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December 8-21, 2022



Pastor Dave Phillips, CEO and executive director of Hope Missions, with Honey Denison, who volunteers and cooks breakfast for the guests.

Hope Missions of the Upstate

BY JANA MACKIN

Hope Missions of the Upstate opens its doors for street people to bask in the friendly confines of second chances on Anderson's charity row. Here, smiling volunteers usher the displaced into a welcome center at the old County Health Department building where they find a few hours of respite, fare and human kindness.

A Christmas tree decorates the stage in the big room adorned by wreaths and fa-la-la. Folk paintings done by itinerant artists hang on the walls. One drawing depicts a kind of Route 66 running past cactus towards a brilliant Arizona sunset. Some street denizens are wrapped in blankets, waiting for a shower at



Stephon Mance and Adam Green play their guitars.

project Clean Start nearby. Others ask about their meager belongings stored in bins here for safe keeping. A couple of guitarists jam chords reminiscent of "Hotel California."

On a worn sofa, Giselle Gray chows down on food for the soul- a sizzling fried egg and hot bologna sandwich.

SEE HOPE ON PAGE 2

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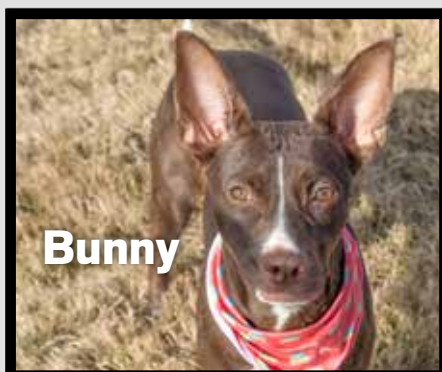
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TIS THE SEASON

To help make this Christmas special for your family, you may consider enjoying some of many fun and exciting activities going on right here in Anderson. From ice skating downtown, to making DIY ornaments for loved ones, there's great holiday fun waiting to be had by all. Here are just a few suggestions you may want to include on your holiday calendar this year:

- ♦ Visit the Concord Market to pick out a fresh Christmas tree and grab a few freshly baked treats!
- ♦ Go ice skating at Holiday Ice in Wren Park and enjoy dinner downtown
- ♦ Grab some hot chocolate and a sweet treat at Figgs Beanery and Creamery or ECity Java (inside Sullivan's)

- ♦ Visit the Christmas lights display at



Katie Laughridge

Michaels or Hobby Lobby

- ♦ Make and deliver Christmas cards for

Lights of Hope- then visit the Elf Village for funnel cakes, hot cocoa, smores, and a photo op with Santa

- ♦ Put on your pjs, grab a box of donuts and drive around town looking at Christmas lights!
- ♦ Paint Christmas ornaments for loved ones at Glazed in downtown Clemson or grab a "do it yourself" pack at

residents in the nursing home

- ♦ Bake brownies or cookies and personally deliver them to neighbors.
- ♦ Spread holiday cheer by Christmas caroling around the neighborhood with a group of friends.

- ♦ Make gingerbread houses then enjoy eating them!
- ♦ Watch Christmas movies and read Christmas stories at bedtime (you can check out some new books and/or DVDs at the Anderson County Library!)

Making memories and spending quality time with family and friends is my favorite part of the holiday season. Take a risk and do something different this year- I bet you'll love it!

"Maybe Christmas," the Grinch thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more." -The Grinch

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Hope

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Honey makes these," said Gray, 65. "They're good!"

"I'm here because my house got robbed," she said. "Sometimes people are on the mean side."

"Be kind to one another," Gray said, "cause we're all in this together."

Hope Missions is a Christian non-profit that helps to feed, clothe, shelter, and empower the lonely, dispossessed and forgotten. Besides offering breakfast six days a week, they offer outreach, case management, homeless reentry assistance, shower and laundry referrals as well as other community resource assistance. It also serves as the county's warming center during winter.

Whether providing bus tickets or Christmas backpacks, this is a way station of warmth for unfortunates, mentally ill and hardtack retreads. Here the faceless panhandler that frequents America's marginalia has a name, a story, and can for at least a time set down his cardboard sign.

"God's got my back," said Adam Green, strumming a guitar.

"Trust in the Lord and believe in angels," said Green. He studied sociology, theology and played college baseball. He once dreamed of playing in the show.

"This is the first time I have been able to put my hand on a guitar and play something in a long time," Green said.

Deep trauma, mental illness, addiction and other underlying issues are often found among the



Brad King's art

homeless. The mission is here to serve "the least, the lost, and the lonely in our community," said Pastor Dave Phillips, Hope Missions CEO and a founding member. He and Zoe Hale, his wife, are also coordinators for the Anderson County Community Resource Guide as well.

"We see the bottom of the ladder," he said. "We see guys whose whole lives are ruined. We see a lot more homeless than we did a year ago."

"Addiction is bad here," Phillips said. "We have been hammering at the addiction issues and what we realize is that trauma is often behind the addictions, and society is treating the behavior and ignoring the cause."

A small group of volunteers started Hope Missions as a Christian response to the pandemic's draconian measures that impacted the homeless, and available social services. Here was a population that risked falling through the cracks in the "best of

times" now faced falling into a pit of neglect in the pandemic's "worst of times" scenario.

"Where do the homeless go when they are told to go home?" Phillips said.

Hope Missions started with a loaned shower trailer parked at the Salvation Army's parking lot in March 2020 to offer clean showers after Clean Start, a hygienic and resource center, closed in the pandemic. Among those early volunteers was Honey Denison who fed the waiting homeless from the back of her vehicle. In July 2020, the ministry moved to Street Mission Outreach and was housed there until they moved to their Tower Street location in July 2021 where they have since expanded their services to an increasing homeless population. The ministry's daily guests have nearly doubled from 45 to 85 per day, and the ministry has a data base of about 2000 names of people who have accessed their services.



Giselle Gray

"It feels like Thanksgiving every day," said Denison, founder of Honey's Place that offers coffee and breakfast at the center. Denison is frying up 80 egg, Bologna and cheese sandwiches in the kitchen for today's breakfast.

"It's good, cheap and filling," Denison said. "98 percent of them like it."

Back in the big room, Brad King displays some of his drawings that evokes Jackson Pollack's abstract expressionism that articulates the psyche's torment. He plans to attend rehab soon, and hopes someday to become a preacher. Like the other homeless here, King has found a refuge of hope far from the wrong side of the tracks.

