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## Anderson 5 School Board At-Large

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October 29-November 11, 2020

# Order of the Palmetto

## District Five Superintendent Tom Wilson to be presented with state's top honor

Anderson School District Five Superintendent Tom Wilson will be bestowed the Order of the Palmetto from Governor Henry McMaster at a ceremony at the Anderson Institute of Technology on Thursday, October 29 at 4:00.

Citing his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic and his overall dedication to the field of public education, the Governor will be making his second trip in as many months to AIT to speak with Superintendent



Anderson School District Five Superintendent Tom Wilson is set to receive the state's highest honor — the Order of the Palmetto.

Wilson and confer upon him the highest civilian honor in the state of South Carolina. The Order of the Palmetto is given for extraordinary lifetime service and achievements of national or statewide significance. Since the award's inception in 1971,

around 3,400 South Carolinians have received the recognition.

Some of Superintendent Wilson's major achievements in Anderson School District 5 include:

- Establishing the Penny Sales tax to generate funds used for major athletic,

academic and building improvements

- Leading South Carolina as the first district to implement eLearning to eliminate make-up days caused by bad weather

- Collaborating with school districts 3 and 4 to establish the Anderson Institute of Technology  
- Opening the new Virtual Academy at Reames Education Center

Said Superintendent Wilson, "I am humbled and shocked, and I want to thank our legislative delegation for nominating me for this honor," he continued by stating "I am lucky to work with a great team in a great district, and our school board has set a great tone for Anderson Five since my arrival in 2013." He elaborated, "I have worked in education for over 43 years, and it means a lot to me to be able to spend this part of my career back in my own school district, and I look forward to continuing to work for our students and staff here in Anderson."

Wilson was also named South Carolina Athletic Administrators Association Superintendent of the Year in 2016.

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Photography courtesy of Will Malone



Last year, the board of the Morris Street Slave Cabins of Anderson, commissioned Marcus Amaker to compose this poem in honor of those who once inhabited these dwellings.

## Poet Laureate of Charleston, Marcus Amaker

Marcus Amaker is the first poet laureate of Charleston, SC. Mayor John Tecklenburg named him as poet laureate in 2016. In 2019, he was then named the artist-in-residence of the Gaillard Center. In addition to his gift as a poet, Amaker is also an award-winning graphic designer, web designer, videographer and musician. He has released more than albums. Two of his albums were in collaboration with Grammy award winning drummer and producer, Quentin E. Baxter of Ranky Tanky.

Amaker has also published eight books of poetry. His latest book, *The Birth of All Things*, was published this year by Free Verse Press. His poems have been featured by the Kennedy Center, South Carolina Public Radio, Chicago Tribune, Departures Magazine, TEDx, Charleston Magazine, Post and Courier, The Electric City News, and many more publications.

After graduating from the University of South Carolina in 1999 with a bachelor's degree in journalism, he moved to Anderson and worked at The Anderson Independent-Mail. In 2003, he moved to Charleston and worked as a graphic designer at the Post and Courier. Winning many SC Press Association awards in design, he soon became the editor of Preview and Charleston Scene, the entertainment section of the paper.

Marcus continues to live in Charleston with his wife, Jordan, and his infant daughter, Rei. For information about purchasing any of his books and music, visit: [MarcusAmakerStore.com](http://MarcusAmakerStore.com).



Photo by Alice Keeney

## Retelling and the remembering

– by Marcus Amaker, Poet Laureate of Charleston, SC  
Black spirits can not be absent from anything. Especially in South Carolina,

where every open, abandoned space holds a family's erased echo

and racism is embedded in every memory. We, the living, have the privilege of being

restful ghosts. We haunt material things, and hold our history in excess. But here,

and everywhere around us, we walk among the haunted. A house can not be entered

without touching its memory. An untold story is an unmarked grave waiting for revision.

This is why we preserve what was once condemned: To put fresh ink on faded text

and to remember that we can't erase each other.

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## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

It's that time of year again. We are now taking reservations for our annual Holiday Gift Guide. This year, we are offering a never before **INCREDIBLE** deal on the 8 week run of the guide. If you would like to participate, please give us a call. But hurry, space is limited.

**(864) 221-9269 or (864) 934-1477**



# Who cooks for you?

BY ANN BAILES

I heard that sound again a few nights ago -- the same shriek that caused one of the most frightening nights of my life some 30-plus years ago.

I was home alone that night, when we lived near Paris Mountain State Park in Greenville. Mike had to return to night shift at his job for the first night in several months, so I was a little nervous to begin with. Around midnight I was jerked from a fitful sleep by the loud bloodcurdling shriek of what seemed to be a woman's scream right outside the bedroom window. A few minutes later the terrible sound was repeated further back in the yard. That's all I heard, but it was enough to ruin my night. I should have called someone, but shook in bed, too frightened to move, much less go investigate. I didn't even doze until close to dawn.

The next morning my neighbor called and casually asked, "Did you hear the owl?" Little did she know.

