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Market Theatre reopens for summer camps



Following a pandemic year of lights out at the Market Theatre, the doors are finally opening. With great anticipation and excitement, summer camps for students are back on schedule. The theater camps offer something for all areas of interest including theatrical design, acting, music, dance, visual arts and much more. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned thespian, there is a place for each one. Students grow more joyful in theatre arts as they gain

confidence, friendships and respect for the craft while exploring creativity and honing performance skills.

The Market Theatre camp staff includes a variety of local well-known actors, singers, dancers and choreographers. These instructors are eager to share their knowledge and experience with the younger generation of performing artists. Experience a week of learning and fun, leading up to a lively showcase on Friday afternoon.

SEE MORE ON PAGE 2



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Reflections of Anderson Interfaith Ministries

We are preparing for AIM's 30-year celebration May 21st at the Bleckley Station. So, I sat down and started reflecting on the last 30 years.



Kristi King

I was 25 years old and wanted to save the world when I got the tap to lead this Ministry. I remember, I did not have very much support from my older non-profit

colleagues. The word was she is too young, and that organization will not make it more than a couple of years. Well look at us over thirty years later.

I have been so blessed over those 30 years. I have had amazing Board members that supported and mentored me. I have had the best volunteers that anyone could have wished for that were dedicated and passionate about the work of AIM. The volunteers have been and still are the heartbeat of this organization. We have had long time donors and supporters of this work that have allowed AIM to "Give Hope and Change Lives".

Over the years I have had some incredible employees. Many have gone on to other organizations in leadership roles. The staff in place now is hands down the most dedicated, passionate, engaged staff I have ever had. They are committed to serving Christ through their work at AIM.

It is hard to believe that over 30 years ago I walked into an empty little house behind Grace Episcopal Church to start my journey with AIM. God has been so good to me. I have made a lot of mistakes along the way. I have learned a lot of lessons. I have also been touched by some amazing people over the last 30 years, clients, staff, donors, volunteers, and a plethora of community partners.

I am so thankful that God does not call the qualified, but he qualifies the called in to his work. God has been at work at AIM for over 30 years and I can not tell you how thankful I am that he chose me to lead this ministry. I have been blessed beyond measure.

Thank you to all that have played a role in the success of AIM. To God be the Glory!

Market Theatre welcomes entire community for summer learning & fun

BY DREW WHITLEY

Perhaps the strongest memories many of us have from childhood come from our summer experiences. Playing out late into the evening, taking trips to the beach, and, of course, going to as many summer camps as our parents could sign us up for. In retrospect as an adult, I now see summer camps are one of the obvious choices for parents who still need childcare and some quiet time while schools are on break. However, as Director of Outreach and Education at The Market Theatre Company, I also

now see summer camps as one of the absolute best possible opportunities for kids to learn, explore, and grow. There is something about the unstructured time of summer break that creates the perfect environment for kids to wiggle out of their comfort zone and take risks. With this in mind, at Market Theatre, we've committed ourselves to making sure that all kids have a supportive and fun environment to embark on this risk-taking. Maybe we're a little biased, but we think theatre fits the bill as a great way to do that learning, exploring, and growing.

In our first summer, Market Theatre offered a single week of camp and oh, was it so much fun. There was no playbook, so Market Co-Founder Carlie Taylor, along with my wife Rosie and I, just did the things that we knew we would love at a theatre camp. We played games, we sang songs, and at the end of the week, we produced the cutest darned one-week Cinderella that you have ever seen. Though this week was not overly-structured or rooted in a curated theme, it exemplified so much that is good in theatre: it was collaborative, joyful, and filled with learning. In each year since, our summer camp programming has grown, but at the heart of it all, we have worked to keep the spirit and sincerity of that first week in 2015.

The mentioned growth of our summer camps has come in many forms. We've expanded how many weeks of camp we offer. We've expanded how many types of camps we offer.

We've expanded the ages to which we cater. And this summer, we are so happy to say that we've expanded our scholarship program exponentially, offering need-based tuition assistance to up to 50% of all campers. This tuition assistance, totaling more than \$5,000, speaks to our foundational goal of making theatre accessible for all as we widen our audience and better serve our community. This summer we will be holding four different camps over the course of six

camp weeks, ranging from Disney's Frozen, a camp that will work to produce a full-scale musical in a week, to Designing Disney, a new half-day camp that will be geared to our students interested in theatrical design, visual arts, and technical work. Additionally, we will bring back our ever-popular teen acting/improv camp, this year themed around the British Invasion, and introduce a new half-day musical theatre dance intensive featuring the music and dance of the iconic Broadway musical A Chorus Line. Truly, there is something for every student, whether introverted or outgoing, brand-new to theatre or a seasoned veteran at the age of 12. For details on all of these camps or more information about our need-based scholarships, you can head over to markettheatre.org/camp or send me a message at drew@themarketanderson.org.

We genuinely believe that the arts are for everyone and so we hope to see your students join us this summer for one of our many camps. Performing arts experiences help kids

develop communication, confidence, problem-solving, collaboration, empathy, and so much more. With our new scholarship opportunities, we hope to welcome more of our community than ever before and usher in a new era in our educational programming. While we have grown, sharpened, and now have an absolutely stunning camp lineup, we hope to make those same great summer memories that we did in our first year. Playing late into the evening, trips to the beach, and Market summer camp... Sounds like the perfect break to me.

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JUNE 28-JULY 2

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JULY 19-23

A CHORUS LINE
MUSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVE

9AM-12PM or 1PM-4PM
AGES 12-18 • AUGUST 2-6

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PUBLISHERS

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

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

LAYOUT/DESIGN

ART DIRECTOR
Zack Mauldin
zack@upstatetoday.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Nate Thomason
signal43@live.com

WRITERS

Neal Parnell
dnparn@gmail.com

Jim Harris
jimharris.atl@gmail.com

Rich Otter
ottwill@bellsouth.net

GARDEN & FLORAL
Susan Temple
gardningirl@yahoo.com

MENTAL HEALTH
Mary-Catherine McClain Riner
drmarycatherine@riner counseling.com

FASHION
Kristine March

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

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If you survive it, the mother-daughter relationship is the best

It's almost Mother's Day, so if you have a daughter, why not celebrate with a movie night? Put on matching jammies, pop some popcorn, and stream "Little Women," in which 19th-century sisters Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy March are shepherd-ed through the obstacles of adolescence by their mom, whom they adore. Then, when you're feeling all warm inside, stream a 21st-century look at the mother-daughter relationship, "Lady Bird," in which an argument between the young title character and her mother becomes so bitter and personal and ANGRY that the teenager actually throws herself from a moving car.

