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April 27-May 10, 2023

'FOR THE LOVE OF THE SPORT'

Electric City Gymnastics men's team qualifies for national competition



Maxston Welborn, 16 years old, 10th grade; Jackson Decker, 15 years old, 9th grade; Landen Moody, 13 years old, 8th grade; Logan Corley, 12 years old, 7th grade; Zack Kyle, 16 years old, 10th grade; and Jefferson Bird, 15 years old, 10th grade.

BY JANA MACKIN
Maxston Welborn sells boiled peanuts to fund his dream to compete with his team at a national gymnastics event that features the best of young gymnasts from throughout the nation. The Electric City Gymnastics Lightning have qualified to compete

at the 2023 USA Gymnastics Men's and Women's Development Program National Championships in Oklahoma

next month. This is the first time ECG has sent a full men's team to the nationals in this highly competitive,

demanding and expensive sport that
SEE TEAM ON PAGE 2

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Team

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

garners little recognition and prestige among the general population, and “bleeds” money.

Unlike some of the elite gymnastic clubs flush with money and resources, ECG’s team of six teenage boys have competed through a season of grueling local, state, and regional qualifying meets to earn their opportunity to contend at this championship. They have trained and competed after school on their own time for love of the sport. The Lightning may not have the star power of some of those platinum clubs, but their no-quit, raw-grit attitude fueled by boiled peanuts, family donations and GoFundMe have landed them bragging rights to stick it at the nationals.

“We are here and set up at the Short Stop on Highway 187,” said Rick Welborn, Maxston’s father. The family business is Blvd. Peanuts and Concessions.

“We have regular boiled, Cajun boiled, Cajun roasted and original salted roasted,” said Rick, and all proceeds go to Maxston’s national championship trip.”

The 2023 USA Gymnastics Men’s and Women’s Development Program National Championships will be held at the Oklahoma City Convention Center from May 9 - 14. Team Lightning will be among some 1,700 athletes competing in what is the culmination of the USA Gymnastics’ Artistic Development Programs previously known as the Junior Olympic National Championships where men’s all-around and apparatus national champions will be determined across Junior National Level 10, and Junior Elite levels 8, 9 and 10. Athletes range from 12 to 19.

“From elite-track athletes to the next generation of college stars, the annual Development Program National Championships feature some of the best up-and-coming gymnasts in the country,” said Stefanie Korepin, USAG’s Chief Programs Officer.

An estimated 5.2 million young people participate in organized gymnastics at more than 4,000 gyms across the country. However, men’s gymnastics is declining in

schools and other programs due to factors such as cost of equipment, required dedicated space, cost of liability insurance and lack of qualified instructors. Hence the growth of a large number of private clubs in the United States.

For example, the NCAA Men’s Gymnastics Championships are a gymnastics competition held each year to determine the best men’s college gymnastics team. Yet, there are only 13 schools nationwide that sponsor NCAA men’s gymnastics teams. From 1971 to 2001 there was a decrease in high schools offering gymnastics from 1,881 schools to 176 schools. Presently, Texas, Illinois, Massachusetts and New York are the only states that have high schools offering gymnastics programs.

“We are so proud of these boys, the level of commitment. These kids go to school then gym on their free time, and most of them still achieve straight As,” said Krisha Prady, ECG men’s coach. “They do it for the love of the sport.”

Team Lightning includes Maxston Welborn, 16; Zack Kyle, 16; Jefferson Bird, 15; Jackson Decker, 15; Landen Moody, 13; Logan Corley, 13. Each boy competes at level 8, 9 or 10 on the six men’s events of floor exercise, pommel horse, still rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar.

It is both an individual and team sport that for these local boys is a David and Goliath story.

“Gymnastics increases your focus and participation,” said

Corley, 13. “I’m best on the high bar because it takes the funnest skills to do. It takes a lot of upper body strength and movement. You have to stay tight.”

While the competition at nationals will be incredibly tough, Team Lightning is looking forward to showcasing local talent on a national stage.

“I thrive on the competition,” said Maxston. “I like going to these competitions to see what all the other competitors are doing. It pushes me to work harder.”

“It’s nerve wracking because sometimes it gets into my head,” said Maxston. “It’s a lot of mind games.”

“You have to trust yourself, believe in yourself and clear your head,” Maxston said.

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Tiny Tot Triathlon

presented by: 

Saturday, May 20, 2023
at the
Anderson Area YMCA

Bring your ‘tiny tot’ for a morning of kid-friendly triathlon activities. Participants will run 600 feet, bike 1200 feet, and get “wet” in a water feature as they make their way to the finish line where everyone receives a medal. Bring a bicycle, tricycle or scooter (with helmet), and wear tennis shoes and comfortable athletic clothing that can get wet at the end. A family member is encouraged to assist their child as they make their way through the course.

Ages: 3-7

Event Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm
(Waves start every five minutes and will be assigned first come, first serve at packet pick-up)

Pre-registration cost: \$20.00 (\$25.00 Day-of)
Cost includes t-shirt and medal
T-shirt guaranteed if registered by May 12th

Packet Pick-Up: Friday, May 19th, 3pm – 6pm (front drive-thru of YMCA)
Saturday, May 20th, 8am – 9am (tent near Water Works)

To Register: Scan the QR Code above to register on-line, or visit our front desk to register in person.