That sound came from a barred owl. Their scream is uncommon, but anyone who hears it will never, ever forget it. I can vouch for that.

Most of the time, barred owls make a more mild hoot that has been described as "Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?" Members of a pair will call back and forth

to each other in the woods for long periods of time. Because of those calls they are also known as "hoot owls" - the name people are most familiar with. They are one of our most common owl species.

Barred owls are fairly large - about 20 inches tall. They have rounded heads and are colored a mottled brown, grey, and white. They are found all over the eastern U.S. in woods and swamps. They don't migrate, and are heard at night year-round.

Barred owls hunt for small animals most of the night, and occasionally in the daytime as well. But much of the time during daylight hours they flit silently through deep forests, or get a little shut-eye on high tree limbs. They are much more often identified by their nighttime sounds. And they occasionally make that shriek that has been known to sound like a real person.

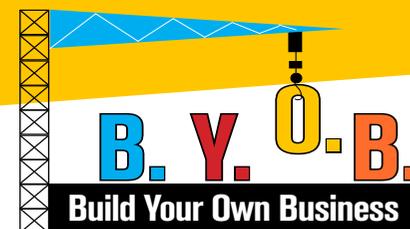
So when I heard that late-night scream not long ago, this time outside our bedroom window here in Anderson, I automatically reacted to the sound. However, it wasn't quite as loud as that other time, and was followed immediately with the "Who cooks for you?" call--so I knew that a nearby barred owl was making himself known. I enjoyed listening to the sounds. Then I rolled over and slept soundly, all night long.



Barred owl

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# Memory of a postmaster

BY PAT COPELAND WARNOCK

Richard Lee Copeland became interested in the postal service at the recommendation of his father-in-law, James Byrum Lawson who served in both the SC Senate and SC House of Representatives. Mr. Copeland was Acting Postmaster from September 10, 1965. He served that post until he was appointed Postmaster by President Lyndon B. Johnson from the recommendation of Congressman W.J. Bryan Dorn on April 4, 1968. He remained the Postmaster of Anderson, SC until January 1986.

The Postmaster of the United States Postal Service serves as head of an individual post office and provides unit financial and delivery information to district offices. Postmasters file a huge amount of reports such as submitting daily deposits to the district office. The Postmaster sees to the timely reporting and processing of regular facility expenses, such as maintenance and utility costs.

To prevent the hiring of unqualified friends or family members, postmasters only interview job applicants for positions outside their local unit. After a position is filled, the postmaster familiarizes the worker with the local office and assigns further training with an employee in the same role. The postmaster steps in to answer questions and mediate conflicts between employees and customer and listens to complaints about safety hazards on mail routes.

Postmaster routinely verifies or manually counts the stamps, money orders and mailing supplies inventory. The postmaster oversees the prompt delivery of all daily mail, in addition to managing mail outflow. Postmaster also leads daily audits of the money brought in at the retail counter.

In a nutshell, the Postmaster oversees the successful completion of all daily responsibilities.

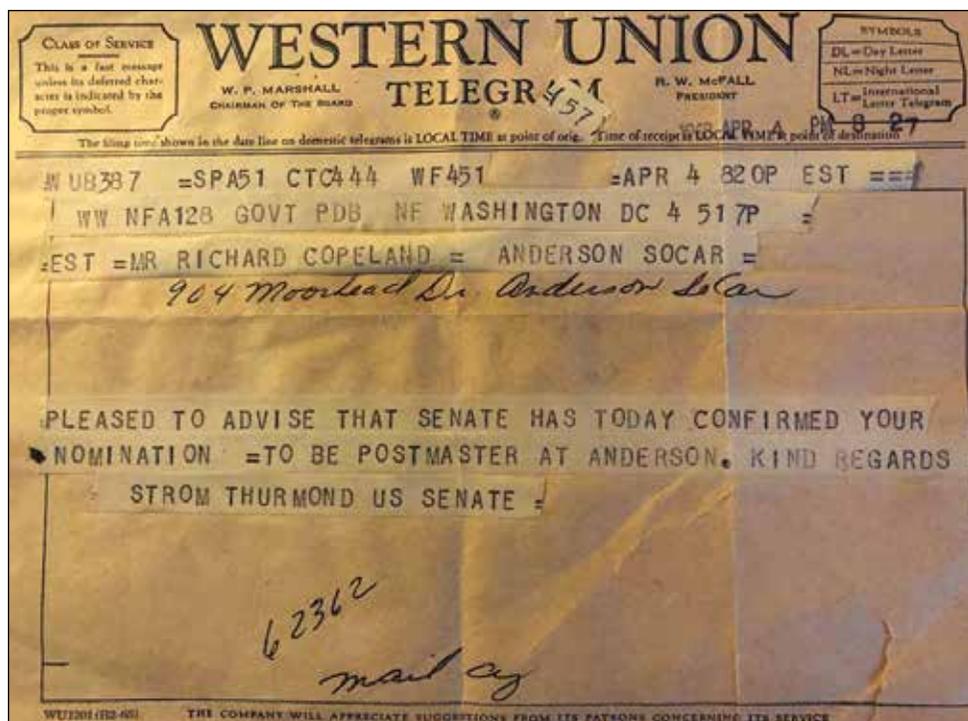
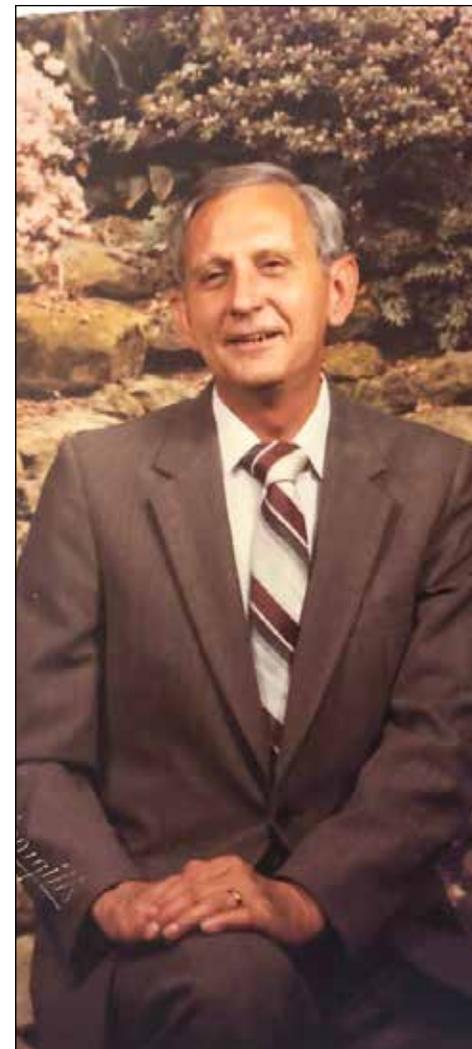