I still tear up every time I watch "Little Women," but for most mothers and daughters, "Lady Bird" is closer to reality. I'll bet that at least once, even Jo wanted to jump out of a carriage over some dust-up with Marmie. There just seems

to be something uniquely intense about these relationships, so for an explanation of the mother-daughter dynamic -- and why it is sometimes so intense -- I turned to Dr. Karen Lake, Ph.D., of Lake Psychological Services in Columbia.



Kim von Keller

"As girls, we value the esteem of our mothers more than anyone else's," she says. "There's also no one in the whole world that we expect to understand us better than our moms, and it's frustrating when they don't live up to understanding our every thought and feeling the way we think they should. Often, the emotional boundaries are a lot looser in this relationship because

we know that we're always going to love each other, so we may feel freer to express negative feelings."

As a mother for almost three decades and a daughter for A Whole Lot Longer, I am thankful that I've never had a "Lady Bird" blowup with Elizabeth, my daughter, or Barbara, my mother, two people whom I love more than almost anyone in the world. We've definitely had our moments, though, when we've stubbornly remained entrenched in our positions, refusing to give an inch. The most memorable of these stem from arguments over clothes, make-up, vegetables, piano practice, "Operator" by Manhattan Transfer, Girl Scouts, pharmacy school, "Cynthia" as a name for a cat, and flip-flops as regular footwear. (Just for giggles, see if you can guess who I argued with over which. Answers appear below.)

Each of these arguments seemed



important at the time, but as I list them now, they just seem ridiculous. What is not ridiculous, though, are the tender moments we've shared, like the times my mother told me that being adopted meant that my sister and I were the most wanted children in the world. Like the time she took me to The Sweetery for tea when I was going through a little post-partum depression, assuring me that everything would be okay. Like the time that Elizabeth memorized one of my favorite poems and recited it for me on Christmas morning as a gift. Like the time she

and I texted back and forth for an hour, Elizabeth in a French train station while waiting on a friend and me under the covers of my bed, trying not to wake her dad.

Whether you're a mother or a daughter, I'd like to wish you a Mother's Day filled with fewer squabbles and more hugs, more "Little Women" and less "Lady Bird." Just remember that if a car trip is involved, everyone remains seated until the vehicle comes to a complete stop.

What's the most ridiculous thing you've ever argued about with your mother or daughter? Email your story to editkim50@gmail.com. And in case you're curious, I argued with my mother over clothes, vegetables, "Operator," pharmacy school, and "Cynthia." I argued with my daughter over makeup, Girl Scouts, and flip-flops. I got into it with both of them over piano practice.



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THE GARDEN SHOP

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SUSAN
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gardener

By the time you're reading this, we should finally be past danger of frost. Experts say April 15 is usually the last frost date. If your garden looked like mine last week, it was a version of a multi-colored ghost party. I don't usually cover things. However, I lost a Japanese Bloodgood maple tree many years ago to a late frost. In February, 2019, a Purple Ghost Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum 'Purple Ghost'*) was added to the garden. It will be a great focal point coming down the driveway someday. The foliage stays

dark purple pretty much all year. It is best to have some afternoon shade, or that ideal all day dappled shade. In full sun, it will turn a bit greener. Fall gives shades of purple and red. The first frosty night I covered it with a sheet. The next morning, the top leaves still had some damage. The second night, I doubled the sheet and had to prop that up with a concoction because the sheet was too heavy. Little purple ghost is only about four feet tall. It still had a tad more damage. Thank goodness I made the effort to cover him. Damaged foliage will be left to shed naturally. Anything else damaged will also be left unpruned. If damaged foliage is cut away and we have another frost, that will just further damage the plant.

Mophead hydrangeas are usually a shot in the dark with late frosts. If

they bloom on new growth, things will be fine. Types that bloom on old growth will have less blooms probably. Again, don't rush to cut that frost bit foliage.

Another small plant that was easy to cover (I just put a flower pot over it) is an *Alocasia Portora*. It is a cousin to common elephant ear (*Colocasia*). Alocasias are considered a tender perennial for our area and I wasn't sure it would winter over for me at all. Elephant ears come back every year. Portora is not in a protected area and leaves had started to sprout. It seems he is going to be fine. The easiest way to tell the difference is Alocasias have darker green leaves with curvy edges and leaves are upright. Colocasias are lighter green and leaves tend to face downward. Elephant ears are great for damp shade. The portora is in

regular soil and I find it to be quite drought tolerant. Knock on wood, deer have passed it by. The regular elephant ears are up against the house. Deer browse nearby, but not up to the corner, or either they pass it by too.

Annuals that had already been put in pots were covered or simply pulled out, as they had only been in their pots a few days, then replanted. Sheets were put over a few other favorite assorted perennials that had just started budding. They did fine. The red maple, that had the girdled root and is still struggling, is a concern. New growth had just sprouted on the healthy side of the tree. Being under such stress already, then the cold blast, I'm beginning to give thought of planting another tree this fall to shade the azaleas. Frost turned all their flowers to mush.



Purple Ghost Japanese Maple

Ones in protected areas withstood the cold nights just fine.

Pretty and Pink for Mother's Day

Cocktails don't have to be pretty to taste good. But the prettiest cocktail I've ever had is also one of the tastiest, and it's a perfect Mother's Day pink. Let me introduce you to The Clover Club.