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The adaptive division takes place on the same course, but may be modified for our participants who face physical and intellectual challenges. There is NO AGE LIMIT for the adaptive division.




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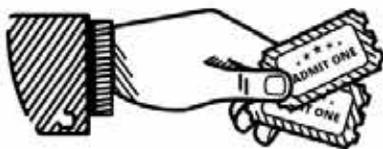
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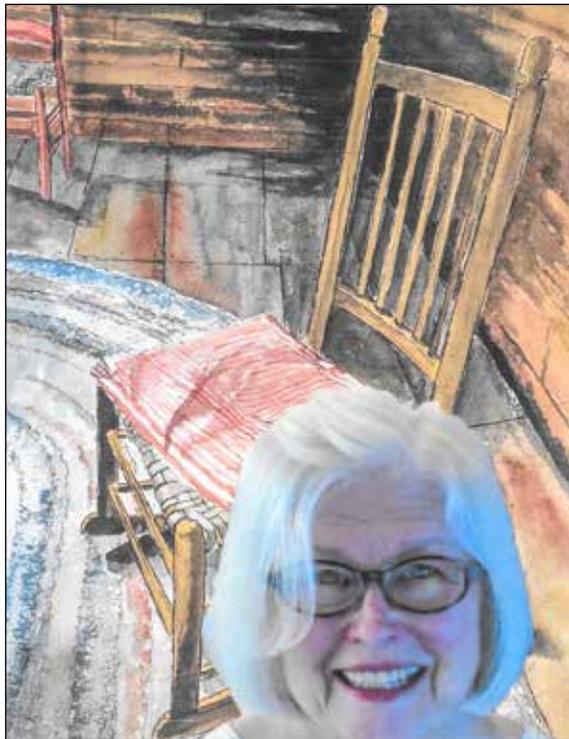
Diann Simms, an artist partner

“As an artist I’ve never really been certain about or controlled by the thought of having ‘talent’ but more by a passion or desire to create. I believe if you are fortunate enough to be a ‘visual’ person and are encouraged to look at shapes and their relationships, you get hooked on producing your own version of what you see. A bit of bravery helps as well once you decide to let others see your concept

“Most of the time I work from photographs and by using a digital camera I get an immediate and efficient capture. Watercolor is my preferred medium and architecture is a particular interest. Using my photographs as reference, I usually begin by sketching lightly in pencil. The next step is to define the subject with pen and ink and then apply the layers of color or washes. Hardly anything goes unnoticed by the camera’s eye and, as a bonus, when you get back to the studio and look at your photos on a computer it’s exciting to see that you have captured even more than you thought!”

Simms is a working graphic and watercolor

artist. She has created graphic designs for Anderson Arts Center, The Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail, Greenwood Eye Clinic, Pendleton Historic Foundation, TBA, the City of Anderson, and others. Her watercolor and ink drawings have been shown at The Anderson Arts Center in Anderson, Belton Center for the Arts and in various venues in Greenville. She has been juried into shows not only in Anderson and Belton but also ArtFields in Lake City and the State Fair in Columbia. Her work is in private collections in both homes and businesses from South Carolina to Mexico. Besides being an active partner in Bay3 Artisan Gallery she is a past president of the Anderson Artist Guild; past Secretary of the South Carolina Watermedia Society; past President, Vice President and Secretary of the Anderson Arts Center and was named the Anderson Arts



Diann Simms

Center Volunteer of the Year in 2013.

Current partners in Bay 3 Artisan Gallery are Rebecca Lawson Carruth, Cheryl Gibisch, Diana Gilham, Joy Moss, Marcee Musgrove, “Wesa” Neely, Kathy Ogden, Diann Simms, Patricia Walker and Leslie Wentzell. Look for the next Bay 3 Artisan Gallery partner featured in coming months.

WHAT’S NEXT ON THE LIST?

One way to increase reading time for kids is to get them to read a book series. Books in a series keep kids reading more



Katie Laughridge

books without taking too much time wondering what to read next. What they’ll read next is the next book in the series! Kids enjoy series because there’s a familiarity with characters and sometimes plot structure. From an education

standpoint, this is hugely beneficial to growing readers. I plan to write a series of articles in the following weeks in order to introduce you to a variety of book series appropriate for each age group. I hope you’ll follow along! This week I am going to begin with book series for 1st Grade.

Let’s Go for A Drive by Mo Willems
Fly Guy by Tedd Arnold

Owl Diaries Eva’s Treetop Festival by Rebecca Elliot

Meet Yasmin! By Saadia Faruqui
Rise of the Earth Dragon by Tracey West

The Magic Tree House by Mary Pope Osborne

Frog Meets Dog by Janee Trasler
LEGO City All Aboard by Sonia Sander

Fox + Chick by Sergio Ruzzier
Days with Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel

Hi, Jack by Mac Barnett and Greg Pizzoli

Narwhal Unicorn of the Sea by Ben Clanton

Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park
Mercy Watson to the Rescue by Kate DiCamillo

I hope these series will help get you started on a reading adventure with your 6 year old! Stay tuned for book series for 2nd graders. –Katie

“Everyone is a reader. Some just haven’t found their favorite book yet.”