"I'm an artist," said King, 43. "I'm a schizophrenic and meth addict."

"Hope Missions is the best thing for the homeless community - ever," King said. "And I've been on the street for five years."

"When I draw," King said, "I don't chase the buzz."

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SAINT NICK

It was one of those big Catholic churches. The chapel was enormous. The spire was tall enough to interfere with air traffic. Nobody builds them like the Catholics.

I was meeting Father Ralph for an important appointment. He was waiting for me in the front pew.



Sean Dietrich

I entered the sanctuary, took a knee and crossed myself. I was not raised Catholic. I was raised by tee-totalling Baptists, we were about as much fun as a routine colonoscopy.

Still, I wanted to show my respect.

"Hi, Sean," said Father Ralph.

Father Ralph agreed to meet me today because he's a nice guy, and he was willing to answer my questions. My questions today are about Santa. As in Jolly Old Saint Nicholas.

It all started a few days ago, when I wrote a column about Santa. I received a lot of email from children who asked me if Santa was actually real.

One letter from a 10-year-old read, "I don't believe in Santa."

And another: "Santa Claus can't be legit, can he?"

I even received a letter from a Freewill Baptist mother who said I was "an agent of the devil" for promoting belief in Santa Claus. She spelled "Clause" with an E. Baptists.

But the most touching letter came from a girl named Kayla (age 9), who said she really wants to believe in Santa. Kayla has cystic fibrosis. She's been struggling with her digestion and her breathing since her infancy. She is Catholic.

"I really want to believe in Santa," said Kayla. "But I don't know if one man can deliver all those presents and be everywhere in the world in one night."

So I called Father Ralph.

The good Father weighed in: "You should tell Kayla that she's focusing on the wrong things. Saint Nicholas is not about presents, or sleighs, or reindeer. It's much deeper than that."

The padre is right. If you want sleighs and Rudolph, just watch "Ernest Saves Christmas." If you want the non-Hollywood Saint Nick,

let's ask a professional.

"Very little is known about Saint Nicholas," said the Father. "The earliest testaments of his life were written centuries after his death."

But there are stories. Many, many stories. Saint Nick was born in the Greek seaport of Patara, Lycia, to extremely wealthy parents. He was a good-doer from his early days.

In one of his earliest stories, Saint Nicholas rescues three poverty-stricken girls from being forced into prostitution by dropping sacks of gold through their bedroom window each night so their father could pay a dowry for them, and marry them to upstanding men.

Another early story tells of Saint Nick saving three innocent soldiers from wrongful execution. There are hundreds more. He was imprisoned for his faith. He was persecuted. He lives on.

"He's like any saint," said the priest. "Miracles are attributed to him all the time. I believe he performs miracles every day."

There are documented occurrences, of course.

There was the coal miners' miracle in Pennsylvania.

In December of 1907, when coal-mine explosions killed thousands of men in the Youghioheny Valley near Van Meter. Over 3,000 miners died.

It was the worst month in U.S. coal mining history. But some miners were spared.

These were Orthodox Greek men who skipped work to celebrate the feast of Saint Nicholas.

There was the miracle in late 1950s, in the Middle East. A Muslim woman was told she was unable to bear children by a doctor. A friend suggested she give Christianity a shot. So, against her father's wishes, the woman walked into a Christian church. The priest told her to ask Saint Nicholas for help. She did. She was pregnant one week later.

In the 1965, in the Soviet Union, a crowded bus was stuck in the snow. It was dire. People were going to die.

There was an old bearded man on the bus who identified himself as "Nick." He started talking about how much Jesus loved everyone. Nick said if everyone would just believe, their faith would deliver them.

So everyone started praying and weeping and asking God for help. Lo and behold, the bus gained traction and made it to safety. When the bus arrived at its destination, the old man had disappeared. "It was Saint Nicholas," said one eyewitness.

And the miracles keep coming. There is the miracle recounted by a missionary priest in 1993. He had no money. He was starving to death. His wife was dying from malnutrition. He asked Saint Nicholas for help. The next day, someone donated anonymously the equivalent of \$40,000 bucks.

These are just a few of the tales attributed

to Saint Nick. There are thousands more. Stories of people receiving miracles. Stories of healings. Stories of people being saved from death.

"So you see, Kayla," said Father Ralph. "You can believe whatever you want. But the fact is, Saint Nick isn't just some guy with a beard and a bunch of reindeer. He is a message."

I asked what that message is.

"The message isn't some fairy tale," said Father Ralph. "Saint Nicholas is the Advent message. The message is that God loves you, no matter who the heck you are."

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YOUR DENTIST CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

'Tis is the season: Looking back, building forward

Starting today, let's forget what is gone. Appreciate what remains, and look forward to what's coming next.

It's that time of year again when we tend to look back and reflect on our life's journey — the good as well as the challenges. If you are a regular reader of this feature, you know that I am a big believer in the power of the old-fashioned saying, "count your blessings". Not a day passes when I do not pause and give thanks for my family, my friends, and my wonderful patient family. And each of you that are faithful readers.

During this wonderful time of the year, we pause to embrace the love of family and acknowledge and celebrate the many blessings we have. Add to that one of our strongest human inclinations — looking back, remembering wonderful long-ago chapters in our lives. But it is no secret that many among us find this time of year emotionally challenging. The high expectations for a warm and festive holiday can for some be

tinged with sadness, even depression.

It doesn't have to be that way. There are two primary ways experts in the field of emotional health advise to overcome and embrace the joy of the season.



Dr. Gabrielle F. Cannick

1. Be grateful.

Gratitude is how we acknowledge the goodness in our lives. In so doing we begin to realize something very special — that

the source of the best part of our lives lies outside ourselves. Being grateful enables us to connect to something larger than ourselves, whether its other people, the natural world that surrounds us, or a higher power. This in turn improves our health, enables us to better deal with tough times, and build lasting relationships.

2. Look ahead. Our tendency in this season is to look back and reflect. That said, it is important to remind ourselves that at some point we need to focus — not on the past or the so-called "shadows of things that were" — but to building a better future. The saying that is applied to aging gracefully comes into play, "The secret is believing next year will be better than the last."