Kim von Keller

The Clover Club is a Prohibition-Era cocktail, the product of just four ingredients and a garnish. You'll have to take the extra step of making a raspberry syrup, but what you don't use in the cocktail, you can stir into some

sparkling water for a refreshing, nonalcoholic raspberry soda. When making The Clover Club, the key to achieving the beautiful deep pink at the bottom of the glass and a frothy pale-pink foam on top is to start off by dry shaking, meaning to shake the ingredients in a cocktail shaker briefly before adding the ice and then shaking again with ice.

You'll want to serve Mom a snack with her cocktail, but make it something small; she'll want to save room for the fabulous meal you're preparing her later. I like Tapenade Crostini, an adaptation of a Ree Drummond recipe. The salty briny olive mixture on top of toasted baguette rounds is the perfect small bite for Mother's Day. (You can make your own toasts, but Wal-Mart and Ingles offer them bagged and ready to go.)

Clover Club
2 oz. gin
½ oz lemon juice
½ oz raspberry syrup (recipe below)
2 T. pasteurized egg white
garnish: three fresh raspberries, skewered on a cocktail pick

In a cocktail shaker, combine gin, lemon juice, raspberry juice, and egg white. Cover tightly and shake vigorously. Remove the lid, add ice, and shake vigorously; remember, the more you shake, the more voluminous the foam on top will be. Strain into a coupe or a martini glass, place the skewered raspberries across the top of the glass, and serve to Mom with a hug.

Raspberry Syrup
1 c. sugar
1 c. water
1 c. fresh raspberries
In a small saucepan, combine sugar and water. Stir over low heat until the sugar is dissolved and the mixture becomes clear. Dip a pastry brush into water and brush down the sides of the pan to remove any sugar residue. Bring the mixture to a boil, cover, and then turn heat to low for two minutes. Cool syrup completely, and then add the raspberries, crushing them into the syrup with a fork. Allow the syrup to rest for an hour, and then push the mixture through a fine mesh strainer with the back of a spoon to remove as many seeds as possible. Store the raspber-

ry syrup in the refrigerator.

Tapenade Crostini
12-ounce jar large roasted red peppers, drained and patted dry
9 ½ -ounce jar pitted kalamata olives, drained and patted dry
1 c. pimento-stuffed olives, drained and patted dry
2 large cloves garlic
¼ - ½ red pepper flakes
¼ c. extra-virgin olive oil, plus more if necessary
salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 package prepared crostini, or 24 toasted baguette slices
8 large basil leaves, thinly sliced
Combine roasted red peppers, kalamata olives, green olives, garlic, and red pepper flakes in the bowl of a food processor. Pulse a few times and then add the olive oil, pulsing until the mixture is almost paste-like. Scrape into a bowl and season with salt and pepper to taste. Cover and refrigerate for an hour to allow flavors to meld. To serve, spoon tapenade onto each crostini and garnish with thinly sliced basil. Makes about 24 toasts, enough for Dad to join you in celebration of Mom!



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How to choose 'just right' books for your child: Babies and toddlers

Have you ever found yourself browsing around the bookstore or the library wondering - "How in the world can I choose the best book for my child?" Trying to choose a "just right" book can indeed be a bit overwhelming. The good news is, whether you have a sweet, new baby or a busy, babbling



Katie Laughridge

toddler, there is a perfect book out there for everyone. Here are a few helpful guidelines that will hopefully point you in the right direction.

Babies: It is truly never too early to introduce your child to the wondrous world of reading, learning, and imag-

inary adventures. Research has confirmed time and time again that reading aloud is not only an excellent way to bond with your baby, but is also an important factor necessary for your baby's proper development. Among other things, reading aloud is a great way to teach your baby about communication, and is a very effective way to introduce concepts such as numbers, letters, colors, and shapes – while still having fun! Reading is also necessary for building listening, memory, and vocabulary skills. For children of this age, it is best to choose books that have interesting colors, textures, and shapes. Books of this type will help to hold their attention for a longer period of time. A few book suggestions that may be helpful are: "First 100 Words and Numbers", "Colors, and Shapes" by Roger Priddy, "Goodnight Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown, "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin, and "Brown Bear, Brown Bear" by Bill Martin Jr.

Toddlers: As I'm sure many mothers will agree, reading to young toddlers can be a bit exhausting. Children of this age are busily exploring and eagerly learning about the world around them. Although it may seem like your toddler is getting nothing out of your efforts, this is hardly the case at all. Research has shown that the more words a toddler is exposed to, the better prepared they will be for school – and will also be more likely to eventually enjoy reading books on their own. At this age, it's important to find books that encourage hands-on participation within the pages- such as "lift-the-flap" and "touch-and-feel" books. A few excellent book suggestions include: "Spot" books by Eric Hill and "Where is Baby" books by Karen Katz.

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

The impact of small businesses

BY JIM HARRIS

It's so easy to do. Search for an item on your phone, click once, and wait for it to show up in the next day or so. Online shopping is easy, on the surface, but there are other considerable factors in the equation, such as the impact on the small businesses here that support our community and the level of personal service we get from our local businesses.

In the United States, small businesses comprise 99% of the total companies, with most of those being firms with 20 or fewer employees. Small businesses account for 64% of the new jobs created each year and generate almost ½ of the Gross Domestic Product. On a local level, their support makes them an integral part of the fabric of our community.

Near the front entrance to Anderson's Westside High School, there is a large sign thanking the school's sponsors, the area's small businesses that step up to support athletics, arts, and other programs that help enrich the lives of our children. Conspicuously missing are the companies that provide those apps for "One Click Shopping" and the big box national chains.

White Jones Ace Hardware has been a fixture in Anderson since 1967 and serves the community with three locations. Big-box retailers and online sales companies have undoubtedly impacted the hardware business, yet this company continues to thrive. As a company that stays well connected to its customers, they know that some have tried the chain stores and online apps, only to come back because of the level of service they receive from the professional associates. Manager Mary Dunn says, "We have people that specialize in paint, plumbing, hardware, builder's supplies, lawn and garden, you name it. They can walk you through anything you need to know." She adds, "They can help you plumb your water heater, tell you what you need and how to hook it up."

The team at White Jones also monitors pricing from online and big box stores to ensure their prices are always competitive. They also offer in-store and curbside pickup. Certain orders also qualify for free delivery and assembly.

