worked) for several minutes to develop the long strands of elastic gluten that gives the beautiful texture we love in breads. Bread making is an art and a science.

I hope I have not become too technical. If you are really interested in bread making, many books and internet sites are available. I do have a few suggestions I have learned over the many years of bread making. I most always use a little less commercial yeast than a recipe calls for because I prefer a slower rise allowing time for the flavors to develop. I also like to refrigerate my dough during the first rise. I refrigerate pizza dough overnight; this gives me the elasticity to stretch the dough and handle it upright (I do not attempt to throw it in the air). Try making your own pizza dough; it only takes flour, salt, yeast, water, and a little olive oil. The more you work with dough, the better you will get the feel of what is right. The dough should feel slightly sticky but elastic. I have found that after the ingredients are mixed if I stop the mixer and let the dough rest for



about 5 minutes, it gives the flour time to absorb the liquid more thoroughly and time for the dough to relax. I then knead the dough an additional 5 minutes or more. I most always add more liquid than the recipe calls for; I let the dough tell me what it wants. When forming bread for a baking pan, make sure you roll the dough tightly. More than once, I sliced into a loaf that had a big hole in the center; the bread was good but not for sandwiches. If you want bread with large holes, handle it carefully after the risings; you do not want to break up



the bubbles that took so long to form. Relax and enjoy the process. Laugh at the mistakes but keep baking. Where have all the flours gone? Gone to kitchens everywhere. A wonderful thing. Enjoy!



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Red-headed woodpecker — uncommon but regal

BY ANN BAILES

My husband and I were enjoying a late afternoon breeze on our back porch one July afternoon, when we observed a highly unexpected event. The woodpecker I most wanted to see in my yard finally appeared! A flash of white, black, and red swooped through the air and lit on a tree trunk about a hundred feet away — a stunning red-headed woodpecker had finally made an appearance. It was a red-letter day (no pun intended) for this bird-watcher. We watched it peck at the trunk for several minutes and got a great look at it since it stayed in view so long. I even got a good photo of this brilliant bird before it finally took off for other parts. That was almost a year ago, and I've not seen one since that day.

The red-headed woodpecker is classified as “uncommon” in most areas of the eastern U.S., including ours. I've spotted them in Anderson just a handful of times over the past few years — once on River Street, once at the intersection of West Whitner and Tower, several times on Moultrie Square, and more recently on Mar-Mac Road (we observed a nesting pair half a dozen times there a couple of years ago).



This bird is so striking that an occasional glimpse of one is very satisfying.

Large patches of black and white on its back, belly, and wings make the red-headed

woodpecker's appearance very dramatic. And that head!! It looks like a brilliant red hood was lowered onto its head and draped around its shoulders. This woodpecker is unmis-

takable and easily identified when seen. Its coloration makes it one of the most beautiful birds around.

Many people confuse the red-headed woodpecker with the red-bellied, which is more common in Anderson and surrounding areas. The two birds are approximately the same size, and the red-bellied does have some red on its head (as do most woodpecker species). However, the red-bellied woodpecker does not have the broad white patches on its belly and wings or the intensely ruby shaded head and neck, and is thus not as striking in appearance as the red-headed. Its black and white coloration is interspersed over its body, and is said to be ladder-backed. It is still a bird to appreciate, but it doesn't have the same dramatic effect on an observer as does its more flamboyant cousin.

Even though I won't see one often, during travels I will always keep my eyes peeled for red-headed woodpeckers. They seem to pop up at the most unexpected times and unexpected places. Keep looking as you travel around town, and you may be blessed with a quick view of this stunning, beautiful bird — the uncommon but regal red-headed woodpecker.

THE GARDEN SHOP

Mother and daughter gardeners



**SUSAN
TEMPLE**
*master
gardener*

It was a lovely spring afternoon in the garden with the Gibson girls. If you're social media friends with Julie Orr, who “husband” (that's what I call my husband) simply calls Gibson, you know the beautiful pictures she posts of her mother's flowers. Julie and her mother, Sara, treated me to an invitation to tour and visit on the patio.

As I pulled in the driveway, a beautiful Lady Banks rose, draping perfectly over a brick wall, greeted me. As Sara lead me around back, our first stop was at a collection of containers with various sedum in them. One strawberry jar had sedum ogon (*Sedum makinoi* ‘Ogon’) in the top. If ogon is in the name of a plant, you'll know it will be bright yellow/chartreuse. Angelina sedum (*Sedum repens*)

‘Angelina’) was in another section draping nicely down the side. Angelina also has that chartreuse color that can really brighten up the garden. Another section had a Kelly green stonecrop sedum. The darker color contrasts nicely to

ogon. Sedums are great plants for sunny spots and containers. They will do fine in afternoon shade too. Many are evergreen and provide some fall color as their foliage turns shades of bronze. Sara's table proved a single stem can be statement enough. Her black wrought iron table was set with a green tablecloth, a black iron candle holder, jadeite salt and pepper shakers, and one single purple Siberian iris stem in a port glass.

Another strawberry jar was beside the patio swing. This one had blue stonecrop sedum in the top. It trails like Angelina but has silver blue gray foliage. The Kelly green stonecrop was used again in a section of the jar. Surprisingly, other sections had little ferns in them. They looked like ebony spleenwort.



Strawberry jar with sedum and ferns

Mother Nature often plants this little fern in deep shady spots. Who would have guessed it could live in a strawberry jar with sedums? Erect ferns were such pretty contrast to draping sedums. The perimeter of the patio is planted with various perennials - dianthus, crested iris, salvia, Shasta daisies, amsonia (won-

der where Julie got that?), daffodils and more. A shady bed along the side of the yard has hydrangeas, Siberian iris, a purple rhododendron that was in full bloom, lenton roses, Sacred lily (*Rohdea japonica*), ferns, trillium, and a couple of peonies on the sunny end of the bed. From time to time I've thought of adding a palm tree to my garden so I could cut fronds for arrangements but have no clue how to tie it into my landscape. Sara has a palm tree planted at the edge of shade provided by a maple tree. It fit in perfectly with her mix of plants. Maybe I can do this after all. The other side of the yard has a beautiful magnolia grandiflora that balances everything perfectly.