The daughters of Mr. Copeland recall, "The most interesting memory was when our Dad was dedicating the new Post Office on McDuffie St. and members the Ku Klux Klan showed up to march. Other memories include the times that Christmas food gifts from the likes of Harry and David, Hickory Farms, etc. for whatever reason were not deliverable to the orderer. After so much time passed and they weren't claimed, the food would be divvied up between postal employees and our dad. Seeing him walk through the door with all of those wonderful boxes of Christmas goodness was always special to us."

When they moved to the new Post Office on McDuffie Street from the old Post Office which now is the G. Ross Anderson building, Mr. Copeland was allowed to take some of the antique furnishings home with him as the new Post Office would have all new furnishings. An antique rocking chair and antique wall clock now reside in daughter Pat's house and

an antique grandfather clock is in the home of Grandson, Dr. Allen Jones.

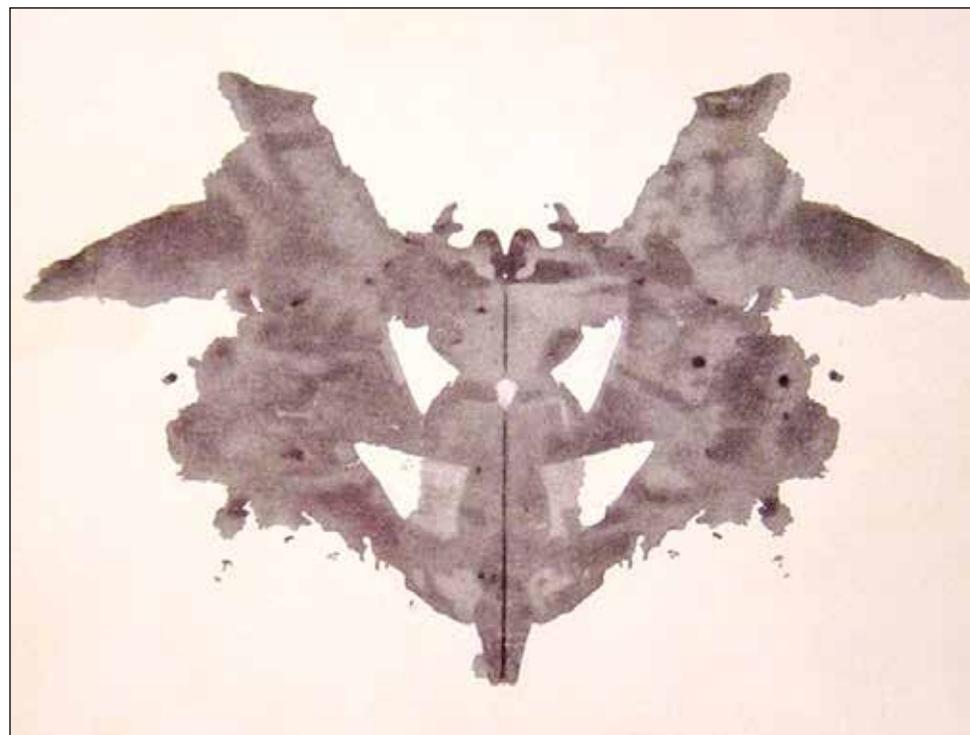
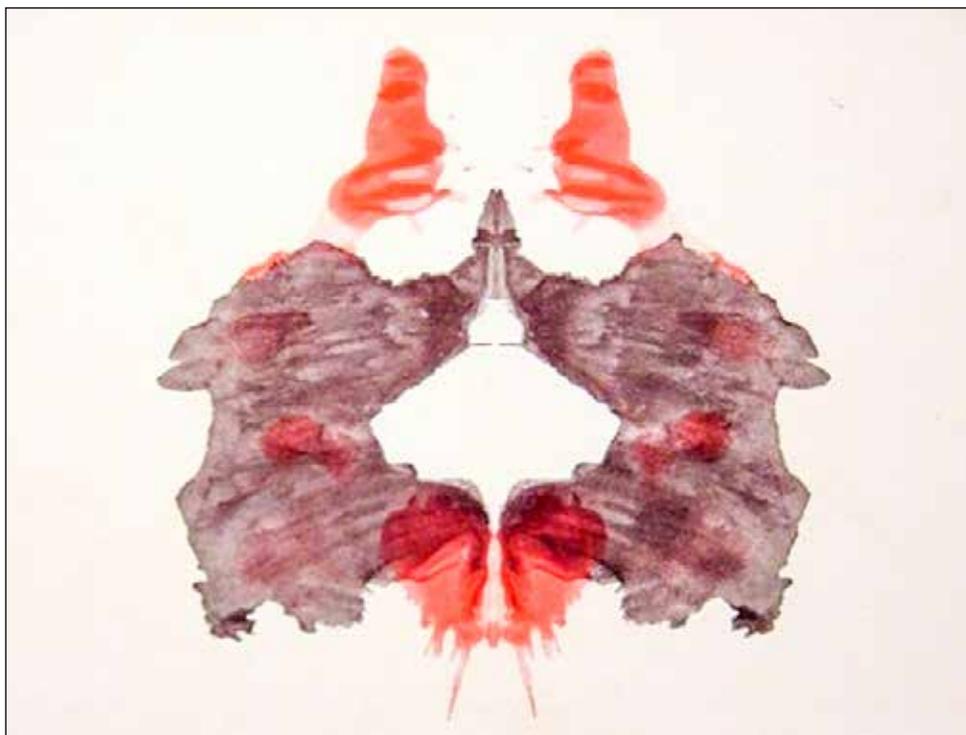
"Although we were all so proud of him being Postmaster, he also won Postmaster of the Year so we know he did a great job. We also saw how the stress of that job impacted him. Be kind to your Postmaster as it is a very stressful vocation".



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# INTERPRETING A HISTORICAL YEAR

BY RICH OTTER

We all see and interpret things a little differently whether it be an image of a cloud in the sky, a rock formation, abstract modern art or a Rorschach image. This is equally true of historical events.

The year 2020 is a year that by name will be remembered for its astounding occurrences. The date will be memorable along with 1492, 1776, December 7, 1941 and 9/11. You are (un)lucky enough to be participating in it and witnessing events that could result in enormous changes in thinking, scientific direction, education, government and social interaction.

Whatever the results may be there will be years of discussion and a multitude of books about what happened in 2020 with uncountable theories and opinions including a wealth of misinformation upon which may be drawn equally erroneous conclusions.