SPRING CLEANING

In song and in poetry, spring is probably the most often referenced season of the year. When used literally, “spring” expresses the delight we feel as the mercury slowly creeps up the thermometer and the dogwoods burst into beautiful white and pink blossoms. When used figuratively, the idea of spring suggests hope after a period of difficulty or sadness. Clearly, I am neither composer nor poet as spring brings only one thing to my mind:

Dirt.

My husband and I have been doing spring cleaning this week in advance of a household full of company. They’ll be staying for a long weekend to attend an engagement party for our daughter, so we’ll be feeding, watering, and entertaining, in addition to housing. And while I don’t expect

a review to turn up on Yelp, I do expect that there will be a lot of reviewing done when our family members travel back to their homes in Georgia and Virginia. As I’m sure



Kim von Keller

everyone will agree, there can be no critics harsher than the ones with whom you share DNA, so I am heavily armed with dust rags, Clorox wipes, every conceivable Swiffer product, and Febreze, just in case I miss anything.

Which is highly likely. I don’t know what enters my house during the dark days of winter, but it leaves in its wake enough

dust to stuff a pillow. It doesn’t help that we’re empty nesters. When Elizabeth left the house for good, we kept her room exactly as she left it, sort of like Churchill did when he locked the door on the Cabinet War Rooms at the end of WWII. But unlike the British government did in 1984, we can’t open her childhood bedroom to visitors and charge \$33.86 a head to view the tchotchkes of her youth.

That’s a shame, really, because there are so many. I spent an entire day dusting a collection of books that started with “Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse” and ended with “Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.” There was a small mosaic bull from a semester outside of Madrid. A Teddy bear that she was given while still in utero. A hanging star lamp from Asheville. A hand-

blown glass horse from Murano. A Carnevale mask from Venice.

It’s enough to make a girl cry into her Swiffer sheet.

Dragging the vacuum cleaner behind me, it was the same with every other room in the house. When you’ve lived in a place as long as we have, it’s easy to overlook the small things that make it a home. Turn your attention to every nook and cranny, though, and it becomes a three-dimensional scrapbook, full of the memories and mementoes that make up a lifetime... all of which need to be dusted from time to time.

This weekend kicks off our daughter’s wedding season, and it’s just the first of a series of weekends when we’ll host a houseful of company. Spring cleaning will become summer, then fall, and finally winter cleaning. Emotionally, I think I’m ready to rediscover every square inch. And with enough Swiffer products – and Kleenex – my house will be ready too.

The Anderson County Detention Center

BY RICH OTTER

Anderson County has undergone a long and changing history with regard to prisons and prisoners. Its most recent history many Andersonians may still remember, the chain gangs that lived in tent camps near where they were working on roads and bridges, who were later relocated to stockades. After the stockades disappeared prisoners were moved into the Detention Center, up David Lee Coffee Pl Road from the Anderson County's Civic Center.

The Detention Center has now become vastly over-populated, exceeding its originally created capacity by 100%. In addition, it is difficult with the present facilities to isolate serious crime offenders or those with drug addiction or mental problems from the general population, or prisoners who have not as yet been tried and may not be guilty.

It is important to provide facilities to afford greater attention to rehabili-

tation and methods to help minimize repeat offenders. Juveniles have become an increasing concern, particularly because they cannot be housed in Anderson or anywhere now in the upstate. That is hard on families, the youngsters and the court system.

It has become necessary to take action, not just for humanitarian reasons, but also to avoid the day when governmental agencies would take over the problem at a much greater expense than will be handled rationally with advanced planning – Anderson County's own planning.

Tasked with this endeavor is a committee appointed by the Anderson County Council: Pam Cristopher, Dan Cooper, George Ducworth and County Council Member Brett Sanders. They are assisted by Capt. David Baker, Manager of the Detention Center who is to putting it all together, and Glenn Davis, Chief Field Officer for the county and treasurer of the Anderson County

Detention Facilities Corporation.

The Detention Center is certainly not everybody's favorite subject, but it must be addressed.

A meeting of the Detention Planning Committee was held April 11, 2023, to review alternate potential facility layouts developed by Moseley Architects for a new jail complex at the present Detention Center location including the adjacent property where the old National Guard Armory stood. Originally it had been anticipated a single story facility would be utilized, the kitchen area being able to facilitate anticipated growth. It was subsequently determined far greater economy would be derived with a multi-story building.

Three possible scenarios were presented. One would provide for 432-beds, a second for 512-beds and a third for 608. It was projected that 608-beds could likely serve the county for 15 to 20 years, the most economical possibility in the long term for the county.

The 608-bed plan would be two



A rendering of the proposed new Anderson County Detention Center

stories with a mezzanine above each level. It would have twelve 48-bed double-celled housing units and four 8-bed special housing units. Under the plan a 48-bed pod would be devoted to Federal prisoners, use for which the county would be compensated. There would be provided a separate section for women leaving the present women's facility to house juveniles.

Other upstate counties also need access to a more convenient juvenile facility and compensation would be received for their usage. The present cost of manpower in transporting and housing Anderson juveniles in Columbia will be saved by their remaining in Anderson as well as providing convenience for attorneys, the

judicial system and relieving stress to the youngsters and their families.