I would like to add that over the past year we have in this space emphasized features that offer a positive outlook and provide useful information on living a healthier and more fulfilling life. This includes our specialization in treating sleep issues, the very foundation of good health. As a result, more and more people throughout our community are embracing our emphasis on overall good health and well-being and viewing our practice as an important community resource. Our patient family is growing. You are welcome to be part of it. We are here for you and your family. May

the coming year be your best ever! We ARE your hometown resource for guidance and support.

Dr. Gabrielle F. Cannick is the owner of Grand Oaks Dental, located at 3905 Liberty Highway in Anderson. A strong believer that dental fear and anxiety should not prevent any patient from receiving the highest quality dental care, Dr. Cannick has received extensive training in Sedation Dentistry and is a certified member of the Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation. She is also a member of the South Carolina Dental Association, the American Dental Association, the Academy of General Dentistry, and the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine.

For more information about Grand Oaks Dental and the services provided, please call 864-224-0809, or click to grandoaksdental.com or visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GrandOaksDental>.



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A few of my favorite things of 2022



This year has been really remarkable as far as merchandise is concerned. There are so many great brands and neat gadgets. Beautiful



Kristine March

health and wellness services and also some fantastic fashion lines out there. I'm in no possible way comparing myself to the one and only Oprah, but I'm going to take a page from her and tell you my favorite things of 2022, kind of like she does, just for fun. Her list is always something I look forward to every year. She has exquisite taste and it makes me want everything she picks out.

My list is unrealistic and there's no budget, so don't get overwhelmed. It's just for entertainment purposes. Starting with perfume, I'm going with Baccarat Rouge 540. It's a very popular perfume amongst Hollywood stars and it's a universal fragrance that both men and women wear. It also just screams luxury. It's got notes of jasmine and lemon and then cedar. It



was created in the 1960's and has been a must have ever since.

My second best-loved is actually a home good. It's a blanket that's basically considered an heirloom and it's by the company, Pendleton. Their classic Merino wool blanket is the perfect gift for an anniversary, wedding or holiday. It comes in ivory and is absolutely beautiful. They also have their signature Arrow point trail blankets that are my personal favorites. They come in a vast array of colors and are just perfection. I love Pendleton because they donate to our national parks and support our Native American communities. Their craftsmanship is timeless.

Thirdly, I'm going with something for the kitchen. Smeg is a brilliant company that produces appliances. It's not just your typical every day. It's known for their retro aesthetic, but it's all modern day on the inside. They have refrigerators that come in designs that are out of this world. Dolce and Gabbana designs for them. Toasters, coffee makers, ranges and most anything you can think of. I want one of each, please.



Lastly, after all the holiday functions and events are over, it will be time for us to clean our bodies and detox just a bit. There's a great company called Sakura Life that will send you really beautiful, clean nutrition to your front door. Everything they make is organic, plant based and ready to eat. Think of it as a reset for the body. They carry hydration kits, protein powders and really lovely things to get us back and thriving internally and ready for the new year. You can just get on their website and sign up for what best suits you and your body type. It's a beautiful self-care gift for you or loved one.

Well, these are just a few of my favorite things. I hope that this holiday season is one for the books and I wish you nothing but peace and happiness and love. Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters. Happy holidays!

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NOW YOU SEE IT ...

BY ANN BAILES

ANNBAILES@BELLSOUTH.NET

People have been conditioned by National Geographic, nature programs, Google photos, and all sorts of other ways to think that nature photography is a very easy hobby. Just pick up a camera, aim, and there's a beautiful magazine quality photo.

Well, I've got news for you. What the average person doesn't realize is that every decent photo seen of wildlife is usually the best one chosen out of 20-plus shots. At least that many. And most of the time, even with all that attempting, the "best" photo really won't be that good. Only once in awhile do the pics turn out really nice, especially for an amateur like me.

Now, I'm not expert enough to call myself a "bird photographer." At best, I'm a birdwatcher who tries to use her camera. But here you see two photos side by side. The one on the left is what I consider to be the best bird photo I've ever taken. A few years ago we were on Mike's old hunt club property in Newberry County, driving through on the trails just seeing what could be seen, when this beautiful little prairie warbler popped up out of the brush. (Google "prairie warbler sounds" and you'll hear its lovely little melodic upward-trilling call.) I got that little point and shoot camera ready, and for once the automatic focus cooperated. I snapped away. As usual, most of the shots were useless and had to be deleted. But I was very



pleased with the one that you see here.

Now, to the right side. On our recent trip to Arizona, I had my camera ready and was watching the wooded area from off the front of our tiny-house porch, when a Steller's Jay flew across my view and landed on that bare branch. It was in an ideal pose, and the lighting was perfect. I had the makings of one of those occasional photos that make this picture-taking all worthwhile. I had my camera held up and was zeroing in on the jay, when Mike, who had no idea I was in the midst of

one of the best photo shoots of the century, opened the front door of the cabin.

That Steller's Jay was gone at the first hint of the door creaking. And I was left with the branch, which I took a picture of anyway, just as a groaning memory of what this bird pho-

tography business is really like.

So there you have it. Mike felt really bad for interrupting what was supposed to be a beautiful shot. But it was a classic example of what taking bird photos is like. Now you see it, now you don't. Bye-Bye Birdie!!

Gratitude and resilience



**MARY-CATHERINE
McCLAIN
RINER**

The holiday season is here! It is a wonderful opportunity to slow down, reflect, and practice gratitude. This time of the year may also lead to stress, feelings of being overwhelmed, and competing priorities on top of potential family expectations. To better navigate these potentially challenging or difficult times, I invite you to practice gratitude.

A few tips to build resilience and practice gratitude this holiday season:

1. Begin the morning with a positive routine. This will set the attitude and tone of the day. For example, list out 3 positive affirmations to carry you throughout the day.

2. Consider a 30-day gratitude journal. Journaling is an excellent opportunity to monitor growth and commit to daily check-ins. Reflection and journaling inevitably leads to discovering your inner strength.

3. Practice a gratitude letter. A letter that

allows you to think about a specific person. Consider writing a letter to a parent, long-term friend, or mentor. List the ways this person has impacted you or contributed to an important part or season of your life.

4. Visualize gratitude by creating 1-2 sticky notes to leave on your bathroom mirror or car steering wheel. This can be a pick me up already considered when emotionally you may be spent. You could also do gratitude drawings—including pets, people, places, etc. that are important.