Think of the resources that will be available, fiction and fact derived from competing media reports, political contentions and based upon reactions exhibited in every level of society in this country and abroad. As someone recently observed, we would think such sequence of happenings ridiculous if reading them in a novel.

Because of the riot of information that will be reviewed by your descendants, they need to hear from you – a real person, in the real situation, actually experiencing the year 2020 in real time.

Consider a sampling: COVID-



19 illness and death; quarantines; face masks; riots throughout the country; destruction of historical monuments; alleged and actual police improprieties; conflicting media reporting; educational facilities shut down or operating virtual-

ly; businesses closed; people out of work; funds being distributed by the government that have to be replenished; events cancelled including meetings, conventions and sports; election voting problems; post office interruptions; ramifications

from the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and a President inflected by COVID-19. New issues surface daily.

Certainly we don't have to or want to be reminded of all these things, but think how important

it could be to let your descendants know what your experiences have been in the year 2020, how they impacted you and your perception of the events. This would include your thinking as to how the issues were attacked by leaders, by the people, by children, by news media and by you. It does not matter your political affiliation, your race, your social or educational attainment. It will be your observations and your opinions that are important.

Just sit down, make some notes and keep it up throughout the remainder of the year. If nothing else write out some individual sentences about what you are experiencing and/or your observations. If you don't want to write it, get a cheap tape recorder and talk about it.

While you are doing this, it could be a good time to also start reflecting upon your life experiences generally and make notes or write about your family and friends, growing up, working, playing, what you accomplished and what you failed to accomplish. These things can be of great interest and value to your descendants.

