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Aug 27-Sept. 9, 2026

SPREAD KINDNESS

Understanding what bullying really looks like



Kim von Keller

Bullying has become such a serious issue among school-aged children that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has created a website, StopBullying.gov, to address it. According to the Department, children who are bullied often develop depression or anxiety disorders or a sense of shame; suffer from decreased academic achievement or drop out of school entirely; and struggle with making and keeping friendships.

From teachers to guidance counselors,



bus drivers to resource officers, and friends to parents, everyone in the community can play a role in reducing bullying behavior. But before that can happen, it's important to know exactly what bullying is.

Defining Bullying

Dr. Mary-Catherine Riner offers counsel-

ing and therapy services at Riner Counseling in Greenville; she's also a regular contributor to The Electric City News. She wants the community to know what bullying is as well as what it's not.

"Bullying is more than a child simply being unkind or having a conflict with

another child. It generally involves repeated or potentially repeated aggressive behavior, along with a real or perceived imbalance of power. That power can come from physical size or popularity, social status, access to information, or the ability to influence other peers. Bullying can be physical, verbal, relational, or digital.

"Examples can include hitting or threatening someone, repeatedly teasing or humiliating another child, spreading rumors, intentionally excluding someone from a group, encouraging other children not to associate with them, embarrassing them publicly, or using social media and group chats to harass, ridicule, or isolate them. Relational bullying can be particularly difficult for adults to recognize because there may not be an obvious incident; it can look like a child suddenly being left out, losing friendships, or becoming the target of ongoing social manipulation."

Recognizing the Signs

Unfortunately, a child who is being bullied

SEE BULLYING ON PAGE 2



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Bullying

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

may not report their experiences. It's important, therefore, for parents who suspect that their children are being bullied to look for changes, big and small.

"Parents can watch for changes in mood, sleep, appetite, school avoidance, physical complaints, withdrawal from friends or activities, or reluctance to use their phone or attend school," says Dr. Riner. "These changes don't automatically mean a child is being bullied, yet they are worth addressing/exploring. I would encourage parents to listen carefully and avoid immediately minimizing the situation or telling the child to simply 'ignore it.' Children need to know that adults will believe them, take their concerns seriously, and help them develop a plan."

Reporting Bullying Behavior

STOMP Our Bullying™ is the leading national bullying and cyberbullying prevention organization for kids and teens in the U.S. Its website, stompoutbullying.org, offers suggestions for responding during a bullying incident, such as walking away or simply saying "Stop it," or "That's not okay." The organization also guides children and their parents through the reporting process.

First, a child who is being bullied should write down the details of bullying incidents, including dates and those who were involved. Next, if there is cyberbullying, a child should save screenshots of digital communications such as social media posts, direct messages, or texts. Finally, a child should report the bullying to a trusted adult, like a teacher or school counselor; if no action is taken, they should continue reporting up the chain of command.

Changing the Bullying Behavior

Dr. Karen Lake is a retired clinical psychologist who says that parents can work to change their children's bullying behaviors.

"Parents should create a safe environment in which bullying behaviors can be discussed. If your child is using bullying behaviors, help them identify why they are bullying, what needs are being met by bullying, and appropriate ways to meet those needs; for example, if your child is trying to get attention from peers, help them identify positive ways to do that. Create a consequence that can build empathy, such as volunteering. Help them to put themselves in the position of the bullied child and identify how they would want to be treated. Finally, role-model acceptance of others and praise your children when they



"She's an angel, let her fly."
-Dolly Parton

are showing kindness to others."

Practicing Inclusiveness

The answer to the problem of bullying is not just stopping the bullying behavior. To feel safe in a school environment, children need to feel that they are not alone.

"Inclusiveness is something every child and adult can participate in together," says Dr. Riner. "It is about creating cultures where kindness, belonging, and differences are valued before a child ever becomes the target of exclusion."

Bill Thompson III recalls a simple act of inclusion that changed the trajectory of his life, from high school and beyond.

"When I started at T. L. Hanna after being homeschooled for three years, I was nervous. Walking into a crowded cafeteria where everyone seemed to already have their people was intimidating. Then Stephanie (Hawkins) Bowen noticed me and invited me to sit at her table. Stephanie and I had known each other for a long time, but her

kindness was still incredibly impactful to me.

"She probably had no idea how much that small invitation meant. She may not even know to this day. That table became more than just a place to eat lunch. That friend group became my friend group for many years. It all started because one person chose to make room for someone new.

"You never know what someone is carrying. You never know who is praying for a friend, wondering where they belong, or hoping someone will notice them. As a new school year begins, I want to challenge students to one simple act of kindness: Invite someone to eat lunch with you, especially if they're sitting alone. Look around the lunchroom. If you see someone sitting alone, invite them to join you. If someone looks new, introduce yourself. Scoot over and make room. A simple invitation can change someone's entire school year and maybe even their life.

"Be the person who makes someone else feel like they belong."

RED ROCKET PUBLISHING OF ANDERSON, LLC PUBLISHERS

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

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

ADVERTISING SALES

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

LAYOUT/DESIGN

ART DIRECTORS

Zack Mauldin
 Bru Nimmons

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Nate Thomason
signal43@live.com

WRITERS

Neal Parnell
dnparn@gmail.com

Rich Otter
richotter29621@yahoo.com

GARDEN & FLORAL

Susan Temple
gardningirl@yahoo.com

MENTAL HEALTH

Mary-Catherine McClain Riner
drmarycatherine@riner counseling.com

FASHION

Kristine March

SPORTS

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COLUMNISTS

Kim Acker Von Keller
 Katie Laughridge
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SUMMERWEEN

It's August 27, over a week until Labor Day, and I just spoke to a young mom who went into Walmart for school supplies and came out with Pumpkin Plates, and a man who went in for charcoal and now has to explain to his wife that there's a 30-foot blow-up skeleton in the garage.



Neal Parnell

Summerween is here, and some love it, while others still haven't taken down their Christmas reindeer from last year. The "It's too early" crowd vs. the "Never too soon" crowd is a huge topic on Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok.