5. At the end of the day, practice listening to a gratitude meditation. Insight Timer has many options.

6. Maintain a gratitude jar that includes a collection of photos, ticket stubs, cards, etc.

Remember, gratitude reminds us that there are happy and positive things existing in the world while also recognizing the goodness that lives within ourselves. By practicing gratitude, appreciation grows and connection deepens—all of which increases emotional health and overall wellness.

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



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NIBBLE & SIP

Sugar and spice makes for a warm holiday welcome



In South Carolina, our cool weather could last for two months, or it might be over in 20 minutes, so it is important to have a warming



Kim von Keller

cocktail ready when winter finally arrives. When our friends arrive at our house in sweaters instead of shorts, I like to greet them with a lovely,

mulled beverage. Not only does it set the mood for a cozy night around the fire pit, but it also allows me to put away my cocktail shaker and grab a ladle instead.

One of my favorite hand warmers is Spicy Mulled Rum. With only four ingredients — amber rum, apple cider, lemon juice, and hot honey — it can be made in advance and heated as your guests arrive. The flavor of the hot honey adds an extra layer of warmth to the



drink. My favorite is Asheville Bee Charmer's Firecracker Hot Honey.

The sweetness of the Sip requires a saltier Nibble. Pizza Parlor Popcorn contains everything you like about pepperoni pizza without burning the roof of your mouth. It is a riff on a recipe from the Popcorn Board.

Spicy Mulled Rum

12 oz. amber rum
3 cups apple cider
4 oz. lemon juice
6 oz. hot honey
3 cinnamon sticks, broken
10 whole cloves

In a large pot, combine all ingredients, stirring over low heat until the honey has dissolved and the drink is warm. Do not allow the mixture to come to a boil. Pour into mugs and serve. Serves 12.

Pizza Parlor Popcorn

12 cups air-popped popcorn
olive oil cooking spray
3/4 cup mini pepperoni slices (I like Hormel.)

1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
2 teaspoons garlic powder
1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
1/4 teaspoon dried marjoram leaves

1/4 teaspoon dried basil leaves
salt and pepper, to taste

Pour the popcorn into a large bowl and spray with olive oil spray, tossing until the popcorn is lightly coated. Add the pepperoni, parmesan cheese, garlic powder, oregano, marjoram, and basil, tossing until everything is well mixed. Add salt and pepper to taste, and place in small bowls to serve. Serves 8.

Cooking with Mary Ramseur and Friends

Bebe McMeekin, daughter of Mary Ramseur, has created a fabulous cook book compiled of delectable recipes from her mother and friends that is now available for purchase.

"Four years ago, I decided to do something about the recipes in my mom's red metal recipe box", says Bebe. "I selected about 500 recipes to enter into this cookbook. During that time, all I wanted to do was be finished with the project, and that's what I did. But recent isolation during the COVID pandemic and being trapped inside during bad weather we had last year, my sanity required a new project. I remembered the cookbook I had started so long ago - just the thing to get back to and finish up," she says.

"It's been a different experience this time - a wonderful walk through memory lane,

both thinking about the people who were part of my life for as long as I can remember and who shared those recipes with my mom, and all the occasions that were an excuse to get together. Friends gathered for drinks and

appetizers in the late afternoons and maybe stayed for dinner. Well do I remember sitting at the top of the steps on North Street listening to the laughter and the singing while Marmee played the piano after Daddy Boy mixed the drinks. Coca-Cola parties at 11:00 AM, especially if there were visitors in town. Bridge clubs always included a sandwich lunch. Some of these recipes date back to friends mom made at Randolph Macon Womens College. Others came via St. John's Methodist Church Sunday School Class, Club 24 parties and those of the

Anderson Junior Assembly (now Junior League), Garden Club, Book Club and Study Club. There were children's birthday parties (see Coconut Filling on page 157 which is the

one she always used for my cake. I loved it and still do), graduation parties, bridal showers, baby showers, food to welcome the new mother home. Meals delivered during illnesses. Casseroles delivered to bereaved families and for after the funeral service."

"A standard list of abbreviations and helpful hints were provided for a consistent look to the recipes. But deciding the temperature for a moderate oven, converting sticks of butter to cups or tablespoons, even how many ounces in the no longer existing No. 1 can of corn was a bit more difficult."

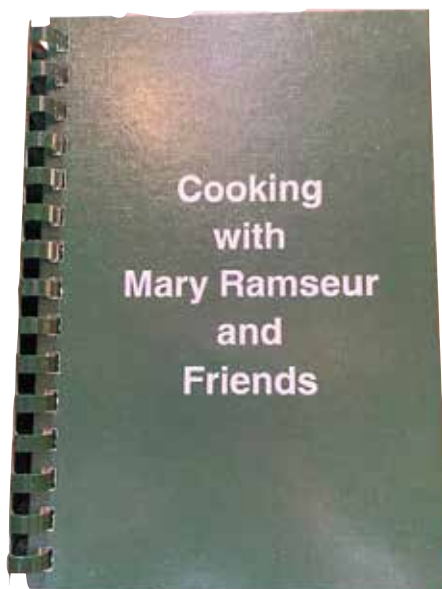
"I have enjoyed it all this time around and am grateful for the opportunity to make this trip."

With love,
Bebe McMeekin

Daughter of Mary Ramseur

Proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will benefit the Mary Ramseur Charitable Foundation, which provides donations to several local charities.

Bitsy Pickens, daughter of Mary Ramseur, is spearheading sales and with each purchase, she will provide a Danny Duzit Stainless Steel Sponge, just for kicks. "Mom used to put these in our stockings at Christmas time and Bebe thought it would be a nice touch to the sale of the books", says Bitsy. Along with a book for her children and grandchildren at Christmas,



Bitsy adds,

"The preparation of good food is an outward expression of love. This cookbook embodies the legacy of your grandmother's and great grandmother's love. Pass it on!"