Think how exciting and informative it would have been if your family members had made notes or written about such events as the Civil War, World War I, the Spanish Flu, the Great Depression, or World War II.

You have a great opportunity to help your descendants see this unbelievable year through your unique on-the-scene reporting and 2020 vision.

# Thump, bump, ahhh!!

October 31, 1961 and all the kids in school that day were talking about what they were going to be that Halloween night, and how much candy they planned to receive. Being the blank minded kid that I was, I had no idea what I was going as, but I said I was going to be a Pirate with a sword and an eye-patch, and suddenly, I believed I would.

After school that day I told my mom that I wanted to be a Pirate. She said that she had been shopping and had found me the cutest little

costume that she just knew I'd love. She reached into the shopping bag and revealed the most hideous mask and



Neal Parnell

costume a six year old would ever want to see; Casper the Friendly Ghost. "NOOO!", I said, as I fell to the floor throwing one of my well practiced tantrums, that

I knew never worked.

I can still smell the woozy fumes emitted from that newly molded white plastic mask, and feel the tightness of that thin rubber band rubbing my ears as I stepped into the darkness of Halloween night holding an empty paper bag from the A&P.

I was standing on the dark sidewalk looking down the gloomy ivy covered pathway to Old man Crouch's house.

I'd always waved at him rocking on his porch on my way home from school, but this was much different.

A dim light glimmered on the porch, and just inside the screen door I could see another faint glow. I made my friendly ghost way down the broken path, keeping my toxic plastic eyes open for any movement, but there was none. The steps to the porch creaked and the porch planks sank a little as I knocked and said, "Trick or Treat", through the screen door. The faint glow inside went dark for a second as I heard something thump, and then a bump, followed by a loud AHHHH!! I disappeared just like a ghost, leaving my mask, and bag behind. Mom didn't believe my haunted house and mask tale, and I slept with no candy that night.

It was a couple of days before Mr. Crouch's aide found out who had left the mask and bag on the porch. She explained to my mother that Mr. Crouch had sprained



his ankle and was trying to bring a bowl of candy to the door when he fell and yelled. She left my bag, now full of candy, and the mask with my mother. When I got home from school my mom told me the story and said, "Go

hang up your coat, and you can have the candy". I opened the hall closet door, and there staring me in the face was, CASPER!, Thump, Bump, AHHHH!! Happy Halloween!!

## Blythe Smith joins Anderson Area YMCA

Anderson — The Anderson Area YMCA is pleased to announce that Blythe Smith has been named Development Director.

In this position, Smith will provide strategic leadership in fund development to advance the Y's mission through annual giving, targeted fundraising, grants, endowment, and capital campaigns.

Blythe is a graduate of Clemson University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Promotion and Behavior. She also received a Master of Public Health degree from the University of South Carolina. Blythe's career spans over 14 years in health promotion and behavior most of which has been with AnMed Health.

Blythe is an active member of the Anderson community where she is a member of Central Presbyterian Church serving as a Deacon and on the Pastor Search Committee. She is Chair of the United Way of Anderson County Health Vision Council, Girl Scout Troop 1127 co-leader, and a graduate of the 2010 LeadershipNEXT class of Anderson County. Blythe is a long time resident of Anderson where she lives with her husband Marshall and their two daughters.

About the Y

The Y is one of the nation's leading non-profits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,700 Ys engage 22 million men, women and children — regardless of age, income or background — to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-be-



Blythe Smith

ing, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Those interested in donating to the Anderson Y can visit [www.andersonareaymca.org](http://www.andersonareaymca.org) or call 864-716-6260. Anderson Area YMCA is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization and all gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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# Halloween 2020: Tales from the pandemic

There are certain things that, when you think of them, immediately evoke fear: Freddy Kreuger. Leeches. That hairy mold that grows on the top of outdated yoghurt. But none of them measure up to the terrors we've all experienced this year. This is Halloween 2020: Tales from the Pandemic.

## A THOUSAND CUTS

All day, the voice drove him onward, like an order he could not disobey, a command he dare not ignore.

"Just do it."

In the basement, he sharpened the edge of the blades. Even the sound of the steel on the strop could not drown out the voice.

"Just do it!"

After this, he thought, I'll never have to do it again. Surely after this one time, I won't have to do it again. Just this once,

and I'll never have to do it again.

He climbed the stairs and walked to the rear of the house, keeping the steady pace of a man who could no longer forestall desire. He found her in the bathroom, sitting in front of a vanity mirror. Her long auburn tresses fell across her back. Quietly, he approached her from behind. His hands were shaking now, and he worried about the mess he might leave behind. Noticing his reflection in the mirror, she turned suddenly to face him.

"Couldn't you hear me calling you?"

Stephanie exclaimed. "I told you this morning that I wanted you to trim my hair."

"But I don't want to, honey," Randy said, his voice quivering. "I've never cut anyone's hair before. What if I mess it up?"