Associate Sarah Neal tells us that White Jones is a firm believer in giving back to the community. They support the Boy Scouts and the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots drive and sponsor events and programs with churches, civic organizations, schools, Meals on Wheels, and much more.

Car insurance is another product frequently purchased online. The insurance companies have memorable TV commercials, and we see a lot of them touting how easy the process is to secure coverage. Unfortunately, this can sometimes lead to too little protection, the wrong type of pol-



Sarah Neal and Mary Dunn-White Jones at Ace Hardware

for less," which may only be the absolute minimum coverages required by the state. Many customers come to them after trying the online process because they find the value in local and professional customer service.

Michael's team also periodically reviews each client's portfolio to ensure changes in their circumstances reflect in their correct coverage. Based on current levels of assets, liabilities, family members living at home, income level, etc., they double-check that a client has the protection they need but nothing they don't. In the event of a claim, they will guide their customer through the process, helping with adjusters, policy questions, and any other concerns. In most cases, a homeowner with a claim will see Michael, in person,

or down the road, a less than ideal experience dealing with a claim.

Michael Tester is an Anderson native and State Farm agent committed to his hometown. While State Farm is a national brand, Michael's agency is locally owned, with a devoted and experienced team to guide customers through various products and coverages available. In the interview process with a new customer, they review all details to ensure you get the best possible price and all available discounts, and that you have the products and coverages that best protect you and your family. For example, one frequent national advertiser has a celebrity saying, "We keep you legal

at the very beginning of the claims process, and he keeps an eye on things all the way through.

If you have children in middle or high school, Michael may have spoken to your child's class. He visits schools to share State Farm's Steer Clear program, which helps young people become safer drivers. Michael and his associates also focus heavily on community investment. Michael says, "We sponsor high schools, football programs, booster clubs, Little League, and YMCA summer camps, among others."

Consider doing business locally when you can. You'll enjoy the personal customer experience and support Anderson in the process.

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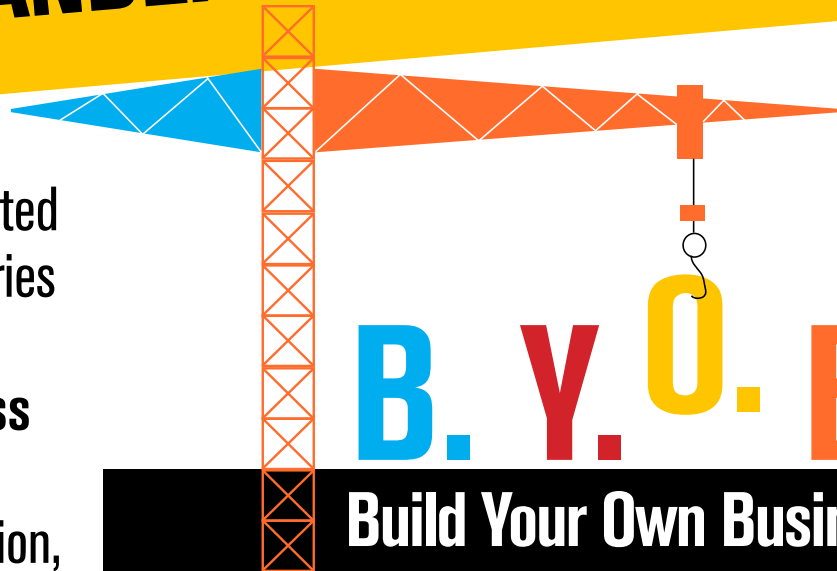
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Ellen Wideman Groves — Mother of Eight



Mimi Saad James and Ellen Wideman Groves

BY MIMI SAAD JAMES

As Americans take steps to understand the full measure of our history with race, I have wondered whether it is appropriate for me, as a white woman, to write about the black woman I consider my second mother.

This Mother's Day is an opportunity for me to pay tribute to that woman. To avoid doing so out of uncertainty or discomfort feels like a dismissal of her life that mattered so very much to so many.

In 1954, in the Jim Crow South, 27-year-old Ellen Wideman Groves came to work as a domestic for my parents, Tom and Ceil Saad. At the time, my parents had three children under the age of four. They would go on to have eight children over a span of twelve years. As with so many southern white families – even financially wobbly families like our own – the presence of domestics help made everything possible.

In our case, Ellen's crack-of-dawn bus rides across town made it possible for my siblings and me to have a hot breakfast before shuffling off to school.

Ellen's early morning presence allowed our mother, a night-duty nurse, to catch up on sleep before her next shift.

While our own mother was an exceedingly gifted nurse, the domestic arts were not her calling. Indeed, it was Ellen who taught me to

fry chicken and pork chops to perfection in a cast iron skillet. It was Ellen who showed us how to use Mason jar lids to punch out the perfect circled topping of her wildly popular hamburger biscuit pie. And it was Ellen who taught us to work smart, by very slowly gliding a steaming iron across starched cotton and whispering her secret, "Let the hot do the work."

Ellen also taught us about discipline, consequences, and mercy. When we fell out of line, Ellen's finger, with full arm extended, would swiftly point to the back yard. This was our undeniable signal to march outside and find a hickory switch for a whipping we would ultimately never receive (but one our parents would have fully endorsed). In fact, when my youngest brother, Greg, would regularly return from hickory-switch hunts with a limp blade of grass and comical grin, Ellen would struggle to conceal her amusement. A dab of Hot Pete on the tip of his tongue and he was off on probation.

Even as our teacher and superior, Ellen was also our playmate. As a special treat, Ellen would take one or two of us home with her to spend the night in the three-room house she shared with her husband, James. Framed photographs of my siblings and me hung in a hodge-podge array on the walls. After dinner, we'd eat warm gingerbread by the potbelly

stove in the living room and pile together in bed to watch TV.

As we grew to adulthood, Ellen remained a constant presence in our lives. On my wedding day, she sat on the front pew of the church. At holiday gatherings she gladly settled into the most comfortable chair and allowed us to serve her.