Planning has been done for the facility to meet the reasonable needs for the future, looking toward rehabilitation and treatment of the inmates while accommodating the protection of prisoners, guards and the community. Separation by classification of offenses will be a safeguard as also will be isolating those having mental or drug problems.

The committee voted to approve the 608-bed proposal as the most feasible option for the community, both now and for the future.

Final plans are anticipated to be finished to permit construction possibly beginning by the first of next year.

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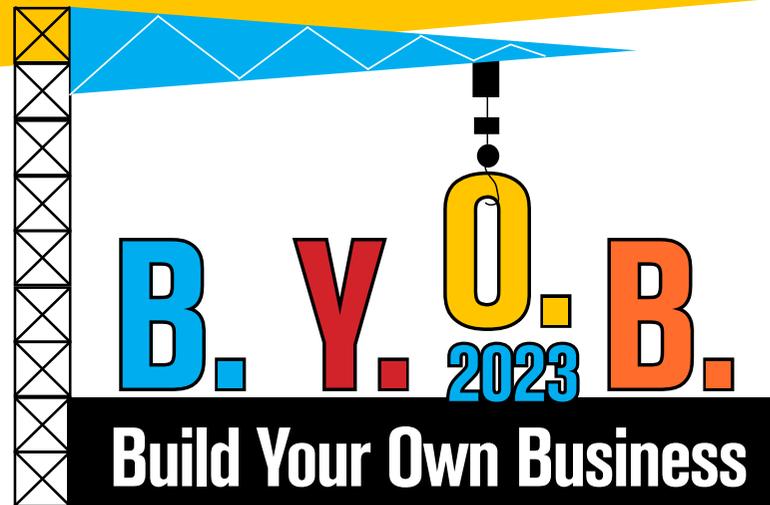
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FESTIVAL FASHION

It's the time of the season for music festivals and they're quickly approaching and what's trending right now is so fun. I've narrowed down my top picks on what to wear. Going to a concert is your time to be as creative as possible. Fearless and extravagant are two words that come to mind when it comes to festival style.



Kristine March

Starting out with some accessories. I love glitter. Whether it be eyeshadow or on your body. Glitter makes everything enjoyable. A make-up company out of Los Angeles called Lemon Head LA makes these incredible little pots of eyeshadow glitter. Their Spacecase Pro eye glitter pallet is easy to pop in your purse and add more as the night progresses. They come in a rainbow of beautiful colors. It will certainly make you stand out in the crowd.



Speaking of sparkles, why not go for a sparkly mini dress? I love a company called ASOS and they make great little sequin fringe dresses you can boogie the night away in. A pair of fringe boots to go with it will be so darling. I love Akira boots.

The chunky western fringe style in fuchsia is too cute for words.

Add a fabulous wide brim fedora. Etsy has really cool ones and I

love the Luna Halo Shop. The Starbeam Moon hat that they make is so groovy and has a modest price point.

If the festival is during the day, then you need the perfect pair of shades. I love the fashion designer, Lele Sadoughi. Her Smokey Emerald Sunflower sunglasses are totally foxy and are a showstopper. Funky, fresh is an understatement.



Last but not least, you need to take lots of pictures. So, what better way to do so, than to use a Polaroid camera. Yes, I know that we all have our smart phones, but how fun would it be to have something tangible, that you can keep forever? The Fujifilm Instax mini-Polaroid camera is amazing. It's portable and small enough to take anywhere. Target sells them with the film for right around 80 dollars. They



even come in mint green and pink.

Merriment awaits and I'm so excited for it! What concerts or music festivals are you attending this year? Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters. Happy Festi season y'all.



Finding Linley

BY AUBREY NEWBY

Linley-designed houses are all unique and after a little study, one can usually spot them based on some common characteristics. In one case, however, in Anderson, he produced the same exact house for two different clients. History does not tell us if the clients knew the houses were the same. They are found in different neighborhoods and in completely different settings, but the houses when built were almost identical.

In late 1945, John Linley, Jr. began designing a small home for Jennie Holcombe. Holcombe kept the books for John Linley, Sr.'s Home Realty Company. She had recently purchased a lot in the North Anderson area. The early plan for Holcombe, found in the Linley papers but not signed by Linley, was never executed – at least not on Forest Ave. The second and more detailed drawing, dated December 1945 and signed by Linley, reflects the house seen today at 207 Forest Avenue, not far from what is today Linley Park.

Arranged in a design which became a trademark in many Linley houses, the front entry and porch are on the side of the house. The house is of brick and board and batten construction, another common feature in a Linley design. There are corner windows, a telephone shelf in the small hall space in the center of the house, and a classically designed mantle in the living room. An unusual feature of the house is the slanted wall in the dining room. The use of the slanted wall and the corner window together was a deliberate design to bring in a view of the landscape, as opposed to just a view of the porch entry to the house.

Jennie Holcombe lived in the house for the remainder of her life, and it became the center of much of her extended family life as well. While changes that inevitably occur in any home have taken place including a small addition, the house maintains much of



its original design and decorative elements including doors, tilework, countertops, and flooring. Today, a great niece who spent much time in the house growing up is honored to call the house home and preserve the Holcombe and Linley legacy in this house and neighborhood.