"What choice do I have?" she asked. "My salon has been closed for months, and who knows when it will reopen? Besides, I'm not asking for a whole new hairstyle. It's only a trim to get rid of some split ends. Just do it!"

He inhaled deeply and raised the scissors to her back. With a single snip, six jagged inches of hair fell. She looked down at the floor in horror.

"Oh, my gosh!" she shrieked. "What have you done? And you only cut one side! What have you done to me?"

"Don't worry," Randy said. "I'll fix it. I'll just keep cutting till I even it up!"

## HOW TO CONJURE AN ANCESTOR

All they wanted was to make contact with their grandmother. Their previous attempts had been unsuccessful, so on this night, they gathered together to summon her collectively.

"Grandma, are you there? Can you see us, Grandma?"

Silence.

"Grandma, it's me, Brian, your grandson.



Your other grandkids are here, too, Sam and Catherine and Jack. We can't see you. Can you see us?"

Again, nothing. The cousins held hands and looked at each other, yearning for contact, their faces glowing from the light that emanated from the center of the dining room table.

"Grandma, let us know if you can hear us," Brian said. "Give us some kind of sign that you can hear us. If you can hear us, make a noise."

Suddenly, Grandma's lower torso appeared on the laptop screen, accompanied by the unmistakable sound of a flushing toilet.

"Oh, there you are," she said excitedly. "Is it time for our Zoom? I can't see you! Are we Zooming now?"

"Grandma," they screamed, "we can see too much of you! How many times have we told you to stop taking your cell phone into the bathroom?"

## WHAT LURKS IN THE FOG

Ginger walked tentatively down the hall of the SC Upstate First Community Bank. A fog had suddenly enveloped her, and she could see nothing. The sound of footfalls was all around her. She slowed her pace, unsure of which way to turn.

Her goal was to make it to her office. If she could get there, she could shut the door and be safe. In desperation, she stretched her arms out in front of her, Frankenstein-like, until she felt the water fountain on her left. Getting her bearings, she turned to the right. Her mental map of the building told her that her office door was only a few steps away. She quickened her pace, anxious to escape to her desk, when her hands touched a pair of large wrists. Frightened, she gasped.

"Ms. Edwards," a man said, "is there a problem?"

"Oh, no, sir, Mr. Dunbar," she said sheepishly. "I didn't mean to run into you. I'm just trying to get to my office and close the door. When I wear my COVID mask inside, my glasses fog up."

What have you found to be the most frightening thing of 2020? Share your fears with me at @editkim50@gmail.com.

## PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LIEN

Pursuant to SC Statutory Law, personal property from the following unit will be sold on

**November 6, 2020  
at 11:00 am at**

StorageTreasures.com  
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**Unit A22, C. Knight** - Unit appears to have the following:  
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# Market Theatre shines light on Ghosts of Anderson

The Market Theatre Company launched Ghosts of Anderson, a podcast and self-guided walking tour that brings history alive throughout downtown.

Market Theatre opened in downtown Anderson five years ago as one of the winners of the City of Anderson's Accelerate Anderson Downtown Challenge. Located within the Anderson Arts Center, Market's typical season includes nine mainstage productions including Shakespeare in the Park and the 24 Hour Musical. After being completely shut down during the pandemic, the team at Market is pioneering new ways to create performing art that is safe and exciting.

"We believe that theatre has the power to better our community, and we're not going to let the pandemic stop us from doing just that," says Noah Taylor, Executive Artistic Director of the Market Theatre. "Until we can be back on stage with shows like Mamma Mia, Matilda, and A Streetcar Named Desire, we will continue coming up with unique ways to engage, inspire, and entertain."

Ghosts of Anderson will feature voice actors who will tell the stories of historic landmarks throughout downtown while introducing a few ghosts along the way. Listeners will begin the 1-hour tour outside of the Calhoun Lofts at 402 North Main Street.

The podcast is available free on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and all major podcast platforms. There are two ways to listen:

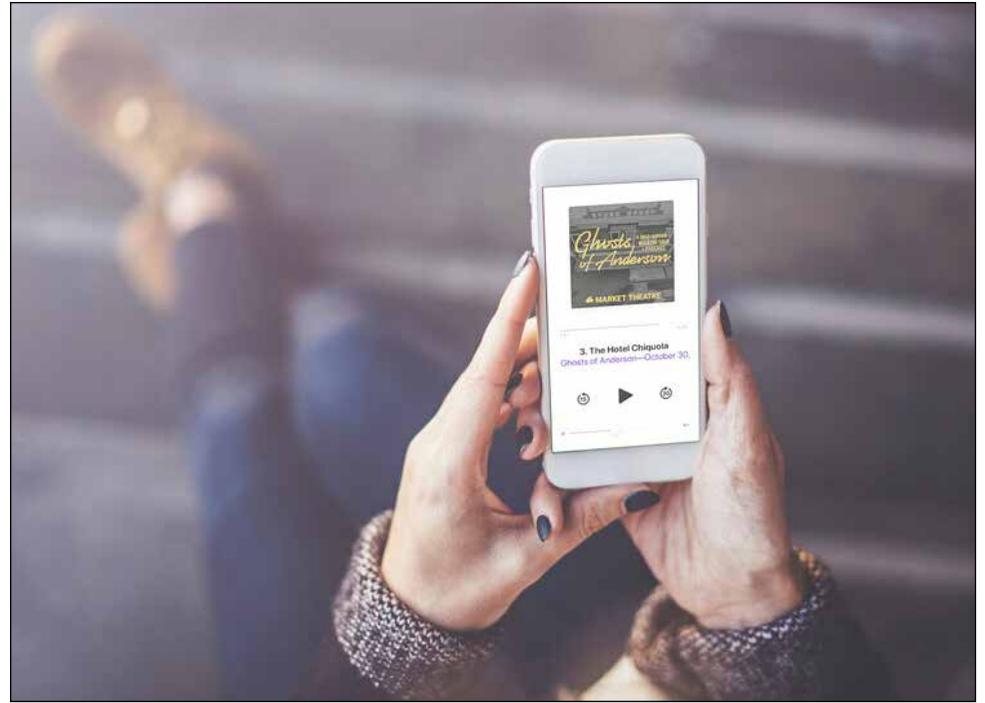
- Participate at your own pace any time from Halloween to Christmas, or
- Enjoy an interactive listening experience on October 30th, November 6th and/or November 7th between 6 and 9pm.



Drew Whitley narrates the Ghosts of Anderson podcast.

Interactive nights will feature live performers, special indoor tours, and food and drink specials along the way. Listeners will check in at Growler Haus located at 313 North Main Street. Masks will be required for indoor tours.

Podcasts and self-guided tours are what some call the beginning of an audio renaissance. Market Theatre hopes that this type of trending amenity will elevate the visitor experience, promote tourism and boost the local



economy. Ghosts of Anderson will also allow actors to take stage for the first time since March of 2020. Under new light, Market Theatre's cast and crew are ready to perform.

In the spirit of Halloween, download Ghosts of Anderson today and visit downtown

for a theatre experience you will never forget.

To support the Market Theatre and this creative initiative, listeners are encouraged to make a \$5 donation which can be sent by Venmo to @themarketanderson or through their website at [www.markettheatre.org](http://www.markettheatre.org).

## Music and fashion

Madonna wore lace and crucifix necklaces. Robert Plant wore tight bell bottom jeans and Cher wore sequin pants with a matching crop top and hoop earrings. Every young



Kristine March

person that listened to their music copied them in some sort of fashion. They were the original influencers back then. Nowadays it's more about bloggers on Instagram that people look up to.

I personally miss the old days because I'm an old soul, if you will. There was something so riveting for me as a young girl to pick up a Rolling Stone magazine and see my favorite artist on the cover. I instantly wanted to have

their look. For me it was all about the early two thousands because I graduated high school in 2003. I was obsessed with, dare I say, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera and Shakira. Yes, I admit it. They wore low rise jeans a belly button ring and showed off their midriffs. I did too, and thankfully that ship has sailed far away - for me anyways.

It's funny how much music and fashion go hand in hand. In 2020 all the youth are copying Billie Eilish with over sized sweat pants and sweat shirts and lime green hair. To each their own! Who were some of your fashion influences and what music brought you out of your shell? I find it so interesting how we look up to people. I admire their confidence for sure and it's amazing how they inspire. Remember to make the sidewalk your runway and rock and roll!

PHOTO COURTESY OF WILL MALONE

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# McDougald Funeral & Cremation Services announces opening of Pendleton Center

PENDLETON, SC – October 20, 2020 McDougald Funeral & Cremation Services announces the opening of the Pendleton Center, a multiuse gathering venue, on October 27, 2020, via a celebratory Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The new center at 1001 Mechanic Street in Pendleton, SC, will host funeral and memorial services as well as celebrations of life for groups in the Central, Clemson, La France, Pendleton, Sandy Springs and Townville areas.

“The Pendleton Center will be a wonderful place for families and friends to gather for meaningful milestone celebrations,” said Doug and Jess McDougald, Vice Presidents and Funeral Directors for McDougald Funeral & Cremation



Services. “It provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere close to home and can be adapted for a variety of events. It’s an ideal combination of convenience and comfort for more of the local communities we serve.”

The Pendleton Center offers an alternative location to make funeral plans as well as offers setup versatility to accommodate funeral

and memorial services, receptions, reunions, and other meetings. Available options include traditional row seating for up to 100 guests, as well as table seating, a compact full kitchen for food and catering, a private garden patio with a soothing water feature and a covered outdoor area for gatherings. The center features state-of-the-art audio and video equipment for virtual event

streaming, music performance and recorded presentations.