Hobby Lobby is like, Halloween? Yes! Christmas? Yes! It's as if they've never heard of Labor Day. They have an endcap where you can choose between a tombstone or a manger scene. I asked an associate if this was the Halloween aisle or the Christmas aisle, and they said, "YES."

Let's talk about the most season-jumping store of all: Home Depot. I was just there wearing shorts and a T-shirt, and saw aisles now labeled Plumbing, Electrical, Lumber, and The Afterlife. I saw an Anderson Dad pick up a drill, put it back down, and grab an animatronic Grim Reaper that moans, and overheard him say to himself, "This is more useful." Have you noticed that they sell everything Halloween except Candy? I'm not counting the expired

Snickers and Payday by the checkout register. It is scary and a little weird to see skeletons sharing space with sunscreen and witches riding weed-eaters, but the funniest thing I saw was a prank that some genius had pulled. There was a life-sized Dracula with the cape, the pale white face, and bloody teeth, but the prankster had used a rubber band

to add a can of OFF to his hand, and I'm sure it was the same unknown person who adorned a Goblin with welding glasses and a straw hat. It was quite appropriate that they had oscillating fans blowing on the ghost, but the mummy looked miserable and should have been near the refrigerators. I'm certain that I won't go back to Home Depot until November; I just walked past a motion-sensitive werewolf that opened its mouth, threw out its arms, and howled, causing me to have a sudden structural failure in my shorts.

Don't think that the grocery stores aren't getting in on the season-skipping act. Ingles has lowered the A/C to 59°, hoping that I'll think it's Fall and buy that half-green pumpkin and a bag of mini Reese's. I don't know who is buying the packaged wood logs they've just stacked outside the store, but it must be a guy with a fireplace, a chainsaw, and absolutely no patience. If they think that I'm falling for that special sale on Swiss Miss instant cocoa with mini-marshmallows before Labor Day, they should know that I'm looking for something frozen, not instructions on how to boil water.

Did you happen to see the Facebook post by our weatherman that pictured a map with falling leaves and claimed the end of August would be 15° cooler? I've got News 4 you... That will be 90°.

Here are the words you've been waiting for...

"BACK IN MY DAY" Kids didn't go back to school until after Labor Day, and the weather actually got cooler in September. Football didn't start until after the World Series, and the Super Bowl was held at the beginning of January.

They can try to speed up the seasons all they want, but it's still hot as the hinges on Hell's gate, so I'll just wait here on the porch with my Pumpkin Spice Popsicle.



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BANDANAS, TAPESTRY AND FRINGE

If you want to look like the cool girl this fall, I've got some really ultrachic prints and patterns for you.

For starters, the bandana is everywhere this year, and not just to be tied around your neck, which will of course always be in style, but the print itself is going to be huge. Think purses, sweaters, dresses and pants. Anthropology and a super affordable brand, like Wrangler make darling little handbags in this print if you want to start off slowly incorporating it. Also tying it around your head with a big pair of oversized sunglasses looks super cool.

You may be thinking, I don't know about that, but it looks rustic and pastoral if you wear it the right way.

Speaking of rustic, tapestry prints will also be making a comeback. Jackets and boots with this print look absolutely impeccable, like



Kristine March



you just walked out of the seventies, but with a more modern twist. I'm loving the Jeffrey Campbell lace-up boot in a tapestry print. It is so English countryside, rockstar. It comes with a block heel, so they're easy to walk in.

If you only purchase one fall trend this season, get a fringe bag. Shoulder bags, hobo bags, and satchel bags will make your outfit instantly look bohemian and glamorous at the same time. I'm obsessed with the fern fringe shoulder bag by Free People. It comes in the color toasted almond and plum, and it's not overly priced. It has a velvety soft suede and it's made very well.

The Western fringe look is here to stay. Python, tiger print, and zebra print will be huge, fawn print which is like a deer print is replacing leopard. Bold colors like fuchsia, eggplant and turquoise will also be big and look so good a caramel color.

Lace is also very trendy and it adds texture to an outfit. If you want to purchase a long lace maxi skirt, you can add it under oversized sweaters and blazers. It will be your best friend this season. Leather pencil skirts are back, but in a sleek modern way. Add them with a turtleneck sweater, a button-down shirt or even a crisp white cropped T-shirt.

Slouchy boots are always a good idea. You

can wear them with a structured mini skirt, a flowy dress or even tuck them into a baggy pair of jeans. I love a python print in these because it can go with everything. Even a really beautiful, delicate dress looks gorgeous with them. It adds a little bit of edge and drama.

Lastly, is my favorite trend and that is sunglasses. Big round geometric shapes are going to be the "it girl" look, and I'm loving it. If that isn't your vibe, try an aviator frame or a skinny 90's oval shape. Whatever suits your face shape best and your budget. I always say don't splurge on sunglasses because you lose them, you scratch them, and it's just not worth it. You can find a dupe for literal pennies that looks identical.

All of these ideas will get you fall ready, but if these aren't your thing denim never fails and anything classic will always be in style. What's really trending is kindness, an open mind, and feeling good about yourself. What are you going to be wearing this fall? Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and kindness always matters. Happy almost fall y'all.






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Van Gogh and kindness

This incident happened many years ago, but I remember it very well. The eighth grade girls who were a part of the junior high chorus hung out together in the twenty-minute break each day until class started. I was one of them. Two of the girls, twins, the un-



Ann K. Bailes

known leaders of the group, were planning a party at their home. They discussed it in depth every day – the food, the activities, the invitees. I was not invited. Day after day I listened to them talk excitedly about their plans. And after the party, I heard all the details about how much fun it was.

That was painful. And while it certainly doesn't qualify as a bullying episode, it taught me something valuable. Be inclusive. Don't leave people out. Show the respect of not talking about your plans around those who are not included.

Even as an adult, after all these years, the lessons of that incident have stuck with me—especially, for example, when I observe someone say to one person “Let's go out to lunch!” while another person overhears and is not included. Or when people are talking about any kind of event that is only for a limited few—though others are close by, can hear the discussion, and are not a part.