As I sat by her bedside in her final days, I stroked Ellen's smooth, mocha skin which refused to reveal that years had passed. I thanked her for all the love she bestowed on me, my siblings and my children.

During her eulogy, Ellen's minister relayed a story about a home visit she had with Ellen just a few years prior. Noticing the dozens of photos of us as children and adults on Ellen's walls, mantel, and shelves the minister wondered aloud if we were Ellen's children.

Ellen replied, "Yes. I have eight."

Noticing the minister's look of confused surprise, Ellen quickly added, "Oh, I didn't birth them, but they're mine."

Indeed, we were hers – because the word "Mother" is both a noun and an action verb. And Ellen's every loving action made it possible.

In Westview Cemetery, just as she directed, a marble marker reads, "Ellen Wideman Groves, 'Mother of Eight.'"

I am one of those of those very blessed, very grateful eight.

BAPTIST KITTENS

Just to refresh your memory, this is a continuing story from another called, "Orrville Methodist Church (Redux)".

My grandad and I had come upon a box of six newborn kittens. He had said, "Those are Baptist Kittens", and I'd said, "How do you know that?" He replied, "They're eyes aren't open". I didn't get that joke till years later, but I digress.

Grandad had decided that he'd take the kittens to the Animal Shelter. I sat in the backseat with the box of hungry meowing kittens as Grandad drove and couldn't wait to be rid of the high-pitched furry felines. "Grandaddy, can I keep just one of 'em?" No boy! I ain't havin' no cats!" "Aww Please, I'll take care of it." He repeated, "No Cats!"

We arrived at the shelter, and I carried the loud, wet bottomed box with my head hanging low. Grandad said to the clerk at the desk, "We found these kittens and thought we'd bring them here". She looked down in the box, then looked up at my Grandad and said, "I'm sorry sir, but we can't accept kittens under six-weeks old". The frown on his face was turned down almost as much as the smile on mine was curled up. The clerk said, "They probably won't make it without their mother, but you can try using these". She handed me two small plastic baby bottles filled with evaporated milk. I touched one to the tiny mouth of a kitten. That little fur ball opened its mouth and didn't let go until its belly tank read full. On the way home my Grandad kept mumbling, "Six-Weeks", as I was filling all the kitty tanks and thinking of names to call them.



They all thrived under my constant care, and when six weeks came around, Peanut, Peaches, Cream, Blackie, Batman and Robin were ready to go to the shelter. Grandaddy handed me a box and said "Round 'em up". I looked up at my Grandad with a tear streaked face as I handed over my babies. He took the box, then looked down at those twelve blue and green eyes, then looked at me. He pushed the box toward me and said, "Here boy, but keep these new Methodist out of my house". I felt like Abraham when he was stopped from sacrificing Isaac.



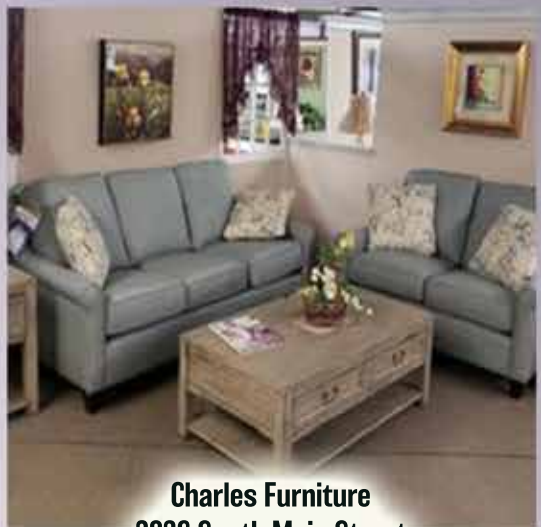
One morning, a couple of months later, I was awakened by the sound of my Grandad's car starting, followed by the most awful Yeeeeeoowww! I got up to go see what had happened. Grandad and the car were gone, but I spotted something in the driveway. I picked up the four inches of fur and realized it was Cream's tail. I cried all that day and waited for my Grandad to get home from work. He had heard the noise and thought it was just the fan belt squealing for a second, and went on his way.

I moped around for days and finally threw the white tail away. About a week later, I stepped out the door to go get the mail. As I was walking down the driveway, I saw Cream walking towards me. We each walked faster and I was beaming, and she was meowing, and as I picked her up I could see four hairless marks where the car fan had scalped her down her back. She was also wiggling a little nub of a tail.

It was one of the happiest days I can recall, and a miracle that I'll never forget.



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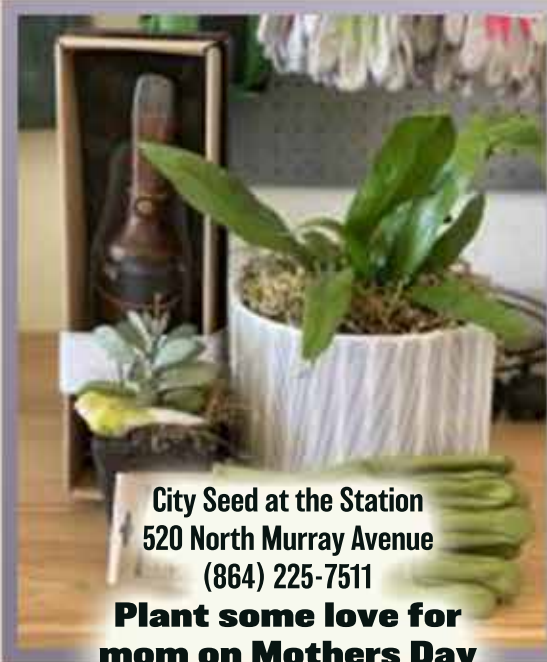
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Add some sparkle to her day

The experiences and skills of an Eagle Scout

BY JIM HARRIS

Scouting pioneer Robert Baden-Powell once said of the Scout's emphasis on preparation, "A Scout is never taken by surprise; he knows exactly what to do when anything unexpected happens." Today, we tend to focus on education as preparation for life, but scouting, and more specifically being an Eagle Scout, can also be a tremendous addition. With Eagle Scouts becoming Presidents, Senators, CEOs, and leaders from every realm of life, there is no denying the impact of the experiences and skills learned in becoming an Eagle Scout.