We visited in the shade of the maple tree talking about all kinds of things, watching blue bird parents, and a mama woodpecker flying in her home in a dead limb to feed her babies. We could hear them each time she brought dinner. Julie and I spent some time on memory lane, laughing at ourselves and others. Can you believe she had the nerve



Palm and birdbaths

to comment on the gray in my hair? Julie — talking about somebody's gray hair? My visit was topped off with a tour of Sara's house. Stories about the kitchen table, forts built in closets, family pictures, antiques, and more were the perfect ending to a beautiful day. Thank you Julie and Sara for a wonderful day.

Every silver lining has a cloud

I recently saw a hilarious “e-learning” cartoon that many parents may relate to:
How is “home school” going?
♦ Two students were suspended for fighting
♦ Another student is requesting to transfer to another school
♦ The Lunch Lady quit on the first day
♦ The janitor has never had to clean so much messiness



Katie Laughridge

Great. Just Great.
While this is meant to be a funny satirical commentary on our current situation, a bit of truth rings clear. Undoubtedly, as we begin our eighth week of e-Learning, at home, everyone is growing increasingly weary of the life-changing consequences caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. We miss our families, co-workers, shopping and going to our favorite restaurants. As well-intentioned parents, we are trying our best to help our children with their daily assignments- while trying to juggle work and housekeeping responsibilities at the same time. For many parents with pre-school children, the closing of daycare centers has created another unexpected hardship. Unemployment has also reached levels not seen since the Great Depression. To say the least, these are not easy times.
As with all periods of hardship and tragedy we have experienced in the past, there is always a “silver-lining” somewhere on the other side- even when it may be difficult to see. If,

somehow, we can persevere through our present challenges, I believe we will find ourselves stronger and wiser than ever before. In fact, I have already witnessed how creative many individuals have been in response to this crisis. Among many others, here are few glimpses of the “silver-lining” that have already appeared:
Teachers, parents, and students have created a unique way to connect with each other by conducting “School Parades”. This activity allows students the opportunity to have brief interactions with their teachers (and friends) while still maintaining social distancing.
Teachers have discovered that they can effectively connect with others by holding meetings and conduct lesson planning workshops via Zoom and WebEx technology.
Teachers are using their creativity to teach history lessons from their front porches, conduct science experiments in their backyards, and read captivating books to the kids each day through video on Class Dojo.
Although sometimes difficult, parents are getting a “once-in-lifetime” opportunity to spend time connecting with their children by helping them with their assignments, and then using the remaining free time to do fun and imaginative activities together.
Because there is nowhere else to go, families are finding ways to connect with each other more and are creating bonds that will live on forever.
Finally, I would like to offer a word of encouragement to all students who have been misplaced from their classrooms, teachers and their friends. As a first-grade teacher myself, I believe I speak for all teachers by saying that we miss you all so very much! We miss your



hugs, your smiles and your questions. We miss reading books to you, teaching you new things, and seeing your face light up when we say its’ time for recess! We miss the funny things you say and watching you grow. I look forward to the day when we can all be back together as before. For now, just know that you are loved and not forgotten. Somehow, amid the chaos

craziness, I believe you are learning new skills, learning to be more self-reliant, becoming more confident, and finding ways to find a “silver-lining” that maybe wasn’t there before.
Stay strong, believe in yourselves, and know we are here to help you in any way we can!
As Kid President says, “Life is tough but so are you!”



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How to prepare for a secure financial future

Part 1: Create a financial plan — and stick to it

Ask Fred

If you were to ask a group of five educated and well-intended financial advisors for their advice on how to save money and invest properly for a sound and secure financial future, you would likely get five different answers—each with their own list of debatable pros and cons. The truth is no one can claim with absolute 100% certainty that one financial approach will out-perform another. That said, there is only one basic bit of advice that every investment guru will agree on:

“To properly prepare for planned and unplanned future financial responsibilities and challenges, it is important to have a well-thought-out plan, and then stick to it.”

No matter your background, level of education, or job title; we all have unavoidable commonalities that will impact our financial future:

“Planned” financial responsibilities that are likely to occur (i.e. cost of education, wed-

dings, vacations, etc.).

“Unplanned” financial emergencies (i.e. loss of a job, costs related to a chronic medical condition or providing care for an aging parent).

Retirement planning. Eventually, most of us will stop working – which will mean having to live on social security, pensions, investments and personal savings.

Providing for an adequate death benefit for loved ones we leave behind.

Apart from the routine bills and daily cost of living, most all of us feel a bit overwhelmed about how we will handle the “big ticket” money items that loom in our future. Depending on which financial advisor you ask, investment options that may be used to achieve your future money goals may include:

- 401K or 403B



Fred Reid, R.Ph.
Senior Insurance
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- The right investment strategy for you will depend on several factors. Some of these include:
- What are your financial goals and requirements for the future?
 - Do you have an adequate plan for retirement?
 - What is your tolerance for risk?
 - Can you afford to invest money long-term (i.e. withdrawing money from most investment vehicles too early generally results in hefty penalty fees)?
 - Do you have immediate access to enough money to provide for your financial needs should you lose your job (i.e. at least 3-6 months coverage is recommended) or adequate funds to handle a financial emergency?

The answer for most people usually involves a multi-strategy approach. It is always best to consult a qualified financial advisor to fully understand the options that are available to you. Financial advisors have many tools designed to illustrate, compare and predict how a variety of investment vehicles are expected to perform (based on current and past economic data).