Russ Ramsey, in his book *Van Gogh has a Broken Heart*, talked about seeing a “DisappEARing” Van Gogh mug in a gift shop. The instructions said to fill the mug with a hot beverage, and watch Van Gogh's ear disappear: “Easy Van come, Easy Van Gogh.” Ramsey was grieved by this tacky attempt at humor and said “What if what happened to Vincent's ear isn't really all that funny? [Van Gogh] teaches us the sacred work of stewarding another's pain. And it says to us, ‘Be gentle. This is a hard world.’ He's not just talking about Van Gogh. He's talking about all people, and how we approach others who are lonely, troubled,



hurting, or in pain.

He continues by saying: “What can we give? . . . We can refuse to allow [people's] pain to be the only thing, or even the main thing, we know them by. We can honor the truth that it is only the visibility of their suffering. . . . We can guard their reputations. We can remember through the example of their tears that we were created to hope in a joy unseen and seek to remind them of this even as they

remind us of our need for hope.”

There is much we cannot do to right the wrongs in this broken world. But we can be kind. We can comfort others, and we can be inclusive. We can at the very least be conscious of those who can hear when we are making private plans. Ramsey gives good advice. We need to be gentle. In a hard world, being sensitive to our fellow travelers is the least we can do.

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5:40 PM: COMBAT VETERANS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION RIDE AWARDS
5:50 PM: PRESENTATION OF COLORS
6:00 PM: FLYING TIGERS JUMP IN WITH NATIONAL ANTHEM
6:00 - 8:00 PM: BALLOONING WINDOW: FLIGHTS / GLOW / TETHERS
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM: ENTERTAINMENT ON STAGE - ADJACENT HAYS
6:30 PM: LIFT OFF COLOR RUN & WARRIOR WALK

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FROM THE SHELF

On ‘Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America’s Independence’ by Carol Berkin



Sara Leady

With the celebrations of America 250 across the United States this year, the library selected Revolutionary Mothers: Women in the Struggle for America’s Independence by Carol Berkin as its adult ‘Books & Community’ title. Books & Community has been an ongoing library initiative where we select a book and theme and encourage the community at large to read the shared title and participate in conversations and programs around the theme. This year’s Books & Community look at the American Revolution takes place throughout September, and across the library system.

Berkin is a celebrated professor of American History with various publications, most of which focus on lesser known historical figures, especially women. Revolutionary Mothers was originally published in 2005. I’ve now read the book a few times in preparation for programs and book discussions, and for me at least, it’s important to keep in mind that the book was originally published twenty years ago.

Revolutionary Mothers gives a decent overview and surface level look at the experience of women during the American Revolution. My largest criticism comes from the feeling that Berkin could have, and should have, gone deeper and been less “romantic” about her coverage of the darker side of the experience. 2005 was semi-early in the evolution of the internet and the access to information that it provided. Research at that time was not as easy as it is now, so expecting more based on today’s research standards, feels a bit unfair. For those who remember doing academic research before and/or during the growth of the internet, I think we can extend some grace.

I think we’ve also gotten more open and comfortable with the darker side of history. Today, we wouldn’t do a quick overview, or rosier portrayal of history if we were chronicling the same experience and content as Berkin did in 2005. That said, Revolutionary Mothers can serve as an intro to the reality for women during times of conflict. It also shows an interesting contrast for how various things have changed drastically, and others barely. For example, the impact of women and the economy during times of conflict is still similar. As the typical purchasers of basic goods for households, a protest of a product or store, had a huge impact during the American Revolution, and arguably an even bigger one now given the impact on the much larger global market.

An interesting (and bizarre) difference in terms of the “rules” of war is the idea of a “winter break.” No matter how many times I read it, the idea of a wintertime “time out” for the war, where fighting was mostly paused, is baffling to me. Especially given that during said “break,” there were balls and other social events thrown by the general’s wives, which served as a sort of “sin-

gles’ mingling” event with the large intent being “matchmaking” as a sort of morale boost for the armies. The concept of “army groupies,” or women following along behind the armies and serving as entertainment, menders, cooks, laundresses, among other things, is also kind of wild to me. I don’t remember these things being covered in my AP US History class, or any other US history classes I took.

There are more elements of the book I have criticism for, but taking it for what it is, and comparing it to broader American history, especially regarding women, it creates an interesting narrative. We’ll get more into this with our panel discussion of Berkin’s title and its contents on Wednesday, September 9, at 6:00 pm at the Anderson Main Library. We’ve pulled together a panel of professors of history and education to discuss Berkin’s book and go deeper into the elements of history she may have overlooked, and how far we have and haven’t come in terms of the story of women since the American Revolution.

THE Electric City News

Kids Corner

ACTS OF KINDNESS

“Brixton is a good friend. When he lost he said good job to me.” - Ellie

“I was looking for my chair and it was in the hallway because Mrs. Yoder was using it. Max went out there and got it for me.” -Ellis

“Carter helped me— - Cam

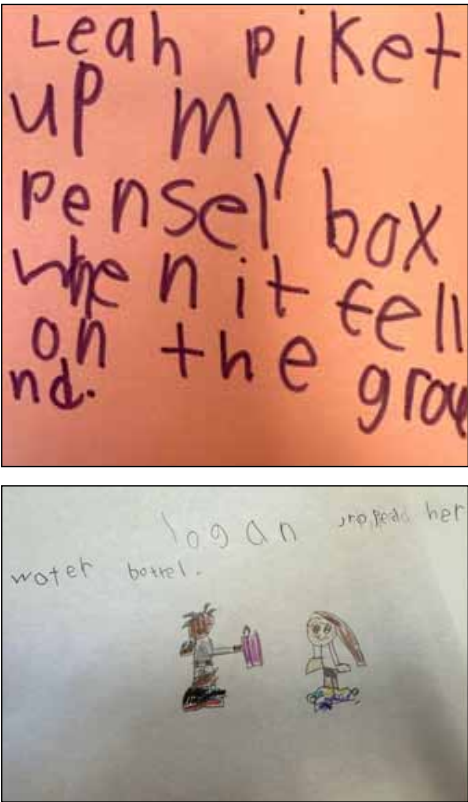
“Carter said she liked my skirt.” -Leah

“Brixton turned off the bathroom light when he noticed it was left on.” -Lily

“Cam is a good friend because Nash was out of the room when the teacher was giving directions so he helped him with his paper.” -Carter

“Rowan and Lily brought an extra snack just in case someone didn’t have one for snacktime.”