Anderson veterinarian Will Stringer began his scouting experience as a Cub Scout, then Boy Scout, and eventually became an Eagle Scout. The team concept was prevalent in scouting, with each scout having individual responsibilities on which the rest of the team relied. He has found his training to be valuable in life. Perseverance, setting goals, and working toward them were practical skills he took from the experience. He says, "You have to learn to get along and work with people to achieve your goals while helping them achieve theirs."

Will's son, Wes, became an Eagle Scout in 2020. In addition to the skills gained from the Eagle process, his personal project provided great insight into the conditions some fellow students faced. He saw a need and created a plan to provide individual care bags for homeless students, with items like toothpaste, soap, hand sanitizer, and other products included and a note inside with a positive, supportive message.

Bobby Allen became an Eagle Scout as a teenager and stayed active in scouting as an adult. He served as a troop leader as his son also became an Eagle Scout. Bobby recalls working for his Eagle Scout status with a television repair shop owner, who guided him through earning his electrical and electronic badges. He realized then that those skills were part of the career path he wanted, and that led him into his career as a senior electrical instrumentation and utilities technician.

David O'Rear, Jr. is an Infantry Captain in the U.S. Army, an Army Ranger, and a graduate of Airborne school. He recalls his Eagle Scout experience. "I had the creativity for a project, but I had to depend heavily on my father and my troop to help me manifest my idea. I'm glad I had others to depend on to help me fine tune my idea and create a realistic plan to get there," he says. When asked how his Eagle experience impacted his career in the Army, he says, "One minute you're a scout terrified to repel down a rock wall, the next you're fully loaded with combat equipment, jumping out of a C-130 at 900 ft. When I was in Ranger School, paddling zodiac boats with my platoon to do raids in the swamps or rucking across the Mountains of north Georgia in mountain phase, I was thinking back to my 50-mile canoe trip and my hikes on the Appalachian trail."

David O'Rear Sr. was his son's Scoutmaster. He is a retired U.S. Army Airborne Ranger First Sergeant and currently serves as the



Wes and Will Stringer

Master Mountaineer and Training Specialist for the Airborne Ranger Training Brigade. His scouting experience impacted him professionally. He says, "The real challenge is helping and inspiring young men along a long path to accomplish a long-term goal and getting them to understand the value of that goal, how it benefits them as well as others. Working with young men forced me to adapt my leadership styles to the individual. Each scout reacts differently and values different things. Young people today are less apt to do something just because an adult tells them to. Scout Leaders have to give them the clear purpose in addition to just direction. I believe working with scouts made me a much more effective military leader."

Of the young men who became Eagle Scouts from the Troop David Sr. led, the life accomplishments are pretty impressive. Two are Active-duty Army Officers (one an Army Ranger), two Airforce Pilots, one college professor, and a high school English teacher.

Historically, only about two percent of scouts become Eagle scouts, although that percentage has increased slightly in recent years. Qualifying as an Eagle Scout does come with some impressive benefits. College admissions officers recognize the award and consider it in their decisions. Being an Eagle Scout creates eligibility for numerous scholarships. Each branch of the U.S. military allows Eagle Scouts to enter at a higher rank and pay grade. Many employment recruiters look for "Eagle Scout" on a resume, as they like the traits that Eagle Scouts possess.



Bobby Allen



David O'Rear Jr and Sr

Flooring is the foundation of a renovation with Harris Home

When you're considering a complete renovation of any room in your home, it's common to think in terms of wall colors, fabric patterns, or specific pieces of furniture. A lot of people become focused on one design detail... and lose sight of the big picture. Actually, the best place to begin planning your vision may be right under your feet.

"The most successful room designs start with a careful flooring choice," says Scott Junkins, president of Harris Home. "Your floor is always visible, and it's the anchor for all renovation decisions. Imagine every room from the ground up." He should know, because Harris has provided flooring excellence throughout the Upstate for more than 70 years.

There are so many flooring options, how do you possibly decide? When you choose Harris Home for a transformative renovation, your personal design expert will help guide you creatively, coordinating paint, fabrics, furniture and all the other details to beautifully compliment your room's flooring. Together, you can consider a balance of aesthetics, traffic flow and maintenance. Here's a brief guide to the broad categories of flooring available.

Carpet – Soft luxury for any room. There are so many choices of colors, patterns, and textures. And you can choose how durable or stain-resistant you want it to be. Vacuuming and cleanings are part of having carpet, and it might not be ideal for areas with kids and pets.



Hardwood – Whether it's oak, walnut or even maple, natural hardwood is gorgeous and feels great. Temperatures, moisture, and stains are factors to consider, as are dents and scuffs. Moderate maintenance is required. Engineered hardwood can be more durable, and comes in countless varieties.

Laminate – This is a durable choice. It

has layers of construction, topped with a high-definition photo layer instead of a real hardwood veneer. Laminate stands up to pets, kids, and high traffic, and comes in a wide variety of colors and grains. Cleaning is easy, and it resists fading.

Luxury Vinyl – Layered PVC construction provides great durability and good looks, and it is softer to walk on. It's generally a quite affordable option. Plus, it's waterproof, so it's great for high-moisture areas (or spills).

Tile – Choices include stone, porcelain and even ceramic. It's ideal for kitchens and baths, but could work in almost any room. Tile gives customers the ability to be creative. It comes in many different sizes and patterns to give a room personality. Plus, tile is timeless and durable, cleans easily, and looks beautiful.

"Take your time selecting just the right flooring," says Junkins. "Harris Home offers countless options for the foundation of your dream renovation. Let our professionals guide you to just the right product for your room's feel and function." Not to mention the beauty your home deserves.

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WOMEN IN HISTORY

I love history. Especially about women and what they wore and how they decorated their homes, castles or what have you. I love Marie Antoinette and everything about Versailles. I was recently doing some research on perfume and makeup and shoes from that era and she really spoke to me. She was basically the first socialite.