The key to success with any financial strategy is to start as early as possible. As you become older, your opportunities for amassing wealth will tend to diminish since money invested will not have time to multiply adequately prior to your need to access it.

Future articles in this series will discuss a variety of investment options designed to assist you in planning for your financial future.

Please contact Fred Reid at 864-940-6113 if you have questions or need assistance identifying the Medicare plan that best meets your health-care needs. I am happy to meet with you in your home at your convenience. Also, please connect with me on Facebook (search for “Fred Reid-senior insurance advisor”).

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Tragedy on the rails

BY RICH OTTER

In the June 22, 1876 issue of The Anderson Intelligencer it was reported that on the previous Saturday morning just before daylight the Anderson community was startled by the ringing of the court house bell, a usual indication of a fire. Following tradition, residents rushed to help fight the fire but it was discovered a messenger, William Holmes, had arrived reporting a catastrophic railroad accident.

He announced that the trestle over the Broadaway Creek that was the crossing of the railroad between Anderson and Belton had collapsed hurtling the train into the gorge below. All had lost their lives except for one Henry Thompson who died shortly thereafter.

The train had left Anderson the previous day taking a palace car that held its owner George W. Williams, Esq., his family and friends to Belton from whence they were to go to Greenville, then Seneca and then on to a location in Georgia where Williams had a summer home. They

took an indirect route through Belton because of a reported break in the rails on the normal route to Seneca. Because of the break, it was agreed the group would go to Belton and be transferred to a train to Greenville where they would spend the night before continuing on to Seneca.

Upon reaching the trestle over Broadaway Creek, the train stopped and the trestle was examined and determined safe. The train proceeded to Belton and the Williams car was disengaged. The train left Belton at 9:30 that evening to return to Anderson. The engine and the baggage car constituted the entire train as it returned.

M. J. Wilson, the engineer, Allen Johnson, a fireman and Henry Thompson, a wood passer, were in the cab of the engine and N. W. Lafoy, conductor, and Jefferson Kitsinger, baggage master, were in the baggage car. Based on the timing of the accident, it was apparent the train had proceeded slowly and carefully. The time was determined

by when the watches of the engineer and conductor stopped.

The trestle collapsed. The tender went down into the gorge first. The engine did a complete somersault in its descent. The baggage car fell with the timbers from the trestle. A woman who lived nearby heard the crash and screamed waking her neighbors who all rushed to the scene. The cries of the only survivor, the wood passer, could be heard.

The neighbors feverishly worked to free Henry Thompson who was covered by timbers and partially in the water. Doctors Sharpe, McFall and Scudday desperately tried to save him but he died at 7 the evening after the accident. He had been able to describe some of what had occurred.

The Anderson Intelligencer reported:

“With the many rumors which gained currency after the disaster, reporting the unsafe and insecure character of the trestle, we do not propose to deal at this time. It may be truthfully stated, however, that

THE INTELLIGENCER.

LOCAL MATTERS.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

Falling of Broadaway Trestle.

A Train Hurlled into the Frightful Chasm.

Five Men Killed by the Disaster.

the trestle has been regraded with apprehension by the traveling public who were acquainted with its construction, and the judgement of the gentlemen composing the [inquest] jury that it was 'defective' express the sum and substance of the general verdict. Yet it is probable that the immediate cause of the great disaster was the washing away of the earth around the lower bench of the trestle on the eastern side, where the stream was swiftest and greatly swollen by the freshet. The unsoundness of the timbers might have reproduced the terrible result at a later day, however, the freshet in that event only hastened inevitable disaster.”



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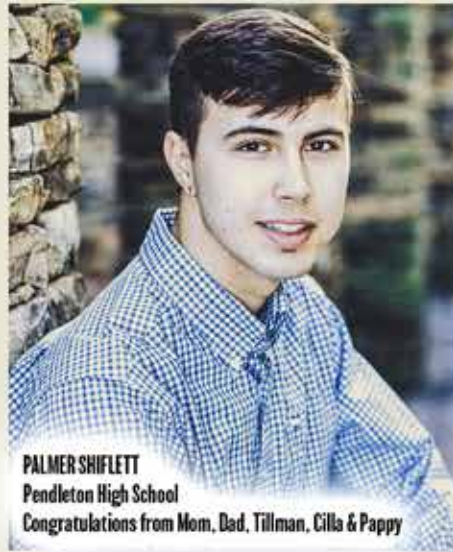
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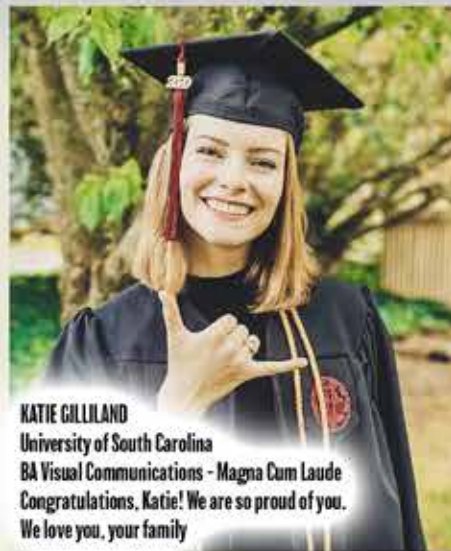
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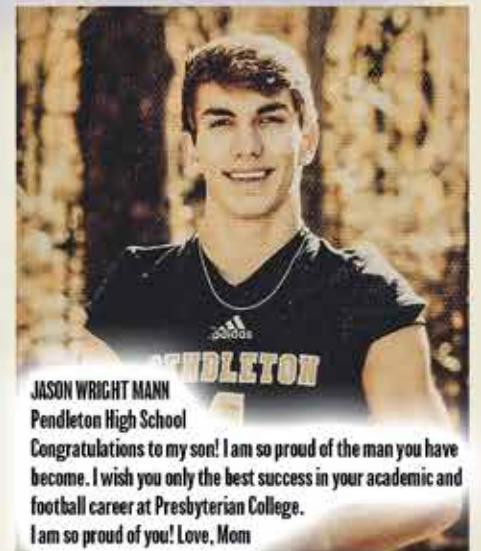
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grown into your own person and being able to witness what
GOD is doing in your life has been AMAZING! Your BEST IS YET
TO COME! We love you and congratulations!