“Max passed out everyone’s lunch card.” -Logan



THE GARDEN SHOP

RAIN MAKES THESE LILIES BLOOM



**SUSAN
TEMPLE**
master
gardener

How neat is it for a plant to bloom a few days after it has rained. All plants thrive when Mother Nature waters them, but rain lilies truly do need rain to bloom. And rarely bloom when watered by humans. Zephyranthes, in the amaryllis family, is the botanical name for the majority of rain lilies. Mama is a bit of a rain lily collector, growing several different varieties. Until recently, it did not dawn on me that a couple of her varieties have the botanical name, Habranthus. It should have though because on a trip last year to Heronswood Nursery in Kingston Washington, I brought her back a 'Rio Grande' rain lily (Habranthus tub-ispatus). I guess I was so excited when a fellow traveler educated me on how to pack plants in your suitcase, there wasn't much thought about the binomial nomenclature that was going in my suitcase.

White blooming rain lilies are usually the easiest to find. But there are also shades of pink, yellow, and dark golden yellow, as in 'Rio Grande'. They are generally dainty little flowers, and when not blooming, the narrow, strap-like foliage can get lost among other plants. One exceptional patch in Mama's front yard has a bit of border grass (Liriope) that encroaches sometimes and it can be hard to tell the foliage apart. Zephyranthes have trumpet-like flowers that point up. Habranthus blooms are flatter, taller, and a bit bigger based on Mama's patch. Foliage for both is generally evergreen.

A big show this year of her pink ones prompted some research to try and figure

out the name, and what made the flower shapes different. She told me the big show variety was given to her from the elderly lady who lived behind her when Mama first moved into her house, some forty years ago. Again, it's as if all of this is new to me. I can't say I remember even seeing these pink beauties bloom before. I don't generally get lost in la la land when it comes to talking plants. We took pictures and went to the internet to try and figure out the name. In a short time, a picture of 'Lily Pies' came up. That's it! Mama's pass alongs are 'Lily Pies', such a sweet name. I got a couple of seed pods to see if they will come up.

Rain lilies need full sun to part shade. Some afternoon shade will definitely be helpful. Well drained soil is a must. Rain

lilies are tiny bulbs. Soil that stays too wet will cause them to rot. Spring is the best time to plant them so they can establish before cold weather. Plant them shallow, with the neck of the bulb (where the bulb meets foliage) just under the soil. I generally plant all bulbs shallow to save me from having to divide them or lift them. A light dose of fertilizer in spring may help rain lilies bloom better, but be careful because too much fertilizer

can make the plant grow more foliage and not as many flowers.

Most rain lilies will bloom a few days after rain, and Habranthus tend to bloom more throughout the summer. Mama's 'Lily Pies' patch has bloomed a few times this summer. White ones in the same area have not bloomed as much. Rio Grande had one bloom on it but we missed it. We know it bloomed because of the seed pod. Maybe we'll get another chance to see the golden yellow color and what the shape of its flower is before the blooming season passes.



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The Anderson reporter who saw war coming

BY RICH OTTER
The Sidney Australia Daily Telegraph reported on March 23, 1940, that James R. Young had been sentenced by a Japanese Military Court to six months imprisonment, but the sentence had been suspended for three years. It was said he had been tried secretly on charges of having violated the Japanese military code. He was accused of having made "slandorous references" about the Japanese forces in China and spread "sinister statements in Japan." Young had written a series of articles for the Daily Telegraph.

Anderson real estate and insurance businessman, former city councilman and mayor pro tem, W. D. "Bill" Prevost, remembered the adventures of James R. Young, during an interview on September 28, 2004 for Anderson County Memories and Reflections, Book II. Prevost recalled Young had gone to Japan representing the Scripps Howard News Service at a very dangerous time.

Young was hired as Edward Wyllis Scripps personal secretary and accompanied him for a yacht trip intended to be around the world, but Scripps died suddenly of a heart attack on the yacht near Africa. Young was serving as purser and

second in command. The family directed that Scripps be buried at sea and Young handled the service.

Having served with the Scripps family, Prevost said Young was taken on as a reporter. After college, he had served as a reporter for the Evening Sun in Baltimore.

Young was sent to Japan representing the Scripps News Service. Things had been heating up in Asia as a prelude to World War II. Young dangerously slipped into China after the Japanese invaded Manchuria and became aware of stories that the Japanese were using chemical warfare against the Chinese.

When he returned to Japan, he filed news stories about the alleged actions being taken by the Japanese. He was arrested and incarcerated. His wife and the American ambassador to Japan were able to get him released with a three-year suspension.

The Telegraph said he had also written, "Japan can neither defeat China nor pacify the country with a puppet regime." Adding insult to injury, he declared: "There is discord in the Japanese Cabinet, and between the Cabinet and the Army leaders in China." He was not making friends while a guest in Japan.

Young could see what was coming and began to slip his and his wife's personal property out of Japan, and then themselves. They made it back shortly before America involuntarily entered the war with the attack on Pearl Harbor. He became a strong information source for the American government as he had been able to observe what the Japanese were doing.

From 1941 through 1945, Young was an adviser to RKO Pictures for several movies being made by the company about the Far East situation.

Following the war, in 1946, Prevost said Wilton E. Hall, the publisher of the Anderson Independent, enticed Young to come to Anderson to join Hall's newspaper operation. Young was listed as an editor of both the Independent and Daily Mail and then worked on producing a newspaper called The New South. That position included obtaining for the Independent Publishing Company major advertising from throughout the South. It became a

financial success. Several years later, when the publication was discontinued, Prevost said Hall set Young up with an attractive office on the top floor of the Wil-Mary building (owned by Hall) where he maintained a suite.

Young then started a monthly newspaper identified as The Safety Journal that was distributed throughout the United States. When he was ready to retire, Young gave a six-month notice and then just closed shop. Prevost said he had received offers to sell the publication, but would not do so.

His wife, Marjorie, was also a reporter, and developed her own outlets. She was interested in the history of South Carolina and did weekly reports on radio station WAIM that was owned by Wilton Hall.