A few years later, in 1947, Linley marked the same set of plans as "revised," erased the name of Holcombe, and used the same design for Charles and Mary Blakley at 742 Marshall Avenue. Charles Blakley was a manager for the Borden Ice Cream Company. If the plan was revised, it is not overly apparent. At this time, no one is certain if the Blakley's knew the house design of the Jeannie Holcombe and liked it, or if Linley recognized that the plan was a well-designed one and would work well for the lot the Blakley's had selected for their new home.

While the plan for the house is the same, the setting offers a completely different look in the more open landscape of Marshall Avenue. There is speculation that Linley, who later became known for his landscape design, may have played a role in the landscape of the Blakley's lot. The lot is a large one and includes a small landscaped creek, foot bridges, and views that are enjoyed from both inside and outside the house. Today, the A.B. Roberts family call this charming house, home.

Mrs. Roberts first saw the house as a child growing up nearby, and was captivated by the louvered exterior door, painted a teal color. Later, when Mrs. Blakley wanted to downsize, she hired Mr. Roberts to build her a new home, and a deal was struck for Mrs. Roberts



to have the house she had loved since her childhood. Over the years, the Blakley and Roberts families both made extensive additions to the home, but the design and flow are still very much a testament to the work of John Linley.

At this time this is the only documented time that Linley used the same plan. In the next issue we will explore the most architecturally rich period in Linley's career. The 1950s brought the Linley and Watkins Architectural firm and commissions for both residential and commercial design work throughout Anderson.

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FROM THE SHELF

'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder'

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder has been a runaway hit series over the past few years and has been optioned for a series by the BBC. While it is shelved in YA, I wouldn't let that keep you from reading it, especially if you



Sara Leady

enjoy a good detective procedural. The entire series follows Pippa "Pip" Fitz-Amobi, a 17 year old girl who loves a good true crime podcast, so much so that she decides to take on her own cold case to solve (and later turn into a podcast).

First in the series, A Good Girl's Guide to Murder chronicles Pip's "senior capstone project," which focuses on the role of media and how it tells a story, in particular the disappearance of Andie Bell, a local teen that's assumed dead. When Andie, a beautiful senior in high school disappears, there's an absolute media circus around it, and when

her boyfriend commits suicide it's presumed he killed her. The media feeds the fodder of that story despite there being very little proof. Pip's real project behind the media examination is getting to the bottom of what happened that night. She is convinced the older boy who was kind to her as a child couldn't possibly have murdered Andie, which means a murderer has been among them in the town for five years and a family has been unfairly ostracized.

Pip starts with interviewing Sal's younger brother, Ravi, which leads to the pair of them working to exonerate Sal of Andie's murder. Naturally a lot of secrets come to light, showing how wrong the media had depicted everyone involved in the story, which leads to the ultimate truth of what really happened to Andie Bell that night. The investigation takes lots of twists and turns, someone keeps threatening Pip to quit digging, and of course, there's a grade on the line and Pip is the epitome of the perfect student. Maybe not obviously, since it is a series, Pip and Ravi are able to clear

Savi's name and out the real killer. It's a thrilling whodunit procedural ride of a read, and I highly recommend it (or at least book one).

As for the rest of the series, they were good, but not as good as the first. Good Girl, Bad Blood picks up soon after the end of the first book, or more importantly after the release of the popular A Good Girl's Guide to Murder true crime podcast (see what she did there?). The podcast chronicles all the revelations from book one and puts Pip and the town on the map. At a memorial night for Andie and Sal, one of Pip's best friend's older brother goes missing. The police aren't taking it seriously since he's "higher risk," but Connor and his mom are convinced something bad happened and ask Pip to take on the case. Thus, season two of the podcast is born. Book two ends with some serious events, leaving Pip traumatized leading into book three.

As Good As Dead has events from the first two continuing to unfold, or rather have ripple

effects, leading into the latest case for Pip to solve. Book three kicks things a bit into a different gear. Pip is struggling immensely with anxiety and PTSD from the resolution of

her second case. Because of this, Pip can't trust her brain, because no one is stalking her, right? And it's not mirroring the cases of the events of earlier serial killings... surely not. I enjoyed book three a bit more than two but I'm chalking that entirely up to my love of serial killer thrillers. Pip's mental struggles can somewhat drag the story down though, not that they aren't clearly valid but the point of them is sort of beaten to death (no pun intended).

Like I said, I loved the first book, and I'm glad I read the other two, but A Good Girl's Guide to Murder is the one that kills it, as a read for me. If you enjoy true crime podcasts, Only Murders in the Building, and even just your straight forward procedural detective stories, you'll likely enjoy these. And if you read them, you'll be ahead of the game for the BBC series.



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THE GARDEN SHOP

GETTING BACK TO NORMAL



**SUSAN
TEMPLE**
master
gardener

Classic country music is what I listen to most. After my sweet boy went to doggie Heaven, I've gone from singing Gene Watson's "got no reason now for going home" to K.T. Oslin's "slowly I'm healin', broken hearts take a little time". After 20 and a half years of having one or two dogs, the house has been cleaned like an obsessed clean freak. Every piece of furniture has been moved, except my grandparent's china cabinet, washed behind and under, pictures, light fixtures taken down, washed, etc. And the china cabinet got cleaned as best possible under and behind...even laid down on my stomach to clean and wash under it. I've never washed a light bulb in my life until two weeks ago. The ceilings in the house needed painting and that's done now. Whew!