KATIE GILLILAND
University of South Carolina
BA Visual Communications - Magna Cum Laude
Congratulations, Katie! We are so proud of you.
We love you, your family



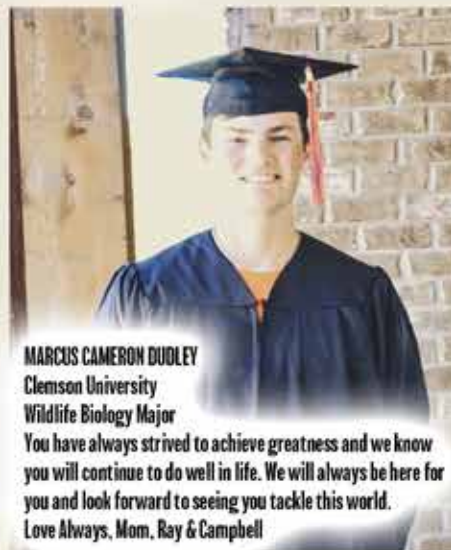
JASON WRIGHT MANN
Pendleton High School
Congratulations to my son! I am so proud of the man you have
become. I wish you only the best success in your academic and
football career at Presbyterian College.
I am so proud of you! Love, Mom



COLBY JENKINS
Westside High School
We are so proud of you and the hard work you put in.
We love you. Stay you, Bubba. Love Dad, Mom and Cassie



AYANNA WILLIAMS
Belton Honea Path High School
Ayanna you are a beautiful, Godly girl and your family
loves you and we are so proud of you.



MARCUS CAMERON DUDLEY
Clemson University
Wildlife Biology Major
You have always strived to achieve greatness and we know
you will continue to do well in life. We will always be here for
you and look forward to seeing you tackle this world.
Love Always, Mom, Ray & Campbell



OLIVIA MARGARET ERSKINE
Clemson University
Bachelor of Science - Environmental and Natural Resources
We have such great pride, joy and love for you. You will no
doubt set this world aflame.
We love you. Mom, Ronnie, Anna, Emma and Ronni

Local author to release new book

Title: *Through the Wardrobe: How C. S. Lewis Created Narnia*

Author: Lina Maslo

Release date: May 19, 2020

Publisher: Balzer+Bray of HarperCollins Publishers

Maslo's newest release is a children's book featuring the childhood of C.S. Lewis. As a child, Clive Staples Lewis imagined many things - heroic animals, knights in armor, and a faraway land called Boxen. He even thought of a new name for himself. At four years old, he decided he was more of a Jack.

As he grew up, though, Jack found that the real world was not as just as the one in his imagination. No magic could heal the sick or stop a war, and a bully's words could pierce as sharply as a sword. So Jack withdrew into books and eventually became a well-known author for adults.

One day a young girl's question about an old family wardrobe inspired him to write a children's story about a world hidden beyond its fur coats, a world of fauns and queens and a lion named Aslan. A world of battles between good and evil, where people learned courage and love and forgiveness.

A magical realm called Narnia. And the books he would write about this kingdom would change his life and that of children the world over.

"As an author and illustrator of children's books, I'm always on the lookout for inspira-

tional people who also had interesting childhoods," says Lina. "Kids love to read about other kids who might have struggled with the same things they do. In the case of C. S. Lewis, he dealt with his mother's death, bullying, and the doubting of his faith. In the end, though, he was able to get through all of that and come out on the other side. He went on to write wonderful stories that became best-selling novels. And Lewis used the experiences he went through as inspirations for some of the *Chronicles of Narnia*."

I went down a C. S. Lewis rabbit hole, as one does, reading all the books that I could find by him — his autobiography *Surprised by Joy*, *Mere Christianity*, *The Great Divorce*, *The Space Trilogy*, and so on.

As an artist, I was also inspired, while reading through the biographies about Lewis, to draw and paint Narnia-like pictures of his childhood and life — the green hills of Ireland, the intricately carved wardrobe, and the sword-wielding mice that he imagined. It all seemed like a perfect story to bring to the picture book audience."

The research for *Through the Wardrobe* began with lots of reading; Books by C. S. Lewis and books about C. S. Lewis. I read as many of his works as I could so that I could get to know him and his voice.

My research trip with my family to Ireland and England is probably one of my favorite memories ever. We saw Lewis' childhood home from the gate, as it's not open to the public. We visited Ballycastle, where Lewis spent some of his childhood summers.

On our stop to Oxford University, we took a stroll through Addison's Walk. I imagined Jack walking there with Tolkien and Dyson, having that famous midnight chat. Of course, we visited the Kilns, the house where Jack spent most of his adult life, and where he sometimes did his writing. I got to sit at his writing desk in the study.

Overall, I would say that the trip was very helpful for the visual research, and if I were just the writer, I would probably still do it. Just to get that feeling of following in Jack's footsteps, seeing his inspirations first-hand.

The book will be available for order online. Readers can take the extra step,



Lina Maslo

and call a local independent bookstore and order from them. In Anderson: McDowell's Emporium, in Greenville: M. Judson or Fiction Addiction.