Young authored two books, Behind the Rising Sun and Blood on the Sun. There were also publications on the textile industry with his wife Marjorie. Their papers are held by Clemson University.



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Building belonging and preventing bullying



**MARY-CATHERINE
McCLAIN
RINER**

As children return to school, families and educators often focus on academic readiness, new teachers, schedules, and activities. As important as these variables are, there is another important part of school readiness that deserves significant attention: belonging.

Bullying is often discussed as a problem between a “bully” and a “victim,” yet the reality is much more complicated. Children are developing socially and emotionally, learning how to navigate friendships, differences, conflict, popularity, and their own emotions. The culture created by the adults and children around them can have an enormous impact on whether a child feels safe, accepted, and valued.

Bullying is more than a single disagreement or an instance of children not getting along. It typically involves aggressive or harmful behavior accompanied by a real or perceived imbalance of power. It can be physical or verbal, yet it can also be relational

by excluding someone, spreading rumors, intentionally isolating a child, encouraging others not to associate with them, or repeatedly humiliating them. Social media and group messaging have created additional opportunities for these behaviors to follow children beyond the school day.

There is rarely one simple explanation for why a child engages in bullying behavior. Children may be seeking social status, attempting to gain control, struggling with insecurity or emotional regulation, modeling behavior they have observed, or trying to fit into a peer group. Understanding the underlying factors is important, yet this should not be confused with excusing the behavior. Children need both compassion and accountability.

It is important to remember that children don’t always tell adults when something is wrong. A child experiencing bullying may become reluctant to attend school, withdraw from friends or activities, have changes in sleep or appetite, complain of physical symptoms, become more irritable, or seem unusually anxious or sad. These signs don’t automatically mean bullying is occurring, although represent opportunities for parents to slow down, listen, and ask questions.

Perhaps equally important is how we respond when our own child may be participating in harmful behavior. Rather than labeling a child as “a bully,” parents can separate the behavior from the child: “What happened was not okay, and we need to figure out how to make it right.” Children need clear boundaries and consequences, and opportunities to develop empathy, repair relationships, and learn more appropriate ways to handle conflict and seek connection. And then there are the bystanders; small acts of inclusion can be remarkably powerful. For example, sitting beside someone at lunch, inviting them to join a game, asking them to work together, saying hello in the hallway, checking in when they seem alone, and/or telling a trusted adult what is happening.

Sometimes kindness is not dramatic. Sometimes it is simply noticing someone who is being overlooked. For a child entering a new school, moving to a new community, or simply struggling to find their place socially, one person reaching out can make a significant difference. A child who feels like an outsider may remember that moment of inclusion for years. That is why bullying prevention should not only be about teach-

ing children what not to do. We should also teach them what they can do.

We can teach children to notice who is being left out.

We can teach them to welcome differences rather than fear them.

We can teach them that popularity is not the same thing as leadership.

We can teach them that asking an adult for help is not “tattling” when someone’s safety or well-being is at stake.

And we can teach them that kindness is not weakness—it is a form of strength and leadership.

The goal isn’t simply to stop bullying. The goal is to create schools and communities where every child has someone who sees them, values them, and makes room for them. Perhaps one of the simplest questions we can ask our children is not only, “How was your day?” yet also: “Who did you include today?” and “Who included you.” That is where we can begin to Spread Kindness.

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.

REMEMBERING OUR TIME

BY DAN O’NEAL

We grew up in a magical time. We were young enough to avoid the jungles of Vietnam. I remember gathering in Johnston Hall at Clemson watching the draft numbers being drawn. I was #307, and I believe Curt Anderson’s number was 1. Fortunately, the war was over, and none of us had to go. I sometimes wonder if I had gone, would I have had the courage that our fathers did in WWII. David Burns has told me tales of his father as a solitary ACE pilot who fought with incredible bravery.

We grew up with the BEST music. Music that is as popular today as it was in 1972. Credence Clearwater Revival. John Fogerty is 82 years old and touring today. The Doobie Brothers, Three Dog Night, the Temptations, the Guess Who, Allman Brothers, Lynyrd Skynyrd, the Rolling Stones, Led Zepplin, Marshall Tucker, the Beatles, Rolling Stones and Steppenwolf played on our eight-track

tape player.

With all this music, how could things be any better? Oh, I forgot about the cars!! Chevelles, the GTO Judge, Mach I Mustang, Oldsmobile 442, the Roadrunner, the Superbird, the Plymouth Hemi Cuda, Firebird, and the Dodge Challenger.

If we didn’t have one of these cars, we tried to make ours look like one. The average gas price was 32 cents a gallon. Before we had hot cars, we had monkey bikes, banana seats, and even Mattel Varroom noise-makers (\$159 on eBay) We rode our bikes everywhere, played in creek beds and built backyard forts, caught lightning bugs and had supper with our parents each night. We watched the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan show. Each school class started off with the Pledge of Allegiance. Lunch money was \$1.25 for the week.

Our parents’ home was 1100 sq. feet, and six or eight people lived in it. We slept in

the same bed with our siblings if room was tight. We went to our grandparents’ home for Thanksgiving and Christmas. On Mother’s Day, we wore a rose on our coat, white if your mother had passed and red if she was still alive.

And let’s not forget the girls in the 70s. Hip-hugging bell bottoms, long hair, tanned bodies, hot pants and miniskirts. I can’t imagine what our parents must have thought.

Many of us married our high school sweethearts. A show of hands: How many of you have been married 20, 30, 40! Even 50 years?

We went to the St. John’s social after football games with the Specters playing and secretly drank Boone’s Farm Strawberry Hill wine in the parking lot. The REAL rebels smoked a cigarette. We saw the world before the internet. We witnessed desegregation and the invention of the first computers. We saw John Glenn be the first American to go into



space and later Neal Armstrong set foot on the moon.

And the rarest of us made lifelong friends, many of whom are in this room. We are all blessed. How could growing up have been any better?

T.L. Hanna inducts six into Athletic Hall of Fame

T.L. Hanna High School will honor six exceptional former student-athletes this fall with induction into its Athletic Hall of Fame, recognizing their outstanding accomplishments and the lasting impact they have made on one of South Carolina's proud athletic traditions.