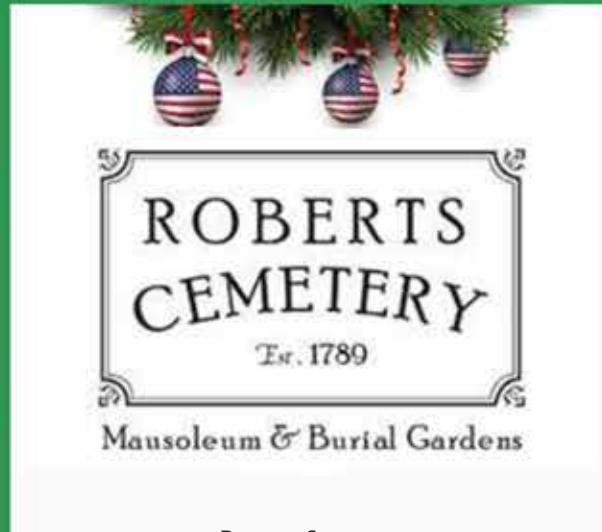
The cookbooks can be found at The Kitchen Emporium & Gifts located at 418 North Main Street in downtown Anderson and at Propp Drugs located at 1529 North Fant Street, Anderson. Or you can call Bitsy Pickens at (864) 226-5977 to purchase a copy.



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THE LEGACY OF LILLIAN LATHAM

BY RICH OTTER

Iva native Lillian Lois Latham, like many women who were needed by the government in World War II, had ended up in Washington in her 20s. When later working in Baltimore she became aware of a problem her uncle John Latham had as an elderly gentleman who could no longer live alone. She found he would have to be in a Class 1 nursing home. Qualified nursing homes at that time were not prevalent, especially in Iva, South Carolina.

Dr. Claude Singleton Breedin who owned and operated St. Mary's Hospital on James Street in Anderson, also had two outlying clinics, one in Iva and one in Calhoun Falls. He and his chief nurse visited the two facilities once a week. He was unhappy with regard to management he had at the Iva facility.

After Latham's uncle John became incapacitated, Lillian Latham's mother and sister, Elizabeth L. Tucker, practically every day went to look after him. Dr. Breedin had decided to sell the Iva property and Lillian's mother and sister urged Latham to acquire it. "Healthcare was the farthest thing from my mind — I never dreamed — I mean, I fainted at the sight of blood."

In spite of all, she purchased the property from Dr. Breedin and her sister served as administrator and her mother was her

assistant. One of their in-laws also worked there and a Black lady, Beatrice Witcher ("one of the best cooks ever"), stayed on and also did some cleaning. An adjoining house was later added and a registered nurse.

In 1962 Dr. Breedin determined to sell his hospital on James Street. He had patient rooms on the first floor of the hospital and in the basement for Black patients. Also in the basement were a dining room, kitchen and laundry room. In the

upper level Breedin had major and minor surgery rooms, a delivery room and a nursery.

The building had been constructed in 1914 and burned about 10 years later but was rebuilt. Remembering about the fire, Arthur Klugh said his father had come home one evening and saw smoke billowing out of the hospital. He ran around beating on



Lillian Latham

doors to alert people of the fire. When Dr. Harris, who lived next door, heard of Klugh's activities, he asked if Klugh had gotten the moonshine out. Supposedly Dr. Breedin maintained a healthy supply, for medical purposes, of course.

Lillian Latham's sister Loneta L. Dunn

was a registered nurse, her brother Dwayne ran the Anderson home, and her sister Reba L. Banich was dietary manager. In the 1960s additional semi-private rooms were added and they went from 33 to 44 beds. A final addition before Latham retired brought the facility to 88 beds. The operating room had already become the dining room and the kitchen was moved upstairs. She and her oldest sister went through training and became licensed practical nurses.

Apparently she had overcome fainting at the sight of blood.

Lillian Latham was appointed the first chapter president of the South Carolina chapter of the American College of Nursing Home Administrators and served on the governing council for the state of South Carolina with the national organization which became the

Licensed Practical Nurses Association, where she served for four years. The state president represented the state in the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses, which required extensive traveling in the state.

She fondly remembered their wonderful residents. One lady, a Mrs. Fletcher was a retired school teacher. She used an old broom like a cane. She kept a garden outside and did not want to bother employees for help. One day she slipped outside, tripped and fell.

A woman from across the street ran over ranting about how their residents were neglected. Mrs. Fletcher shook her broom at the intruder and said "You take care of things on your side of the street and we will take care of things on our side of the street."

Latham was particularly proud of the many activities they used to occupy their patients, attempting to create or enhance hobbies or interests to keep them mentally and physically busy. They also enjoyed many visits from people, churches and organizations concerned about the happiness and wellbeing of the elderly.

American Nursing Home Association.
She became the president of the state

Dr. Breedin had decided to sell the Iva property and Lillian's mother and sister urged Latham to acquire it. "Healthcare was the farthest thing from my mind — I never dreamed — I mean, I fainted at the sight of blood."

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Opening the door to a merry Christmas

For some people, it doesn't feel like Christmas until they've driven around town, looking at all the festive, twinkling lights and window displays. Others start the season with parades or a performance of the Hallelujah Chorus. Personally, I start feeling all Christmas-y when I go to Trader Joe's. There, you can find 15,000 square feet of Christmas candy, Christmas cookies, gingerbread men that hang on the side of your coffee mug, giant cinnamon rolls, eggnog, mulled wine, poinsettias, blooming amaryllis, and fresh evergreen wreaths. During November and December, Trader Joe's has everything you need to get you in the holiday spirit.



Kim von Keller

Or so I thought.

Recently, I made a stop to pick up some things for my mom, especially the milk chocolate advent calendar that she enjoyed so much last year. This year, the store had two for me to choose from: 24 days of salmon and sweet potato treats for dogs, and 24 days of salmon and seaweed treats for cats. There were no treat calendars for people; the store had sold its inventory of 700 in the days before I had arrived. My mom always says she likes everything we give her, but seafood chews, I feel, are just a bridge too far.

Pet snacks aren't the only things you'll find in the modern advent calendar. Depending on where you shop, you can find wine, beer, perfume, jam, honey, soap, seeds, rocks, candles, coffee pods, tea bags, beard oil, scripture cards, and lip balm behind those little doors. When we were kids, my sister and I were happy if we just got those chocolates that looked like tiny Santas or snowmen; we were clearly born too soon.

After the disappointing quest for my mom's advent calendar, I've been thinking that next year, I'll make my own. If she can't have milk chocolate, my mom would love 24 days of pimento cheese, although I'm not sure how to engineer refrigeration. For my husband, it's 24 mini bottles of bourbon. Our daughter will countdown to Christmas with llama socks, while her fiancé will get two dozen varieties of beef jerky. The only one I struggle with is for my sister. Somehow, murder podcasts seem incompatible with Peace on Earth, Goodwill toward Men.