Lina Maslo is an author and illustrator with a degree in Art from New College of Florida. Though she spent most of her childhood in Florida, she was born in Ukraine and came to the United States at the age of five. She resides in Anderson, SC with her husband and children. She loves stories about courage and perseverance — about people overcoming great odds to meet their destiny.

Let's give 'em something to talk about

I don't live in Anderson anymore, but my mother does. I'm not visiting as frequently as I used to, though, for fear that I could have "the rona" without knowing it. And while she's a healthy Woman of a Certain Age, my mom wants me to bring her premium-brand ice cream, not a deadly virus. We do keep up by phone though. Along with my sister, I call my mom daily, just to find out what's new. She tells me, I tell her, five minutes expire, and we run out of material.

Frankly, I haven't had anything new to talk about since January, when my husband and I went to Chicago and one of my toenails turned black because my snow boots were too small. (I guess I just ruined THAT as a future column.) We work from home, eat dinner, watch a show where a British person gets murdered, and go to bed. Our friends are the same way. Recently, we called a couple and invited them

over for a socially distant, outdoor nibble and sip. When Ted asked how they'd been, Sam said, "If I tell you, we won't have anything to talk about when we see you!"



Kim von Keller

But during a recent conversation with my mom, she mentioned an article about the things high school kids are missing this year, and we stumbled upon a wellspring topic: the prom. My senior prom dress had a real '60s vibe, an 1860s vibe, like Rhett Butler was taking me to the T. L. Hanna gym. So since no one has anything new to discuss, I'm asking everyone I know to talk about something old.

I started with my friend Karen, a psychologist from Kentucky.

I think she was led to study the science of the mind to discover why she wore a crinoline, even though she's definitely not the crinoline type. "My prom dress could have been a wedding dress or a quinceañera dress," she said. "My date was understated in a black tux, while many of our male classmates went all out in multicolored tuxes and tails with top hats and canes. I'm pretty sure there was a 'worm-off' toward the end of the evening where two guys flopped their way on their bellies across the dance floor."

Her story was similar to that of my friend Debbie, a small business owner from Michigan. Even then, she knew the importance of being seen. "My date wore a dark gray tux," she said, "with top hat and cane, and we arrived at the prom in his Trans Am, T-top open. I wore a hat, too, with flowers around the rim and netting in the front. It was definitely

a 40s vibe," she said. Unlike me, she was referring to a decade in the 20th Century.

My friend Debi, a banking executive from South Carolina, was practically the CEO of her prom committee. "We got to miss a day of school and drive to Charlotte to attend this all-day concert of bands who were basically auditioning to play at proms across the Carolinas," she said. "We planned everything down to the napkins! My date's brother was in town, and he had one of those foreign cars... a Honda Civic! It was extra cool because it had fur covers on the front seats. We went to a cool kid's party, and my curfew was extended to 12:30. By the time the night was over, I was definitely more in love with my date. I still have the 8x10 picture framed in our music room!"

You might think that Debi's husband would object to the photo, except for the fact that he WAS her

prom date. He echoed her recollections, with one exception. "It was Honda Accord," he says.

Finally, I asked my mom about her own prom, a story I had never heard. I found out that not only was she on the prom committee as a junior at Girls' High, she attended with her senior prom with a boy I'd never heard of who worked at her grandfather's market. "We went to the Acorn Restaurant on North Main, which was a popular place for teenagers," she said. "It was a perfectly lovely evening, and I'm glad I went."

Like everyone, I look forward to being able to get out and do the things we used to. But the silver lining in the Time of the 'Rona is that I have learned things about important women in my life that I wouldn't have known otherwise. If you ask the right question, you'll find that everybody has something to talk about.

Scents of memory

Certain smells can take us back in time. These aromas have the ability to trigger memories. From childhood I recall my mother always smelling so beautiful. Tea Rose mixed with patchouli was her signature scent and the occasional trendy fragrance called Exclamation dating back in the early nineties. She still wears patchouli oil to this day. It just reminds me of her whenever I smell that fragrance. I remember a relative always wearing Jessica McLintock which smells like baby powder and flowers. It's just so interesting how a certain scent takes us back and brings back memories. My grandfather always had a brut or old spice aroma that I recall. It was strong and fierce; just like him.

Perfumes date back to the Ancient Egyptians. Cleanliness was a big deal for them. In ancient culture they believed pleasant scents pleased the gods. They used oils like frankincense and cedar. Today most of our fragrance carries alcohol in it so it lasts a lot longer.

I'm a big fan of essential oils. I diffuse them and I wear them. I'm also obsessed

with really rare perfumes. One of my all time favorites is called Mimosa Pour Moi. One of



Kristine March

my best friends since high school turned me on to it. It's from Paris and is such a dreamy fragrance. It smells like a spring time bouquet. So light and heavenly. The supermodel, Kate Moss, says it's a favorite of hers. Another one I love is an oldie

but goodie. It's by Givenchy. It's called Amarige. It's very flash from the past for me. I love Gucci Guilty too. Every time my dad goes to Vegas on vacation he brings some back for me. It's like a little traditional thing that we have. Reliving childhood memories and recovered memories is what perfume does for me. What are some of your favorite scents? What brings back those sentimental memories to you? Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters.

STUCK IN A BICYCLE

In my 64 years, I have seen people stuck in cars, stuck in elevators, stuck in trees, and many other constricting situations, but as far as I know, I am the only recorded case of a person being stuck in a bicycle.