The T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame Committee has selected Ike Allred, Ben Boulware, Garrett Boulware, Mary Kay Campbell, Brooks Hall, and Ashley Jenkins as the Hall of Fame Class of 2026.

The induction banquet and ceremony will be held Friday, September 18, 2026, at T.L. Hanna High School prior to the Yellow Jackets' football game against Mauldin High School. Since its inception in 2009, the Hall of Fame has recognized former athletes, coaches, administrators, and supporters whose achievements have helped shape the proud tradition of Yellow Jacket athletics.

The Class of 2026 represents six individuals whose accomplishments span multiple decades and sports. Together, they have earned state and national honors, competed at the collegiate and professional levels, coached and mentored future generations, and served as outstanding ambassadors for T.L. Hanna High School. Their achievements reflect not only athletic excellence but also the character, leadership, and commitment that define the very best of Yellow Jacket athletics.

The following former student-athletes will be inducted into the T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame.

Ike Allred (Football, Baseball)

Few athletes have represented T.L. Hanna with greater consistency, versatility, and leadership than Ike Allred.



ALLRED

coaching career.

A three-year varsity football letterman from 1990–1992, Allred emerged as one

A standout in both football and baseball, Allred established himself as one of the school's premier athletes while setting a standard of excellence that has continued throughout his

of the finest wide receivers in school history. He earned All-Area honors twice, was a two-time All-Region selection, and received All-State recognition as a senior in 1992. His outstanding performance also earned him a place in the prestigious North-South All-Star Game.

During his remarkable football career, Allred totaled 117 receptions for 2,010 receiving yards and 17 touchdowns while excelling as a return specialist. He also accumulated 823 kickoff and punt return yards with two touchdowns, averaged 32.3 yards per kickoff return as a senior, and averaged an impressive 17.6 yards per reception during his All-State season.

He was named the team's Wide Receiver Award winner in both 1991 and 1992, Offensive MVP in 1992, and finished his career as T.L. Hanna's all-time leading receiver. In 1993, he received the Jim Cox Athletic Memorial Award, honoring not only his athletic accomplishments but also his leadership, character, and sportsmanship.

In addition to his football success, Allred lettered two years in baseball and earned All-Region honors as a second baseman, further demonstrating his versatility as a multi-sport athlete.

Following graduation, Allred continued his football career at Newberry College, where he was a four-year starter and letterman from 1993–1996. As a senior, he received the team's Wide Receiver Award, concluding an outstanding collegiate playing career.

His passion for the game led him into a distinguished coaching career spanning nearly three decades. He served in numerous leadership roles at Newberry College before becoming head coach at Chesterfield High School and later at James Island Charter High School. In 2020, Allred returned to T.L. Hanna as wide receivers coach and has since continued coaching at Pendleton High School and Daniel High School.

A gifted athlete, respected coach, and influential mentor, Ike Allred has spent a lifetime investing in others.

His accomplishments on the field, combined with his leadership and commitment to developing young people, have left an enduring impact on T.L. Hanna athletics and beyond.

It is with great pride that we welcome Ike Allred into the T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame.

Ben Boulware (Football, Baseball)

Ben Boulware is widely regarded as one of the most accomplished football players ever to wear the Black and Gold. His



B. BOULWARE

in professional football.

A standout linebacker for the Yellow Jackets, Boulware was recognized as one of the nation's elite high school football prospects. ESPN ranked him as the No. 78 overall player in the country, the No. 3 inside linebacker nationally, and the No. 1 player in South Carolina. Rivals.com also ranked him as South Carolina's top prospect, while 247Sports rated him the nation's No. 8 inside linebacker and the state's No. 2 overall player.

During his senior season, Boulware was named a finalist for South Carolina Mr. Football, earned All-State honors for the second consecutive year, and was selected to play in both the prestigious Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas and the Under Armour All-America Game, where he served as one of only four team captains. He was named Defensive MVP of the Shrine Bowl after recording eight tackles, including three tackles for loss.

An exceptional multi-sport athlete, Boulware also earned All-State honors in baseball as a junior while helping lead T.L. Hanna to continued athletic success.

At Clemson University, Boulware developed into one of the nation's premier linebackers. A two-year starter, he played a pivotal role in leading the Tigers to the 2016 College Football National Championship. That same season, he received the Jack Lambert Award as the nation's top linebacker and earned consensus First Team All-American honors. He finished his Clemson career among the school's all-time leaders in tackles and became one of the most respected defensive players in program history.

Following college, Boulware signed with

remarkable athletic ability, relentless work ethic, and competitive spirit propelled him from T.L. Hanna to national prominence at Clemson University before continuing his career

the Carolina Panthers before continuing his professional career with the San Francisco 49ers organization.

After football, Boulware successfully transitioned into business, founding The Junkyard fitness facilities in Anderson, Greenville, and Mauldin. He later returned to Clemson, where he now serves as linebackers coach, helping develop the next generation of Tiger defenders.

Whether making tackles for the Yellow Jackets, helping lead Clemson to a national championship, competing in the NFL, building a successful business, or mentoring today's Clemson linebackers, Ben Boulware has exemplified excellence at every level. His remarkable football career and continued influence on the game have secured his place among the greatest athletes in T.L. Hanna history.

Garrett Boulware (Football, Baseball)

Garrett Boulware distinguished himself as one of the finest baseball players in T.L. Hanna history, combining excep-



G. BOULWARE

Carolina's premier baseball prospects.

A four-year varsity letterman in baseball and football, Boulware quickly established himself among the state's elite players. He was ranked No. 141 nationally by Perfect Game, the No. 5 overall player in South Carolina, the state's No. 2 catcher by Diamond Prospects, and one of South Carolina's top professional prospects by Baseball America. During his senior season, he was named the Anderson Independent-Mail Area Player of the Year after leading the Yellow Jackets with outstanding performances both offensively and defensively.

His talent attracted professional attention early, and he was selected by the San Diego Padres in the 42nd round of the 2011 Major League Baseball Draft. Choosing to continue his education and athletic career, Boulware accepted a scholar-

tional athletic ability with outstanding leadership on the diamond. His accomplishments at the high school, collegiate, and professional levels earned him recognition as one of South

ship to Clemson University.