Kristine March

Think our version of say, Paris Hilton. She was a rebel and loved to throw outrageous parties for that time period which was considered inappropriate to most. She had all of the finest teas and chocolates. Basically, anything she wanted she got. Which sadly even still, her life turned into turmoil. She wore a beautiful perfume that you can still actually buy. A company out of France called Lubin took the exact formula and produced a perfume called Black Jade. With notes of bergamot and patchouli and sandalwood. So lovely. I most definitely want to buy some. Just because and so I can

feel like a queen for a while.

Another woman in history that I admire is, of course, Marilyn Monroe. She swore by Chanel No 5. It was her signature scent. She even wore it to bed. She also used Nivea skin cream which you can still buy today and another moisturizer called Erno Laszlo creme. That to me is fascinating. Anything she used, sign me up please.

The beautiful Sharon Tate wore Revlon eyeliner in white and black colors during the sixties. Audrey Hepburn also wore Revlon makeup. You can still buy a pink lipstick Audrey wore. My sister actually gifted me the exact color the other other day. It's exquisite and stays on. It's a matte formula called Make It Pink. It looks so chic. She wore it in Breakfast At Tiffany's with a brand of Oliver Goldsmith Manhattan sunglasses. How posh.

You can still purchase many of these artifacts if you do your research and plus you're learning some pretty interesting history at the same time. So make the sidewalk your runway be kind and remember, pressure always creates diamonds y'all.



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THE BIRD IN THE BACKWARD TUXEDO



BY ANN BAILES

I heard the chattering and cackling long before seeing the long flight of what I thought was common grackles over our yard. The sound lasted for over 10 minutes — but a flock of black-birds doesn't usually take that long to fly past. I finally went outside with a pair of binoculars for a closer look. The huge train of passing birds was a massive stream of bobolinks, a rare treat to see.

Bobolinks are sometimes called the "bird in the backward tuxedo." Interesting name! But, in breeding plumage, the males have the unusual color pattern of being black in the front, but white/tan in the back — opposite the coloration of most birds. Large groups of bobolinks can be spotted in weedy and grassy fields, where they perch in large flocks as they forage for seeds. They migrate huge distances, as many as 12,500 miles from their breeding grounds in the northern part of the U.S. into Canada,

to their wintering grounds as far south as Argentina. Sometimes they fly for long periods and then stop to rest for a while, which is usually when they can be found around here.

Bobolinks (whose name means "rice eating") have their own notorious history in South Carolina. They were known as "ricebirds" until the early 1900s. That's because, while fattening up for their long migration, they caused serious damage to the rice fields of our coastal plain. They could strip those fields bare — but in turn were often killed by frustrated plantation owners. Well before the days of protected status, they were said to be a tasty treat at those owners' tables. As long as much of the U.S. was fields and meadows, bobolinks were common, but as usage changed or reverted to forest, the birds declined.

For a possible opportunity to see these unusual-looking birds, go out to open fields anywhere in our area. We first saw

bobolinks in the fields behind Welcome Baptist Church on Highway 76 toward Sandy Springs. We've also seen them on the west side of the county on Country Meadows Road, and in the fields out around Townville. Look for flocks of moving birds off in the distance and train a pair of binoculars on them. It might seem that you're just looking at a cluster of generic "birds," but you will miss a treat if you don't stop and see what they really are.

However, the catch is that you have to go look for them during late April or early May, which is peak migration time. Any other time of the year would be unusual to see a bobolink around here (although a few may come through in non-breeding plumage on their way south in the fall). Here in early May, go out and look for these beautiful, unusually colored specimens. Because who doesn't want to say they've seen a bird in a backward tuxedo?



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Lorna's story

BY GAIL MARTIN-MATHEWS

April 17, 2018, Lorna Shelby suffered two major brain aneurysms. After several hours of surgery, she was given a 1% chance of surviving. She made it through a month in a complete coma phase, 6 months of non-verbal communication and over a year of hospitalization prior to moving into a rehabilitation center.

I would drive a roundtrip of 75 miles almost every week to sit and read with Lorna. On Mother's Day 2019 I received an "At Home Paint and Sip Party" from my children and grandchildren. Afterwards, I took the surplus art supplies to support Lorna. The nurses agreed that painting could help improve her gross/fine-motor skills.

On June 10, 2019, the process of painting with Lorna began. Lorna was not happy. She made every excuse in the book to not participate. Neither of us were artists, but it didn't matter. We were not trying to be artists; we were simply trying to strengthen her hand and arm muscles in a fun activity.

Painting started. I held and stretched her arm while using her other hand to hold and move her hand across the canvas. We would stop about every 5 minutes to allow her to rest. She could not distinguish the colors, so I became her painting eyes and guided her hands to the colors.

COVID19 put an end to our in-person paintings in January 2020. But on April 17, 2020, exactly two years after Lorna's two brain aneurysms, a group of friends gave her a virtual "Sip and Paint Surprise Party". Now we paint every Tuesday at 1:00 PM. Thus, "It's Tuesday, So, It Must Be Painting Time with Lorna" was born to support her recovery. After each weekly painting session, the group's paintings and a corresponding commentary were posted on Facebook before midnight.

Lorna still needs assistance, but her hands and arms are stronger. She holds her own paintbrush and can distinguish the colors. She still gets tired but makes it through the virtual sessions with the help of her husband James, caregivers, and her friends in the virtual painting room.

4-6-21

It's Tuesday. So, it must be painting time with Lorna!

Today's picture is a church full of ladies in colorful hats. The picture is by Jonathan Green and may be known as Black Southern Belles. I and a couple of ladies painted our free-hand

copies. The other ladies painted carbon copies.

Lorna was cheerful today. Her son and his family came to visit for Resurrection Sunday. For the first time in over a year, our church had an in-person Sunday service with modified capacity seating.

Our group today was the FBC ladies, who paint once a month. We were excited to see each other and overflowing with joy because we were able to have service at the church on Sunday. Even though the capacity was far less than usual, it was still good to be in the house of the Lord one more time. Just like the painting, many of the ladies were in their colorful Easter best. And yes, the hats were on point. Although we sat no more than 3 or a family on most pews, you were able to still feel the love and fellowship wafting through the atmosphere. As an old familiar FBC song states, "Change the atmosphere, until it feels like heaven in the room." Yes, the atmosphere had changed.