Neal Parnell

The scene takes place in the summer of 1962 and my grandparents' house on a quiet Avondale Road on the southside of Anderson. I was supposed to stay and play in the yard, but two girls that were my age, (7), playing under

their carport across the road, kept asking me to come over. I hesitated, however, the sight of the cool shade and something in my adolescent hormones, pushed me across that road. We said hi, and exchanged names when I saw a bicycle leaning against the brick wall. I walked over to it and said "where's the seat?"; they said that their dad had taken it off, so they couldn't ride it without him there. As we were talking, I was walking my fingers down the bicycle frame, and when they got to the post where the seat goes, I inserted my middle right-hand finger into the hole. It went in



quite easily, but when I tried to take it out, it wouldn't budge. I acted casual for a few seconds, with a trillion thoughts racing through my underdeveloped brain, and then said, "my finger is stuck in your bicycle". The screaming laughter was deafening inside the carport, and would surely attract larger humans, but no one came. Luckily, I was facing the handlebars, so I rolled the bike out into the sunshine, and got to the middle of the road, when my grandmother came running out of her house and exclaimed, "Neal! what are you doing in that road?". It didn't take long before the whole neighborhood was in the middle of the road offering solutions as to how to set me free. They tried, butter, soap, motor oil, they twisted me and all directions and only succeeded in causing my finger to swell more. My dad and uncle arrived, and the bike and

I were stuffed into the station wagon along with my uncle, who was hacksawing away at the frame, on our way to the hospital. We rolled me and the bike into the emergency room where I heard more laughter and rumblings of a little boy being attached to a Schwinn. When I woke, the bike was gone, but I still have that middle finger, and I'm so proud of it that I show it to complete strangers on I-85 regularly.

LOVE YOUR HOME

The Electric City News was so very fortunate to have Bill Ducworth on our staff for almost 10 years. Bill's encyclopedic knowledge of everything from fabrics to art to table settings to arrangements made from backyard sticks to German potato salad to Aunt Ruth's silver platter was exceptional and enlightening, entertaining and humorous and of course honest. So in honor of our dear friend, we have decided to revive Bill's articles from years past. We hope you enjoy them, again, as much as we have.



Bill Ducworth

I'm looking to purchase some expensive leather furniture. I had a friend who bought a sofa that changed color from the sample when she put it in the room. How do I avoid that?

~ Monisha

Leather is one of my favorite materials to use in design. It is durable, practical, timeless and gets better with age... (the only thing that does!). There is nothing more beautiful than an old leather chair or sofa that has lots of crinkles, worn marks and even scratches from the numerous dogs that have also loved it.

However, you have to be careful when buying leather. There are all sorts of finishes and colors these days. Have you seen any blue cows lately? I prefer natural colors in browns and blacks that have been glazed. The glazing is a finishing process that protects the color and it prevents minor scratching through every day use. It also prevents the body oils from penetrating into the finish. Do you really want to see the head print on the back of the chair? If you choose a leather that is not glazed, you are guaranteeing major scratching and who knows what else.

It is a matter of personal taste. As far as color, leather, like any natural material does tend to vary from sample to sample. It is a cow. No two cows are alike. No two hides are the same size. Even when you dye them together they can be very different in color and texture. The darker the color, the more likely the color match. Black is always black, brown is not always brown. Before you make the purchase, request a cutting of the actual hide, but know that this little sample is not telling you the whole story. It will be close, but there is always the chance that it may differ when it appears at your door.

Love your home.

HISTORICAL DAYS OF MAY

May 14, 1804 - Meriwether Lewis and William Clark departed St. Louis on their expedition to explore the Northwest. They arrived at the Pacific coast of Oregon in November of 1805 and returned to St. Louis in September of 1806, completing a journey of about 6,000 miles.

May 17, 1792 - Two dozen merchants and brokers established the New York Stock Exchange. In good weather they operated under a buttonwood tree on Wall Street. In bad weather they moved inside to a coffee-house to conduct business.

May 18, 1980 - Mount St. Helens volcano erupted in southwestern Washington State spewing steam and ash over 11 miles into the sky. This was the first major eruption since 1857.



Birthday - Pope John Paul II (1920-2005) was born (as Karol Wojtyla) in Wadowice, Poland. In 1978, he became 264th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, the first non-Italian elected in 456 years and the first Polish Pope.

May 19th: Birthday - African American playwright Lorraine Hansberry (1930-1965) was born in Chicago, Illinois. She is best known for *A Raisin in the Sun* (1959) a play dealing with prejudice and black pride. The play was the first stage production written by a black woman to appear on Broadway. She died of cancer at the age of 34. A book of her writings entitled *To Be Young, Gifted, and Black* was published posthumously.



of her writings entitled *To Be Young, Gifted, and Black* was published posthumously.

May 20, 1932 - Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. She departed Newfoundland, Canada, at 7 p.m. and landed near Londonderry, Ireland, completing a 2,026-mile flight in about 13 hours. Five years later, along with her navigator Fred Noonan, she disappeared while trying to fly her twin-engine plane around the equator.

May 27, 1937 - In San Francisco, 200,000 people celebrated the grand opening of the Golden Gate Bridge by strolling across it.

Birthday - Legendary Wild West figure Wild Bill Hickok (1837-1876) was born in Troy Grove, Illinois. He was a frontiersman, lawman, legendary marksman, army scout and gambler. On August 2, 1876, he was shot dead during a poker game by a drunk in the Number Ten saloon in Deadwood, in the Dakota Territory. In his hand he held a pair of eights and a pair of aces which became known as the 'dead man's hand.'



ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Let's be ready when the world reopens!

Sometimes, we don't know what we value until it's no longer available. Right now, my mom misses going on her weekly trips to Ingles. My husband misses seeing his partners and office staff every day. My sister misses her work as an interior decorator so much that she's repainted every room in her house, plus her basement, plus her deck, plus the deck rails, plus the spindles. My brother-in-law was white the last time I saw him, but by now, he's probably more of an eggshell.

One of the things that I'm missing the most is traveling. The U.S. Department of State advises against all international travel, and many states require an automatic two-week quarantine for those arriving from out-of-state. Restaurants and hotels are shuttered. It feels like we're destined to spend forever inside our same four walls.