For over a week, I didn't go outside. Partly because my heart wasn't in it, and after all the

cleaning, I was pooped. My solution to a dirty house usually is avoid and go outside. But my upper lip has stiffened, spring is here, and enough of that sorrow and moping around. Once I wandered through the garden, unfortunately it was clear vetch has been taking advantage of my absence.

Every now and then, I came across a type that grows much smaller and closer to the ground. When trying to determine the difference, I had no idea there are so many types. And who knew there is a native vetch (*Vicia americana*). Our native variety looks totally different from any I've seen. Most of what is growing in my garden seems to be cow vetch. Best I can determine the smaller variety growing close to the ground is hairy vetch or common vetch. It is much lacier looking and has smaller leaves. I don't want either. Vetch is in the legume family, has been grown as a cover crop nitrogen source, and to feed cows, hence the common name. It can be an annual or short-lived perennial but will spread mainly by seed. Sources repeatedly stated it has a very deep tap root. While pulling, I've never had it pull up from the root. Now I know why. With extra effort, the vines can be traced back to the ground and pulled from

there. That's a lot of effort though because it is so intermingled in other plants. When pulling, if I can trace it back to the ground, fine. Otherwise, I pull what is vining through other plants to decrease it from going to seed. My guess is it came in with some bulbs I rescued from an old home place, even though I washed them really well before planting. And it's in the pasture too so seeds have traveled. Other than providing nitrogen to the soil, vetch is beneficial to many pollinators. But still, after seeing a native plant patch at Devils Fork State Park last year, my memory sees my garden being engulfed like that one if I don't stay diligent. Snapshot pre-emergent I use some years doesn't have vetch listed either. Therefore, it's old-fashioned manual pulling to keep it in check. The pasture has been bush hogged too so hopefully that will decrease any more from going to seed. While reading, several sites said deer like vetch. Maybe by stroke of good luck, they'll help me control it.

Finding my way back to the sunny side of life, the garden is springing forth early this year it seems. Peonies are blooming already. Various bearded and Japanese iris are blooming. Most plants seem to have come through the arctic blast just fine. Several salvia (*Salvia microphylla*)



Vetch in bloom

types, like hot lips, need a hard cut back. It seems they're not going to put out as in years past. I'm always hesitant to cut them back hard because I did once, and memory says the plant did not put back out. Maybe it was cut back too soon. There is also a very special new camellia, High Fragrance (*Camellia lutchuensis*), a hybrid, that supposedly smells wonderfully like a rose. It's going in a special spot in memory of my faithful four-legged companion.

George Washington saved the tree

During our recent visit to the beautiful Hampton Plantation south of Georgetown (see the previous issue), I spent some time sitting on the large portico facing the front yard. The house is situated between a small rice field and a wooded path to the family cemetery. Wambaw Creek is in back, and in front of the portico would



Ann K. Bailes

have been an expansive view of the front lawn - except that a huge live oak tree stands in the way of the scene. And barring an act of nature, that enormous oak will block the panorama for many more years. It has its own illustrious history and story.

The year was 1791, springtime,

and George Washington was traveling on an extended trip through the southern states in an attempt to unify all parts of the infant nation. After spending the night in Georgetown, he stopped the next morning at Hampton Plantation for breakfast. The portico on which I was relaxing was constructed all those years ago especially for this important visit.

The home at the time was owned by the Horry and Pinckney families, ancestors of long-time Hampton owner and state poet laureate Archibald Rutledge. All those names should ring a bell for South Carolinians who know the history of our state. The Declaration of Independence was signed by John Rutledge, and the Constitution by two of the Pinckney men. And Myrtle Beach is in the county that was named for the Horry family.

When Washington arrived at



Hampton that long-ago morning, he was greeted by Harriott Pinckney Horry and her mother, Eliza Lucas Pinckney (famous in her own right for her work in indigo production). The

two women were naturally very excited to have the first president of the United States visit their home. They told Washington that because the view of the front lawn was obstructed

by the large oak tree, they were going to have it cut down. They asked him what he thought. Washington disagreed, told them he liked the tree, and thought they should keep it!

Thus, the ladies reconsidered their decision and allowed the tree to remain. It has steadily grown in that front yard for the past 232 years, and has been fondly called the "Washington Oak" in honor of the great man whose opinion kept it from being removed.

Fast forward back to 2023. After leaving the portico and walking around the grounds with Mike, I later sat for a few minutes longer on the bench directly beneath the Washington Oak. Just sitting there helped me sense a little part of the great history of the place. The Washington Oak still stands, as does the rest of Hampton Plantation, as a treasure of our beautiful state.

NIBBLE & SIP

Dusting? Scrubbing? Sorting? There's a drink for that

Some people collect coins. Others collect salt and pepper shakers. Over time, as your friends learn of your passions, they contribute to your collections with things you haven't been able to find or have never even heard of. It's the same when you have a passion for cocktails. Over the years, my friends have given me unique liqueurs or amusing napkins that have given me quite the extensive

bar. They also give me cocktail



Kim von Keller

cocktails designed for the times you

books on topics ranging from home-made bitters to tiki culture. I recently received what is probably the most clever book of

need them most. It's called "Drinks for Mundane Tasks: 70 Cocktail Recipes for Everyday Chores, from Doing the Dishes to Refilling the Stapler to Calling Mom."