Each and every Tuesday for almost a year, Lorna and I have been in the midst of caring, loving, and God-fearing ladies. None of us ever painted before. I taught myself to draw and paint while trying to help her move her hands. It was definitely an undiscovered gift from God for me.

What started out as just a surprise painting party, turned into something we could have

never fathomed. Our cohesive groups anxiously wait for a picture to draw or trace, paint, and chat about every week. During each session, we analyze social events, look into the rear-view mirrors of our past, and hypothesize about the future. We find peace and solace in the midst of each other's company and the paintings that demand and deserve our attention.

Our groups have been through a great deal. In addition to Lorna, others are encountering health and other issues or have family members encountering the same. It is as if God knew years in advance that we would need a group of other ladies to uplift our spirits and console our minds. And for about 90 minutes on Tuesdays, we get lost in a changed atmosphere.

This painting lets me know that our mission is on point. Every hat has a sharp point on it. Even when the hat looks like it shouldn't, it does. We are doing what we were meant to do during this time in our lives. And although the world around us is keeping its social distance, we gather to grow closer and closer together, just like the picture. As I stared at my finished painting for inspiration, as I do every Tuesday



night while writing the commentary, I just realized, this picture is US...Lorna (who loves green) and I, and each group of five ladies who supports us. There are seven of us for each

group, SEVEN! Let's not talk about that number. It feels like heaven in the room.

This month Lorna celebrates 3 years of recovery and over 60 paintings.

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A TALK FROM COACH

This is a talk I gave to the Hanna football team prior to the Upper State Championship game against Byrnes on November 28, 2018.

Let me first thank Coach Jeff Herron for the kindness and graciousness shown to me by letting me be a part of this team.

You will remember last week when I told y'all that my first team here was 50 years ago. During the first season I was on my way to the Hanna gym for that night's game. Driving from Greenville Street adjacent to the displays of the WWI tank, artillery piece and the statue of the WWI Doughboy, I was one of our players walking the sidewalk, hands folded behind his back as if the weight of the world was on his shoulder. Hey, that's Mac Hammett, I perceived, pulling my 1963 Dodge station wagon to the curb. I reached across to roll down the window and said, "Get in Mac. I'm on my way to the gym." "I'd rather walk," he replied. "Well, it's certainly a fine

day," I replied. "By the way, how's your dad?" His dad had been fighting cancer for a few years. "My daddy's dead," he blurted, "He died a couple hours ago.



Jim Fraser

I just left his side." "Man, I'm sorry, let me drive you home or somewhere," I repeated. "You're not playing tonight, are you?" "Yea," he replied, "Where would I rather be tonight than with my teammates, they're like family and besides, who's gonna play at lineback and center?" Wow, I thought here's an edge you don't often see. I've observed that in my 50 years of following Hanna athletes, they're gonna portray that family like atmosphere and that winning edge that's so important. They may not always win, but that sense of family and that edge is always there.

Everybody is proud of you for

that momentous win over a very good Dorman team. Some of the naysayers have said, "Hanna better be glad you caught the Cavaliers on a stormy, rainy night." Well, that 20 MPH wind was blowing cold rain in your face as well, Dorman. You won the game because you made a stop and a drive and they didn't, by playing every play if it were the pivotal play of the game by picking each other up when things looked bad and by refusing to lose. That's why you won.

Byrnes is coming in here Friday, a proud program who remembers that pounding you gave them last year. They're going to be revengeful and emotional. Let me tell you a story about emotion.

Once there was a place in Texas called the Alamo. It was being defended by 40 or 50 brave men led by Davy Crockett and Col. James Bowie. They were super emotional and fought like crazy and then they ran out of bullets and their emotions left them. They

were overrun by 2,500 soldiers under General Santa Anna. Emotions are no good if you have no bullets in your pouch. You've got more bullets in your pouch than Byrnes and that's what will win the game for you.

Let me give you a history lesson. When I began coaching 60 years ago, the highest classification was 3A. When I left Aiken 50 years ago both Hanna and Aiken were 3A schools. Sometime during the 70's, the highest classification jumped to 4A. We are now in the second year of 5A.

Continuing with the lesson are now 4 teams still in the hunt for the second 5A championship. Let's check them out. In the lower state you have the Vaunted Summerville Green Wave whose legendary coach won twice as many games as your guy Coach Herron. In fact, they've won more games than anybody in the history of football. McKissicks 92 now and his grandson Joe Call is the coach. They have 12 or 15 championships. Opposite them is a relatively new school, the Dutch Fork Silver Foxes who own the only 5A championship. Hustle up to the Upstate and you've got the storied proud Byrnes Rebels

with 12 or 15 titles. I know at our time they won like 5 in a row. Hosting them we've got the T.L. Hanna Yellow Jackets with no championships. You mean we've been here 56 years and no trophy? That's crazy! 56 years? What are you gonna do about it?

For the first 30 years of Hanna's existence, they had no turf to protect. We had to load buses and go on buses to old McCants to our hated rivals, Westside's field to play. During my 17 years at Hanna we've had to bury like 30 players who would have liked to have had turf to protect.

Nobody can end 56 years of frustration but you. Nobody can protect your fallen brothers' turf but you. You damn well shouldn't fail. Now go kick some ass.

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



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Bedroom Furniture - Chairs - Sofas - Pine Hutch - Household Furniture
Dining Room Furniture - Mahogany Table - TV- Fridge
Christmas & Seasonal Decorations - Prints & Artwork & Mirrors
Angel Ornaments - Costume Jewelry - Luggage - Women's Pocket Books
CALL FOR INSPECTION DATES**



**Preview Dates for Real Estate: May 5th 2-5pm, May 11th 2-5pm & May 12th 10am-2pm
OR call for special appointment on Real Estate.**

**Preview Dates for Content: April 28th 2-5pm & May 5th 2-5pm. 864-933-3588 GO TO: www.prachtauction.net
FOR BIDDING INFORMATION 15% Buyers Premium & 7% Sales Tax**