But don't toss that bucket list just yet. As country artist Gary Allen once sang, "Every storm runs out of rain. It's gonna set you free."

I, for one, want to be prepared when the world reopens, so welcome to "On the Road Again," a column that highlights the favorite travels of Electric City residents. I'm interested in all kinds of trips: your family's week at a theme park, the weekend getaway when you became engaged, the Caribbean cruise with your spouse and your best couples friends, your first trip abroad, your semester abroad, or your driving trip through the National

Parks of the Four Corners. I'm also interested in all price points. On a recent vacation, one of the best meals I had was an \$8 sandwich.



Kim von Keller

Not every holiday has to break the bank!

Even though it may be a while before we are traveling regularly, I want to be inspired by your adventures and use them to plan my own trips.

Planning, after all, is one of the best parts of any vacation. I'll ask you about the books and websites you used to create your itinerary, the best memories of your trip, your accommodations, and those can't-miss restaurants. I'll ask you to share your favorite photos, and I'll ask about what went wrong on your trip so that your neighbors can learn from your experiences. And I won't just write about recent excursions. I still like to listen to my mom's story of her first trip to New York City in the late '50s.

No trip is too big or too small to write about, so send me an email, and we'll go from there. This storm won't last forever, and I want to have my bags packed and ready when it's over. As another famous country artist once sang, "I can't wait to get on the road again."

If you have a travel experience you'd like to share with readers of *The Electric City News*, contact me at editkim50@gmail.com.



Jim Fraser inducted into statewide Hall of Fame

On Sunday, March 8, the South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association held their 11th annual Hall of Fame Banquet. Among the five 2020 inductees, was Anderson legend, Coach Jim Fraser. Coach Fraser began his coaching career at Bennettsville High in 1958. He was assistant football, head baseball and head basketball coach while carrying a solid teaching load.

In 1960, he moved to Aiken High as an assistant football, JV basketball and head baseball coach. Two years later he was promoted to athletic director while serving as head football and basketball coach, again, carrying a full teaching load.

As Aiken's AD, he inaugurated soccer to the student offering and became the first public school soccer team in the state and scheduled private schools. He also improved

the facilities at Hagood Stadium. His Aiken football teams recorded a winning record in 5 of his 6 seasons, highlighted with a victory over North Augusta for the first time in 19 years and a first ever victory over Greenwood.

In 1968, he became athletic director and football coach at TL Hanna High. Again, teaching a full schedule of classes, he remained at TL Hanna until he retired in 1985.

At TL Hanna, his football teams recorded winning seasons in 15 of 17 years with one state championship appearance and two in the upper state. He also was on the winning coaching staff at the 1970 and 1976 Shrine Bowls and the 1960 and 1982 North-South All Star games.

Congratulations Coach Fraser!



MUSINGS OF AN OLE BALL COACH

ME & MY HARMONICA (A LOVE AFFAIR)

Forgive me if I appear ostentatious, or if I bloviate or become too braggadocious, and lest you think I'm preparing to run for public office. Indulge me to relate my odyssey to return to being a harmonica virtuoso.



Jim Fraser

When I first started playing this instrument it was called a mouth organ, (honest). It cost \$.98, no sales tax. My recent purchase in August was \$50.00 and some change, which covers roughly 73 years.

I played sporadically until August of 2019, on camping trips on the wild Pee Dee, on athletic trips at Florence, Carolina and Newberry, and in Marine barracks. In actuality I was a player until I began my coaching career, it was like, "the good times are over boy, time to go to work."

During the childhoods of Amy, Chuck, Fraser, Tripp, Maggie, Chase and Dillon, I might play Christmas songs, nursery rhymes, etc. I would literally go decades without picking one up. Consequently when I came "out of the closet" long time associates and even family members were unaware I could play.

My resurrection with the mouth harp began in August of 2019. A good amount of TV time was given to a WWII Veteran who had recently played the National Anthem at a 75th D Day Celebration. I reasoned that perhaps I could do the same at a touch-down club meeting.

After a multi-year hiatus from playing the instrument no song presents more of a challenge than the anthem with its full range, from very low to very high in the key of C. I was becoming discouraged and about to abandon my quest when my grandboy Dillon casually observed, "you're getting pretty good on that thing Coley."

That was the impetus I needed. How powerful a small word of encouragement might be. You created a monster Dillon.

By the third week of the TD Club I had the temerity to ask President Brissey to follow our standard pledge with the National Anthem. I played with gusto and enthusiasm. It was so well received. I was emboldened to follow up with "Tiger Rag" for the Legion of Clemson fans in our club. After Marcus Lattimore spoke several weeks later I countered with the Carolina Alma Mater, as my tiger pals reluctantly stood.

My audaciousness has no bounds. After teaching my Sunday school class at First Presbyterian I played a medley of sacred music opening with Bach's "Ode to Joy," ending with "Enex Celsus Deo" punctuated in between by "Amazing Grace," and "Jesus Loves Me."

My playing frenzy



was curtailed only by breaking my hip as I was preparing a medley of Christmas tunes about three little boys, "The Little Drummer Boy," "The Little Shepherd Boy," and "Sweet Little Jesus Boy," that grace our lives during that time of the year.

Why have I beleaguered you, dear friend with this journey? Because maybe I need a small infusion of encouragement like Dillon

Fraser gave me. Remember you're never too old or insignificant to step to the plate. If I was audacious enough to start at 87 3/4 years, so are you.

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

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NIBBLE & SIP

THREE TOOLS FOR A GREAT SUMMER BAR

With the summer months approaching, your wardrobe is becoming lighter, and your tastes are probably becoming lighter too. After all, who wants to sit by the pool with a cup of coffee and a bowl of beef stew? Now is the time to make sure you have the necessary tools in place for your warm-weather bar, and there are three that I find indispensable.