If someone were to make me my own advent calendar – hint, hint -- it would feature all fried potato products. I can't imagine how wonderful it would be to wake up every day to find a tiny serving of chips, fries, tater tots, and latkes, the latter of which I could share with my friends celebrating Hannukah. My advent calendar would also feature a daily package of napkins, and possibly Mylanta.

Because of the Internet in general -- and Etsy, in particular -- there are advent calendars to delight everyone, regardless of age, gender, or personal interest. But if there were only one, the kind we'd all most like to receive would be three and a half weeks of the best of the season, things like joy, calm, love, charity, and generosity. Those would truly open doors to a very Merry Christmas.

THE GARDEN SHOP

GEEZ MAN, IT'S LIKE TOTALLY TANGERINE



SUSAN
TEMPLE
master
gardener

Husband decided it was time for a road trip and left where up to me. I chose Hendersonville NC. We both like to antique. He likes jockey lots. I like thrift stores. He is extremely slowly coming around to at least walking in a thrift store. I go to Pickens jockey lot in April with him. We rarely meet in the middle on Anderson jockey lot. Visiting a nursery is never on Husband's list. But in interest of keeping peace in the family, our first stop was Raymond's Garden Center. I wanted to get that out of the way first because it was the most important stop to me and I know as the day goes on he gets in a hurry to get back home.

With winter setting in, there were not a lot of options at Raymond's. It's a small nursery but is worthy of another visit in spring...next time with Mama though. Everyone was very friendly, helpful, and if you've seen their Shady Ladies on social media, they are just as expected. Raymond's had fantastic selections of greenery cuttings for decorations and lots of red twig and yellow twig dogwood stems. Those even caught Husband's eye. Practically everything was on sale! And for an old waitress like me who still deals in cash more than cards, another 5% discount was given for cash (double exclamation mark).

From a bit of a distance on a perennial table, shades of red, golden rust, and a bit of yellow on interesting foliage really stood out. Geum 'Totally Tangerine'. Never heard of it. The sign said butterfly magnet and deer resistance. Enough to talk me into a couple. I looked on the internet to see what the flowers looked like then put a couple more in my cart. One of the ladies told me afternoon shade is best for our area and to be sure the soil is well drained in winter because they will rot. It seems that tends to be a problem with some areas of my front garden in general. According to NC State's Extension website, geum can struggle with heat and humidity of our summers. But with other descriptions stating outstanding, bright display exploding with zillions of flowers, blooms spring to fall,



Geum and Stachys fall color

great cut flowers, and foliage semi-evergreen, how could I not risk it pouting come summer. Sterile flowers kept coming up too but I couldn't find anything stating other varieties may reseed prolifically. A design mistake I make in my garden is planting one or two of something here, there, yonder. But that is done in case a plant is not happy in that location. For instance, should I plant all these Totally Tangerines in one spot, and then they don't like it, I've lost them all. Therefore, again, they will be planted in several different areas. Who cares about those design rules.

As weather cools, if your garden has Florida betony, you know how difficult it is to get rid of it. It's almost best to embrace those winter flowers and learn to love them. When people would call in Making It Grow when

Roland Alston hosted and ask what to do about Florida betony in their yard, he said "Move". Fortunately that is one weed I do not have. In the vein of crazy things gardeners do, another find at Raymond's is Stachys hybrid 'Summer Crush'. The first word on the nametag is Betony. Again, deer resistant, attractive to butterflies and pollinators, pale pink/white bicolor flowers, and golden fall foliage sold me. The tag said impressive display of pink plumes, crinkled fragrant foliage. I didn't smell anything much on the foliage and what little bit I did smell smelled sort of like a stink bug. Maybe after being invaded by those darn things this fall, I have the smell permanently in my nose. As with Summer Crush's weed cousin, it spreads by rhizomes. Maybe if it spreads into other plants, it will help keep deer out of them.



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Friday, December 9 th	5pm – 9pm	Saturday, December 24 th	Closed
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FROM THE SHELF

On reading challenges and goals

Every year I set a goal for how many books I'm going to read for the year. In the past five years I've also started doing various book challenges, where I try to match up my reading to the various challenge prompts. Reading challenges are my favorite because they force me to read outside of my comfort zone, explore different genres, and even better, discover new authors.

Reading challenges accomplish this through prompts like, "read a book with a constellation on the cover," or "genre fiction by an Indigenous author." They're seriously great. In past years I've done four different challenges, adding the extra challenge of only allowing a title to count toward two lists, and never a duplicate entry on a single list. I usually do the Book Riot's Read Harder, POPSUGAR's, M. Judson Bookstore's, and the library's

challenge, all culminating in approximately 96 different prompts (with occasional duplicates).

This year? I am failing on all fronts. I even low-balled my 'total books read' goal to 150, and as I write this I've just finished my 134th for the year. I can feel all your collective eyerolls as you read that, since 134



Sara Leady

is a massive amount, BUT it's not meeting the total goal (and I usually average over 200). I also have about 26 prompts currently unchecked, maybe five of which I'll manage (maybe). So, failing on all fronts. And you know what? It's okay.

It's anxiety-inducing because I'm

not going to check all the boxes and reach the goal(s), but sometimes you have reading slumps and that's okay. I say "slump," but I'm not sure that's the right word for my year of reading. I've been slogging through books at a steady pace, but it's been a struggle to concentrate and get the story without zoning out. There's been a lot of rewinding and replaying my audiobooks. My brain just doesn't have its head in the reading game.

Some "slumping" could be that I've also been gravitating toward books that offer mass escapism or comfort. This year's weird dance of reviews on horror and romance novels has, in fact, largely been about escapism (don't worry, my therapist is aware). I know a lot of people had this exact struggle during the early parts of Covid, and here I am after/during (what phase are we in now?) just starting to struggle.

While I've been soaking myself in escapism and comfort reads, I have tried to make sure I was still hitting as many prompts as I could by somehow managing to make escapist titles (loosely) match up with various prompts. Along the way I've found some great diverse romance, graphic, thriller, and horror novels. I've also discovered new authors like Emily Henry (whom I fawned over in my last review) and done things like make my way through more of Stephen Graham-Jones and Tiffany D. Jackson's back catalogs (a different goal). So while I've been "failing," the argument for success is also there. All this to say, it's okay if you too have "failed." Honestly, just continuing to read, and even better, actually finishing books is a success (for all of us).