Written by David Vienna, the book is divided into chapters with titles like "Kitchen Sinking," "Bed, Bath, and Boring," and "Cyber Spaced Out." Whether you're untangling your earbuds cable, assembling furniture from Ikea, or

doing the dishes, Vienna has a drink for that. And while I don't think that hot metal and a hot toddy are good companions, his recipe for "The Hard Pressed" is certainly something I'd mix up after an hour of ironing.

If you're looking for a great gift for a cocktail enthusiast, I couldn't recommend it more highly. And if you're updating your computer's operating system, I'd also recommend

mixing up The Commodore 64.

The Commodore 64

3 oz. rye whiskey
½ oz. lemon juice
½ oz. honey

Combine whiskey, lemon juice, and honey in a cocktail shaker. Stir until the honey is dissolved. Fill the shaker with ice, shake vigorously, and strain into a chilled cocktail glass. Makes one.

T.L. HANNA YELLOW JACKETS**Yellow Jackets closing in on region baseball championship**

BY BRU NIMMONS

ANDERSON — Heading into the final week of the regular season, the T.L. Hanna Yellow Jackets have been on a tear to end the season.

Hanna's four game winning streak began on April 15 against Dorman. A close game throughout, the Yellow Jackets were able to pull out a 6-5 win behind two late runs from Tyler Ethington and Zach Dillard.

Blane Wentzky had a rough start on the mound, but Bradley Shoenholz proved solid in relief picking up the win after pitching a run-less fourth inning. Owen Alexander and Will Craddock both had solid days in the batter's box driving in three of the Jackets six runs.

The next week, the Jackets opened up their region series against Woodmont on the road. Behind a dominant day from Jackson Robinson, the Yellow Jackets brought home a 4-1 victory.

Robinson was electric for Hanna giving up just one run in the complete game effort, while striking out seven batters. A home run from Craddock and an RBI-double from Brett Boone provided run support for the Jackets.

Two days later, the Yellow Jackets hosted Woodmont trying to secure the series win. In a much more offensive

game, Hanna came out on top 10-6.

Alexander and Boone were the standouts in the batters box with Alexander going 3-4 and driving three runs, while Boone blasted two doubles. Starter Easton Thomas did just enough on the mound to get the win for Hanna.

In the series' ultimate game, the Jackets went back on the road and relied on their arms for another 4-1 win.

Seth Manning got the start and went four innings, allowing just one run on one hit, while striking out seven. Austin Carter and Reece Oakley were also strong in relief helping to close out the Wildcats. Craddock proved to be the Jacket's best batter behind a third-inning home run.

After the sweep, the Yellow Jackets hosted Hillcrest on April 24 in game one of their final region series. Behind a walk-off hit from Alexander, the Yellow Jackets were able to shock the Rams in a 4-3 win.

Alexander, Boone and Craddock led the way on the batter's box all driving in runs in the seventh to give Hanna the win, while Reece Oakley picked up the win in relief.

The Yellow Jackets will finish the week trying to hold off Hillcrest for the region championship.

WESTSIDE RAMS**Westside softball tops Pickens in extra innings to take Region I-4A title**

BY BRU NIMMONS

ANDERSON — After a great finish to region play, the Westside Rams will enter the playoffs as region champions.

The Rams opened their recent set of games on the road against Walhalla. A late Razorback run doomed Westside as they fell 15-5 in six innings.

Elissa Rich looked good in the circle giving up just one hit and zero runs over two innings, but Mackenzie Jefferson struggled in relief in the loss. Jordan Kirkus was the main contributor in the batter's box for Westside driving in three runs on a sixth-inning home run.

Looking to bounce back, the Rams hosted Easley two days later in a big-time Region I-4A contest. Westside put together a dominant effort in all facets to pull out the 10-0 five-inning win.

Nobody had a better day for the Rams than Rich in the win. The senior pitched the complete game shutout giving up just one hit, while going 2-3 with

a home run and a triple in the batters box.

Taking on Greenwood two days later, the Rams needed a win to stay ahead in the region race. Behind another great outing from Rich, the Rams took a 6-0 shutout win.

Rich struck out five and gave up only four hits in the complete game, while Hailey Grooms proved to be solid at the bat driving in two runs with a triple.

Coming off the wins, the Rams took on Pickens in a battle for the region championship. Behind two huge ninth-inning hits from Amelia Wilson and Cadence Cribb the Rams won the title in extra innings.

While Cribb's walk-off was the biggest hit of the night, the Rams were put into position to win behind the big bats of Rich and Wilson, who both hit two-run home runs. Rich also had a stellar day on the mound pitch the complete game and striking out 11.

With the win, the Rams will now have home field advantage in the Upper State District One playoffs beginning on May 2.

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To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be post marked no later than April 27th, 2023. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) that the person protesting if willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and, (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protest must be mailed to: South Carolina Department of Revenue Notice of Application, ABL Section, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214-0907; or faxed to (803) 896-0110.

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WHITEHALL SERVICE – ‘HERB’S’

There are thousands of stories from people who entered Herb's, and possibly more from people who thought they shouldn't have.