Although a bartender's double jigger will certainly make you look like a professional, I find that, one, it makes a mess as you switch between the larger and smaller ends, and, two, your friends don't care as long as what you're making tastes good. For years, I've used a set of four nesting beakers by OXO. They range in size from 1 teaspoon to 2 ounces, they're easy to read, and they're easy to clean. You can find them on Amazon and other websites for under \$10.

Citrus is important not only to

balance your drinks but to make our high humidity a little more bearable.

To get every drop of juice out of my fruit, I use a hand-held lemon squeezer that was given to my parents in 1955. It extracts more juice than any other tool I've used, and,



Kim von Keller

like the nesting beakers, can be used in all types of food and beverage preparation. Although you'll see plastic ones available for around \$5, choose a heavy-duty metal one in the \$20-\$30 range. If it lasts as long as mine has, your cost to use will reduce to less than 40 cents a year. (Note: When you're buying your lemons and limes at the supermarket, choose the smaller ones. The bigger ones are largely peel, and

the smaller ones fit better in the squeezer.)

The last thing you need to complete your summer bar is a snow cone maker. I bought mine when my daughter and her cousins were little, but I continue to use it in my empty nest. Different types of drinks call for different types of ice, and the fine pieces of crushed ice produced by the snow cone maker are perfect for chilling summer drinks like juleps and smashes quickly. A perfectly reliable one will cost around \$40. You'll appreciate the different the ice makes if you try the St. Stephen's Sour, one of my favorite summer drinks, adapted from a recipe by Jeffrey Morgenthaler. And while you're sipping, welcome the warm weather by nibbling on some Cashew Coconut Snack Mix.

St. Stephen's Sour

1 oz. aged rum
1 oz. Cognac

¾ oz. lemon juice
¾ oz. orgeat, a nonalcoholic almond syrup available in party stores

Combine all ingredients in shaker and fill with ice. Shake vigorously, and strain into a rocks glass that has been filled with crushed ice. Serves one.

Cashew Coconut Snack Mix

5 oz. can Chow Mein noodles
2 c. crisp rice cereal squares (I use Rice Chex.)

8 oz. can salted cashews
½ c. sweetened coconut

1 t. curry powder
¼ t. ground ginger
¼ c. melted butter

1 t. soy sauce
Preheat oven to 275°.

Combine noodles, cereal, cashews, and coconut in a large bowl. In a small bowl, combine curry powder, ginger, butter, and soy sauce. Pour over noodle mix and stir



gently until all the pieces are coated. Spread on a rimmed cookie sheet lined with parchment paper and bake for 1 to 1 ½ hours, or until the mixture is golden brown, stirring every 15 minutes. Cool completely before storing in an airtight container.

PENDLETON BULLDOGS

Pendleton track star Dendy headed to Auburn

BY BRU NIMMONS

PENDLETON — With the 2019-2020 school year coming to a close in the next few weeks, Pendleton High School will be saying goodbye to one of its best and brightest athletes.

Kamiya Dendy, a senior track and field star for the Bulldogs, is moving on to Auburn University in the fall to continue her academic and athletic career for the Tigers and brings with her numerous awards and accomplishments from her time at Pendleton.

Dendy began her illustrious high school athletic career in the T.L. Hanna track program. Joining the team in the seventh grade, she made an early statement in the Class 4A state championship with a second-place finish in the high jump.

She continued to grow the next year, when she won her first state championship in the high jump with a jump of 5-8.

Dendy also proved to be the best jumper in the nation for her age group that summer, setting a USATF record for high jumps and long jumps in the 13-14 age division.

Following her summer successes, Dendy moved on to high school and transferred into the Pendleton program.

She didn't disappoint in her first season as a Bulldog, winning the high jump at two national competitions in the

LSU Invitational and the Arcadia Invitational. She followed those events up by winning the Class 3A state championship in both the high jump (5-8) and long jump (17-2).

Dendy's dominance continued into her sophomore season with her third straight high jump state championship, but she exceeded all expectations as a junior.

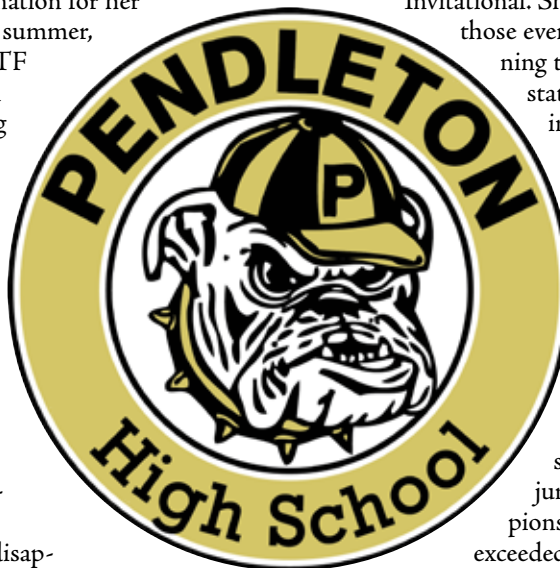
In her junior season, Dendy went into the state championship and dec-

imated the competition with a jump of 5-10.5. Beating the competition by 10.5 inches, Dendy also set a new state record, beating the previous mark of 5-10.25 held by Summerville's Alicia Alford since 1992.

Following four straight state championships and a first-place finish in the USATF Junior Olympics national championship, Dendy had a big decision going into her senior year at Pendleton.

Originally setting a top five of Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, Texas A&M and Southern California, Dendy eventually replaced the Trojans with Auburn on her list before ultimately deciding that the Tigers were the best fit for her.

While Dendy missed out on a chance for a fifth state title after her senior season was canceled, there are still plenty of high expectations as she prepares for her next four years at Auburn.



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