So, I've reevaluated my goal for these last few weeks of the year by

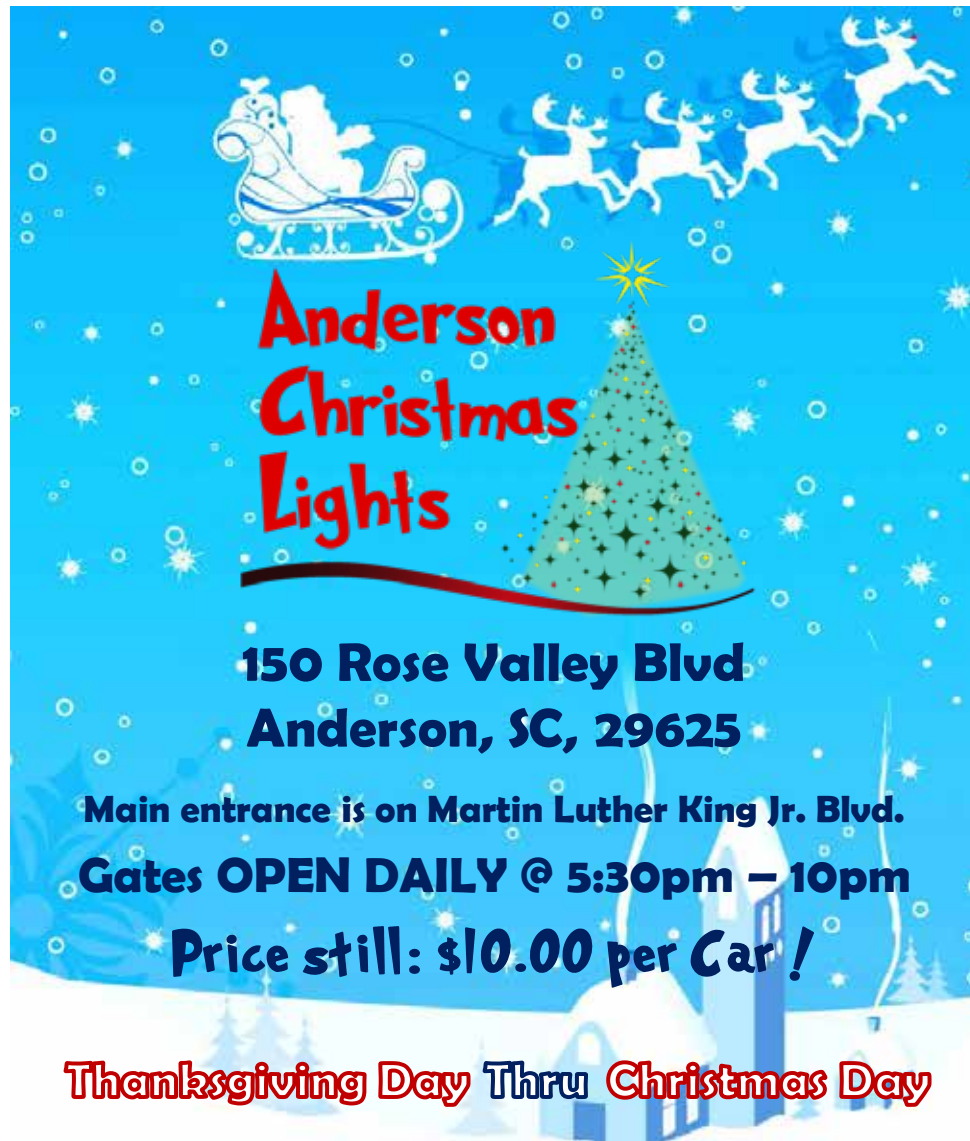
attempting to complete the library's challenge (as the writer of it I really should manage it) and Book Riot's challenge. Book Riot's entirely because it earns me a discount to Out of Print, a favorite bookish store of mine. Assuming I manage them, I'll be onto M. Judson's because I'm easily motivated by material prizes, and with completing it I get an entry for a bookish prize drawing. POPSUGAR is last, but in the spirit of the holidays and being truthful, it would be the hardest to finish and I'm about some low hanging fruit this late in the game. Clearly, I just need bookish things to comfort me in my shame of "failing" to complete all reading challenges and goals for the year. So I'll sign off to bury myself in some escapist fiction, or maybe some garbage TV, likely a cocktail, and I'll try again in 2023.



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The lady in the box

There was a time in the 20th century when I owned only appliances, machines, and gadgets. The stove and refrigerator were the appliances, and the lawnmower and washer



Neal Parnell

were the machines. The gadgets were a radio, a 13-inch television, and a wall mounted telephone.

I bought my first PC (personal computer) in 1989. It came in a box that was the size of the stove and weighed just as much. The PC was all white and I'm still

not sure if it was an appliance, a machine, or a gadget. Wireless? Not even close, this thing had more wires than the electrical aisle at Home Depot. I plugged it in, flipped a switch, and the white metal box started moaning, groaning, and whining. After five minutes the speakers finally beeped, while the monitor projected a letter and two symbols on the top left of the nine inch screen that blinked and looked like this...C:\ I had just spent \$900 to see a letter, a colon, and a forward slash with no idea what to do next. Turns out that the bulk of the weight that was in the box was the 5,000-page instruction manual with type so small I had to buy a microscope to read it. By weeks end I knew the difference between a track-ball mouse and a floppy-drive, and was tangled forever in the World-Wide-Web.

Flash to the present 21st century and just about everything I own is now called a Device. Smart phones, tablets, laptops, desktops, TVs, lights, surveillance cameras and more.