Allow me to tell you about my first experience with Anderson's favorite watering hole. I was seventeen in 1972, and knowing everything about life and the world within a ten-mile radius of my home, I chose to hang and cruise with other like-minded geniuses.



Neal Parnell

On Friday nights we'd pile into cars and trucks and pack Main Street from the Square to Belvedere shopping center where we'd circle McDonald's and do it again. Teens would park their cars and congregate in different parts of the city. Some gathered below McDonald's, others would amass near J.M. Fields. The crowd I was with selected the K-P Mart on Concord Road across from "Herb's". There was no minimum age for buying cigarettes at the time, and the legal drinking age was eighteen. As you may know, teenagers will find a way to acquire what is forbidden and share the bounty freely with all.

Herb's was a mysterious Area 51 for a seventeen-year-old, and we knew that there were beings in there that the government was hiding. There were those from our group that had turned eighteen and made the crossing. They never returned to the underage side of the street again. We lost many more in 1973, and on my birthday, July 5, it was my turn to enter Whitehall Service.



I had planned to enter Herb's by pushing open both doors like John Wayne entering a saloon. The right door was locked and I fell into Herb's for my inaugural entrance. The view of Herb's from this level is one that has not been described in any other publication and you're getting an exclusive eyewitness account.

Filthy, that was my first impression of the floor, the second impression is actually of my face on the floor. (If anyone cares to know what the floor of Herb's tastes like, just shoot me an email, the words cannot be printed here.) As I slowly stood, a cold wet rag was wiping black goo from my face, and when it was removed, there stood Herb himself, who said, "Come on all the way in", and handed me a beer. I never had to show identification, and was thinking I could have fallen into here a year ago.

seats; the kind where the seat flipped up when your bottom wasn't in it.

RACK! Someone yelled, and Mickey Wilson the co-owner would scramble to the pool table, rack the balls, and grab a dime from the tabletop. On the back wall were the House pool cues, and a couple of stools. Two pinball machines sat adjacent to a closet of a bathroom, but, don't go in there unless you really must. On the other side of Herb's was a small bar with stools and an area with a Rene' Pierre Foosball table, and an Elton John "Captain Fantastic" flipper machine. Doesn't sound like much of an attraction does it?

The enticement of Whitehall Service wasn't what was inside, but who was inside. Later I may tell of the best pool players in the South, and the games I witnessed them play. Mickey and Herb always provided ice-cold beer in a flash, and people from all walks of life came together to discuss, ramble, or joke about anything and everything.

It was definitely the CHEERS of Anderson, where you're always glad you came, and where Everybody Knows Your Name.



Somebody yelled, "Don't worry about it, I went out the same way you came in, just yesterday". As I sipped my first legal beer I looked around Herb's for the first time above the floor. Two regulation pool tables took center stage, flanked by a row of old wooden theater

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FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH

MCCOY WRIGHT STAGE AT CAROLINA WREN PARK

4:15PM - OPENING CEREMONY

5:00PM - THOSE GUYS BAND

6:30PM - THE TAMS

PAPA BEAR CAR WASH STAGE AT SOUTH MAIN

5:00PM - JACKSON TRULUCK

6:30PM - DOUG JONES & ZACH TAYLOR

8:00PM - COREY SMITH

SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH

MCCOY WRIGHT STAGE AT CAROLINA WREN PARK

10:00AM - SOUTHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS

10:30AM - ROBERT ANDERSON CHORUS

11:00 AM - NEVITT FOREST STEP TEAM

11:30AM - CALHOUN ACADEMY OF THE ARTS 5TH GRADE CHORUS

12:30PM - MCCANTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

1:00PM - ROBERT ANDERSON STRINGS

1:30PM - CENTERVILLE ELEMENTARY MUSIC

2:00PM - BRAZILIAN JIUJITSU

2:30PM - ELECTRIC CITY DANCE ARTS

3:00PM - STARR ELEMENTARY CHOIR

3:30PM - ANDERSON SCHOOL OF DANCE

4:00PM - I AM STRONG DANCE STUDIO

4:30PM - STEPPIN' OUT DANCE STUDIO

5:45PM - ARTIST AWARDS

6:00PM - JACKSON TRULUCK

7:00PM - TAILGATE HOMEBOYS

8:15PM - ERIC SCOTT BAND

ANDERSON UNIVERSITY'S SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS STAGE

12:00PM - ANDERSON UNIVERSITY JAZZ COMBO

1:00PM - AU COUNTRY ENSEMBLE

2:00PM - AU TIM BLACKWELL COMMERCIAL ENSEMBLE I

3:00PM - AU DR. DAVID PERRY WEST AFRICAN ENSEMBLE

4:00PM - AU TIM BLACKWELL COMMERCIAL ENSEMBLE II

5:00PM - AU GREG ALEWINE COMMERCIAL ENSEMBLE I

6:00PM - AU FACULTY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

7:00PM - AUTHENTICITY

PAPA BEAR CAR WASH STAGE AT SOUTH MAIN

10:00AM - LC BRANCH

11:00AM - SECOND TIME AROUND BAND

12:00PM - ANDREW CRAWFORD & BRANDI

1:00PM - ACCORDING TO TASTE

2:00PM - THE SIDE PORCH SWINGS

3:00PM - CHRIS VITA

4:00PM - TALBERT BLACK