At Clemson, Boulware became one of the Atlantic Coast Conference's most respected catchers. He earned recognition on the prestigious Johnny Bench Award Watch List twice, honoring the nation's top collegiate catcher, and was also named a semifinalist for the Gregg Olson Award. His leadership and consistent excellence culminated in receiving Clemson's Mitchell Award, presented annually to the team's Most Valuable Player.

Following his collegiate career, Boulware was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 16th round of the 2014 Major League Baseball Draft. During three professional seasons, he appeared in 272 games, collecting 227 hits and 91 runs batted in while earning a reputation as a dependable defensive catcher and respected teammate.

From T.L. Hanna to Clemson University and into professional baseball, Garrett Boulware distinguished himself through exceptional talent, leadership, and determination. His accomplishments at every level have cemented his place among the finest baseball players ever to wear a Yellow Jacket uniform and make him a deserving member of the T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mary Kay Campbell (Basketball, Tennis, Track)

Mary Kay Campbell was a trailblazer for women's athletics at T.L. Hanna High School, excelling in basketball, tennis, and track while helping pave the way for future generations of female student-athletes. Her outstanding achievements in high school and college established a legacy of excellence that continues to inspire.



CAMPBELL

Campbell earned varsity athletic insignias in basketball and tennis in 1976 and was a member of the undefeated 1976–1977 girls' track team that posted a perfect 9-0 record. Competing in the 800-meter run, she helped lead one of the school's most successful track teams while also distinguishing herself in multiple sports.

On the tennis court, Campbell earned All-Region honors in 1977 and was recognized as one of five team Most Valuable Players. Her athletic versatility was equally evident on the basketball court, where she became one of the premier players in the state. During her senior season, she was selected to the South Carolina Coaches

Association of Women's Athletics Upper State All-Star Team and earned All-Region honors in 1977 and 1978. Her accomplishments contributed to a City of Anderson resolution recognizing the team's outstanding achievements, and she was named to Who's Who in basketball, tennis, and track.

Campbell's exceptional high school career earned her a basketball scholarship to Presbyterian College, making her the first female basketball player from T.L. Hanna to receive a collegiate athletic scholarship. During her four-year career with the Blue Hose from 1979–1982, she appeared in 87 games, scored 900 career points, averaged 12.6 points per game as a senior, and finished her career with 170 steals. Her accomplishments established her as one of Presbyterian's outstanding players during that era.

A pioneer for women's athletics at T.L. Hanna, Mary Kay Campbell helped open doors for future generations of female student-athletes. Her excellence in three sports, outstanding collegiate career, and lasting impact on Yellow Jacket athletics make her a truly deserving member of the T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame.

Brooks Hall (Baseball)

Brooks Hall established himself as one of the premier baseball players ever to compete at T.L. Hanna High School. A dominant pitcher and standout third baseman, Hall combined exceptional talent, power, and poise to become one of South Carolina's top high school baseball prospects before enjoying a lengthy professional career.



HALL

A four-year varsity letterman from 2006–2009, Hall capped his outstanding high school career with a perfect game during his senior season. He earned All-Region and All-State honors and was selected to play in the prestigious North-South All-Star Game in 2009. As both a pitcher and third baseman, Hall's rare combination of size, athleticism, and skill made him one of the most highly recruited players in the state. Scouts were drawn to his 6-foot-5 frame, mid-90s fastball potential, devastating power slider, and ability to hit for power, making him one of the nation's top two-way prospects.

Hall's exceptional talent led the Milwaukee Brewers to select him in the fourth round of the 2009 Major League

Baseball Draft as the 136th overall pick, launching a professional career that spanned more than a decade.

Throughout his professional career, Hall pitched in the Milwaukee Brewers, Arizona Diamondbacks, and New York Mets organizations, advancing to the Triple-A level—just one step below Major League Baseball. Along the way, he established himself as one of the top pitching prospects in minor league baseball and earned selection to the 2013 Florida State League Mid-Season All-Star Team.

After concluding his affiliated professional career, Hall continued pitching internationally, extending an already impressive professional résumé. Over the course of his career, he appeared in more than 250 professional games while compiling a 4.32 earned run average and recording hundreds of strikeouts against some of the game's top developing talent.

From a dominant high school career to success in professional baseball, Brooks Hall represented T.L. Hanna with excellence throughout his career. His talent, determination, and accomplishments on baseball's biggest stages have earned him a lasting place among the school's all-time great athletes and make him a deserving member of the T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame.

Ashley Jenkins (Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, Track)

Ashley Carroll Jenkins has built a lifetime of excellence through athletics, education, coaching, and leadership. A standout multi-sport athlete at T.L. Hanna High School, she distinguished herself in basketball and volleyball before dedicating her career to developing young people both in the classroom and on the athletic field.

A four-year varsity basketball letterman, Jenkins earned All-Region honors and was selected to participate in the prestigious North-South All-Star Game following her senior season. Known for her competitive spirit, leadership, and versatility, she helped establish T.L. Hanna as one of the area's premier girls' basketball programs while earning the respect of teammates, coaches, and opponents alike.

Jenkins also excelled in volleyball, where she was recognized for her athleticism, determination, and leadership. Her success in multiple sports reflected the work ethic and



JENKINS

commitment that would become hallmarks of her career.

Following graduation, Jenkins continued her basketball career at the collegiate level while pursuing a degree in education. After earning her degree, she returned to the profession that would become her life's work—teaching, coaching, and mentoring students.

Throughout her distinguished career in education, Jenkins has served as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal, and district leader. Her influence has extended far beyond wins and losses, impacting countless students, athletes, teachers, and coaches through her leadership, integrity, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Whether on the court, in the classroom, or in the principal's office, she has consistently led by example.

A gifted athlete, respected educator, accomplished coach, and influential leader, Ashley Carroll Jenkins has built a legacy of excellence both in competition and in education. Her lifelong commitment to developing young people and her remarkable accomplishments make her a truly deserving member of the T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame.

The T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame proudly welcomes these six exceptional former Yellow Jackets whose accomplishments, leadership, and character have earned them a permanent place in the school's athletic history. Together, the Class of 2026 represents generations of excellence and reflects the tradition of hard work, sportsmanship, perseverance, and dedication that has defined Yellow Jacket athletics for decades.