At present I have 30 devices that can be

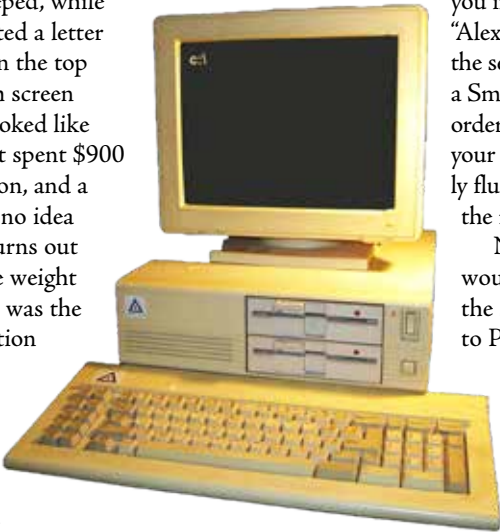
controlled by a lady that is trapped inside of a small box. No, it's not my wife, it's Alexa. It took some time for Alexa to become accustomed to my Southern voice. "Lexa, whar kin I git nenneer cheez?" She says, "I'm sorry, I don't know that one." So I spoke slowly and clearly, "A-l-e-x-a, where-can-I- get- pimen-to-cheese?" She then says, "Pimento cheese, also known as 'Carolina Caviar' can be found on sale at Ingles", would you like me to order it from Grub Hub?" When I enter my house and say, "I'm home", I have Alexa programmed to answer just like Marty McFly's house in Back to the Future 2... "Lord of the manor, King of the castle".

When my wife glares at me and says, "I need to talk to you", I say, "Just a second babe", and have Alexa dim the lights and play the theme music from JAWS.

Smart devices can do anything nowadays. Well, you say, they can't help you in the bathroom. Oh really? "Alexa, open the lid and warm the seat". That's right, if you have a Smart Toilet it can receive orders to gently cleanse and dry your backside, then automatically flush, sanitize, and deodorize the room when you exit.

Now, a smart shower would be nice. Alexa, start the shower and set the water to Pulsating at 102 degrees. I'm afraid you're going to have to wash yourself for now, but possibly in the near future there will be scrub, rinse, and drying cycles just like Perx Carwash. I've

wanted a Jet- Pack since the '60s, when they promised cars wouldn't exist in the future. I'm still holding on to the actual flying hover-board idea, and I can't wait to hydrate my first pizza. Until then, I'm trying to get Alexa to understand that fried fatback is not a skin condition, but a Southern delicacy.



Electric City Playhouse

2023 Season of Shows

Clue

February 24-March 5, 2023
Based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn
Written by Sandy Rustin



August 18-27, 2023
Book and Lyrics by Howard Ashman
Music by Alan Menken



December 8-17, 2023
By Barbara Robinson



June 2-11, 2023
Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope & Jamie Wooten



October 13-22, 2023
By William Goldman
Based on the novel by Stephen King

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- Purchase merchandise and participate in fundraisers
- Spread the word
- Volunteer

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Rams unbeaten to start basketball season

BY BRU NIMMONS

ANDERSON — With basketball season getting into full swing, the Westside Rams boys' basketball team is hoping to build off a second-round playoff appearance last year and seems well on its way with a 4-0 start to the season.

The Rams began their campaign on Nov. 21 against the Landrum Cardinals in the Apple Cup tournament at West-Oak High School. The Rams were able to take down the highly rated Class 2A squad with a 57-43 win to advance to the championship game. Three Rams players hit double digits in the win with Zeke Marshall and his 19 points leading the way for the Rams. Lamaurion Scott also had a big day picking up a double-double with 17 points and 15 rebounds.

In the championship game of

the tournament, the Rams took on

the host, West-Oak. Despite playing on the Warriors' home court, the Rams were once again able to take home a dominant win, 61-39. Jsaiah Geer put on his best performance of the young

season in the win, hitting seven of eight shots and scoring 16 points. Marshall

also had another strong performance

with 13 points, six rebounds and four assists.

Coming off their championship win, the Rams traveled to Pendleton High School on Nov. 29 to face their county foe. Westside continued

to roll in the contest as they blasted the Bulldogs in a 57-35 win. The duo

of Geer and Scott powered the Rams in the win scoring 14 points each, and Scott also managed another double-double with 15 rebounds.

In their final contest of their recent stretch, Westside hosted their first game of the year against perennial Class 3A power Seneca. In arguably their most impressive win of the season so far, the Rams drubbed the Bobcats 68-45 behind a career day from Marshall. Marshall scored 33 points on the night, as he hit seven of 10 three-pointers. The sophomore wing also added six rebounds in the win.

The Rams will hope to keep their winning ways going in a number of matchups before the Christmas break with results from games against Pendleton, Powdersville and Daniel all unavailable as of press time.



T.L. HANNA YELLOW JACKETS

Hanna lady hoopsters off to 3-2 start

BY BRU NIMMONS

ANDERSON — Coming off a couple tough rebuilding seasons over the last two years, the T.L. Hanna girls' basketball team is trying to get back on the right track this season, and they have already gotten off to a good 3-2 start.

Opening the season on Nov. 21 at the Bob Dillon Lady Viking Invitational in Spartanburg, the Yellow Jackets took on High Point Academy. The Yellow Jackets were able to start the season strong with a win as they took down High Point, 56-36. Taylor Wessel led the Jackets on the day scoring 14 points while also hitting four three-pointers to help Hanna advance to the finals against Spartanburg.

Taking on Spartanburg in the championship game, the Yellow Jackets were able down the Vikings on their home floor in a close 61-54 win. Once

again, Wessel led the way for Hanna scoring 17 points in the win alongside four assists. Makayla Blango, Grace Ikenegbu and Kiley Phillips also hit double digits in the win.

Playing at home for the first time this season, the Yellow Jackets hosted Hart County (Ga.) on Nov. 29. Hanna

was able to push its win streak to three as they took down the Bulldogs 49-41. Continuing her streak of impressive

performances, Wessel paced the Jackets again with a team high 12 points, while Asia Clinkscales put together

a solid performance

with nine points, six rebounds, three assists and three steals.

The Jackets went back on the road the very next day, taking on the Dorman Cavaliers

and giving them a strong battle over the first three quarters. However, a 23-7 fourth in favor of Dorman gave

Hanna its first loss of the season in a 57-42 loss. Wessel and Ikenegbu combined for 30 points in the win with the rest of the team shooting a combined 4-36.

In their final game of their recent stretch, Hanna took on the unbeaten Wren Hurricanes. Facing off with two of the best players in the state, in Wren's Riley Stack and Raina McGowens, the Yellow Jackets fell behind early and were unable to keep up in a 68-33 loss. Clinkscales and Wessel both led the Jackets with eight points in the win, as they were never able to figure out things offensively.

The Yellow Jackets were trying to get back on track against Powdersville on Tuesday, with results unavailable as of press time, before having rematches with Dorman and Wren the following week.