Their achievements extend far beyond the playing field. As athletes, coaches, educators, business leaders, and mentors, each has made a meaningful and lasting impact on countless lives while serving as an outstanding ambassador for T.L. Hanna High School. Their accomplishments continue to inspire today's Yellow Jackets and future generations to pursue excellence in athletics, academics, leadership, and service.

The T.L. Hanna Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee includes Chuck Allen, Tommy Bell (Athletic Director), Anthony Galloway, Derek Hamby, Brantley Isom, Wayne Jones, Walter Mayfield, Chuck Parker, Ryan Roberts (Principal), Terry Honeycutt, and Dr. Sheila Hilton (Chair).

The committee welcomes nominations for future Hall of Fame classes. Nomination forms and eligibility information are available at tlhannasports.com. The committee encourages alumni, former coaches, teammates, and community members to help preserve the proud tradition of Yellow Jacket athletics by recognizing those whose achievements have brought honor to T.L. Hanna High School.

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Lack's field goal pushes T.L. Hanna past BHP

The final game statistics will show youngster Corban Lack kicked a 25-yard field goal on the final play of the game to lift T.L. Hanna over Belton-Honea Path 17-14 last Friday night in the season opener.



Brian Hodges

But this one wasn't easy.

Did Hanna coach Jason Tone offer any encouragement to his sophomore before making the kick?

"No. I had no doubt," Tone said. "He's got ice in his veins."

On a muggy August night, Hanna dramatically turned the momentum in the second half.

They finished the game with 208 rushing yards as Esaias Carroll turned the corner on several key runs and scored 2 touchdowns. Veteran Brock Cole had 12 carries for 69 yards as he pounded the Bears' inside defense.

For the game, BHP was held to 31 rushing yards but passed for 220. Hanna totaled 272 yards of offense. Quarterback Will Mayfield hit 5 of 9 passes for 48 yards.

The Yellow Jackets scored a TD in the third quarter on Carroll's 4-yard burst and then tied it with 3:41 left in the fourth quarter on Carroll's 6-yard run.

Belton-Honea Path appeared to be fading.

"We hoped we could wear them down in the fourth quarter," Tone said. "We practiced a lot in the morning this week because it has been so hot. I think that helped us."



The Bears are a proud program, coming off a 14-1 season a year ago. They lost the 3A state championship game and then their head coach was replaced.

New coach David Crane had BHP energized at the start. Freshman Rylan Crooks threw a 55-yard touchdown pass three minutes into the game and then added a 75-yarder scoring pass with three minutes left in the quarter.

"They only had 3 first downs in the first half," Tone said. "But they didn't need much more than that."

But Belton-Honea Path was

plagued by cramping and injuries in the second half.

And after a first half filled with frustrating penalties and mistakes, Hanna woke up.

"None of our offensive linemen had played a varsity down," Tone said. "They are all new. We had to use a backup at center and he did well. We couldn't shake the mistakes."

So, did Tone turn up the volume in his halftime speech?

"No, that's not my style," Tone said. "That doesn't do anything. We go over assignments and try to correct mental errors. The offense had to execute."

"We had to stay the course," he added. "That TD in the third quarter got us close and we just had to bear down after that."

"Our guys believed in the system," Tone added. "We rotate players to keep them fresh."

"BHP has 39 guys on their roster. We have 60," Tone said. "That was a huge difference tonight."

ASK THE DOGTOR

WHY IS MY DOG SO ITCHY THIS TIME OF YEAR?

If your dog seems itchier right now, you are not imagining things.

After years of treating dogs in the Upstate, I see more allergy problems in late summer and early fall than at any other time of the year. This is the season when itchy dogs seem to come out of the woodwork.



Jackson Walker

They scratch. They lick their feet. They rub their faces on the carpet. Their ears become red and irritated. Some develop that familiar red, inflamed skin underneath their belly or between their toes. And, of course, there are the dreaded hot spots that seem to appear overnight.

So what's going on?

Dogs can suffer from allergies just like people, but they often show them differently. While people commonly develop sneezing, watery eyes and nasal symp-

toms, allergies in dogs frequently show up through the skin and ears.

Environmental allergies are particularly important this time of year. Pollens, grasses, weeds, molds and other allergens in the environment can trigger an inflammatory response in susceptible dogs. Here in South Carolina, our long growing season and warm, humid weather certainly don't do these dogs any favors.

But allergies are often only the beginning of the problem.

Once a dog's skin becomes inflamed and itchy, scratching and licking damage the normal skin barrier. Bacteria and yeast that normally live on the skin can then overgrow, creating a secondary skin infection.

The infection causes even more itching, which causes more scratching, and pretty soon we have an itchy dog caught in an uncomfortable cycle.

The ears can behave the same way. Recurrent ear infections are often not

simply an "ear problem." In many dogs, they are one of the first signs of underlying allergic skin disease.

Fleas also deserve mention. A dog with flea allergy may react dramatically to even a small amount of flea exposure. Good year-round flea prevention is therefore an important part of managing many itchy dogs.

Food allergies get a tremendous amount of attention, particularly online, but changing foods isn't automatically the answer for every itchy dog. Environmental allergies, parasites, bacterial infections, yeast infections and other skin diseases can produce very similar symptoms. Determining the cause is much more useful than randomly changing foods or ordering the latest supplement advertised on social media.

Fortunately, veterinary medicine has gotten much better at managing allergic dogs. Depending on the patient, treatment may involve controlling secondary

infections, medications to reduce itching and inflammation, medicated shampoos, parasite prevention, dietary trials or more extensive allergy evaluation.

For many dogs, allergies aren't something we simply "cure." Instead, they are a condition we manage, sometimes seasonally and sometimes throughout the dog's life.

And here's my biggest advice this time of year:

Don't wait until your dog has scratched himself raw.

If you're noticing persistent licking, scratching, recurrent ear trouble, redness, odor or hair loss, get your veterinarian involved early. Treating an allergy flare before significant infection develops is usually much easier—and much more comfortable for your dog.

Late summer and early fall may be beautiful in South Carolina.

Unfortunately, for a lot of our dogs, it's also itch season.



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