An experienced staff will help create a custom layout of seating, tables, equipment and furniture for life celebrations at the Pendleton Center. Families can choose a traditional service, or they are free to reimagine what a funeral can be by creating their own unique, personalized event.

The McDougald Family has

provided funeral service and comfort for residents in Anderson and surrounding areas for 100 years. A fourth generation now continues the legacy of integrity, dignity and compassion, the cornerstones upon which McDougald Funeral & Cremation Services was founded. The company includes McDougald Funeral Home, McDougald Cremation Services, McDougald Family Center, The Pendleton Center, Forest Lawn Memorial Park and Oaklawn Memorial Gardens.

For more information about local community funeral and memorial services or events at the Pendleton Center, please contact McDougald Funeral & Cremation Services at 864-224-4343, or through their website at [mcdougaldfuneralhome.com](http://mcdougaldfuneralhome.com).

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**FEATURES**

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- State-of-the-art audio and video equipment
- A private garden patio with a soothing water feature
- A covered outdoor area for gatherings

For more information about local community funeral and memorial services or events at the Pendleton Center, please contact McDougald Funeral & Cremation Services.

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# Betsy Byars

BY LINA MASLO

Betsy Byars (1928-2020) was a prolific and award-winning children's author with roots in Anderson, SC. Although she was born and grew up in Charlotte, NC, her parents and paternal grandparents were from Anderson. According to Gayle Edwards, a local retired teacher who gives the "Electric City Literary Tour" (currently on hold due to COVID), Betsy's grandfather, John Schwartz Cromer, owned a grocery store on West Market Street and her aunt, Gladys Cromer, taught mathematics in Anderson for 45 years.

In 1946, Betsy and her mother came to Anderson to visit her grandparents. While they were in the area, they dropped a friend off at Furman University. On a whim, Betsy decided that Furman was the school she wanted to attend. It was brimming with attractive young men! She later came to find out that she had seen the boys' campus, which was about a mile from the girls'. Betsy was at Furman for two years with the goal of becoming a mathematician. Halfway through, however, she found that she preferred words to numbers, and in 1948, she transferred to Queens College in Charlotte, an all-girls school, to receive her degree in English.

In the summer of 1949, Betsy met a young Clemson University college professor named Edward Ford Byars. In addition to being handsome and smart, Edward owned a Mercury convertible and a 1931 Stinson plane. Betsy was smitten. After graduating from Queens in 1950, Betsy and Edward got married at Anderson's Central Presbyterian Church on North Main Street. At that time, Betsy's parents owned the house at 401 Boulevard (which is still there) right across the street from Anderson University, where the young couple held their reception.

Betsy and Ed had four children together—Betsy Ann, Laurie, Nan Aline, and Guy Ford. Betsy began to write as a way to make some extra money while raising her children. Her first publications were short articles with the Saturday Evening Post, and then Woman's Day and Family Circle. One day, Betsy helped her daughters check out some library books. As she read through them, she thought that she could write children's books that were much better than those! How hard could it be?

Betsy wrote a manuscript and sent it out to publishers. It was rejected 11 times over three years. Getting a children's book published was

more complicated than she had anticipated. She attempted adult mysteries (no success), and continued to write magazine articles. But she kept coming back to children's books.

Finally, in 1962, when Betsy was 34 years old, her first children's book, *Clementine*, was published. After that, Betsy was able to get her novels consistently published, though rejections never stopped! Later, her novel, *The Midnight Fox* (1968), was another turning point in her career—she found that her favorite genre to write was contemporary realism.

Betsy's best books were realistic stories. Her own children were a great source of inspiration for these. Betsy was aware of the struggles and joys of her children. Her daughters and son told their mother about their days at school or with friends, and Betsy filed these experiences away to use later in her stories. She also used newspaper articles as starting points for books. Sometimes, she asked her children to read her manuscripts and give her feedback. If they lost interest partway through, she would go in and revise the story.

In 1971, Betsy's book *The Summer of the Swans* received the Newbery Medal, the most prestigious award for children's writing in the United States. Since then, she published dozens of realistic children's stories. Some of Betsy's other awards include the National Book Award for *The Night Swimmers* (1980) and the Edgar Award for *Wanted...Mud Blossom* (1991).

During her career, Betsy visited schools all over the United States, and also in Anderson. Mrs. W. B. (Betty) Royster, who was a librarian at Whitehall Elementary School, remembers Betsy Byars speaking to her students—she was "very pleasant and the students adored her," Betty says. Betsy used these visits to talk about her books, and to see what other books the students were reading.

Betsy and Ed moved around the country for Ed's job, but settled back in Clemson in 1980. One of their favorite hobbies was flying planes. In 1984, Betsy got her own pilot's license, and in 1985, Ed retired and was able to devote his time to restoring and rebuilding antique airplanes at Oconee County Airport. In 1992, the couple built a house near a landing strip with a hangar on the bottom floor. Betsy continued to write children's books from that house until her passing earlier this year.

All of Betsy and Ed's children graduated from Clemson University. Two of her daugh-

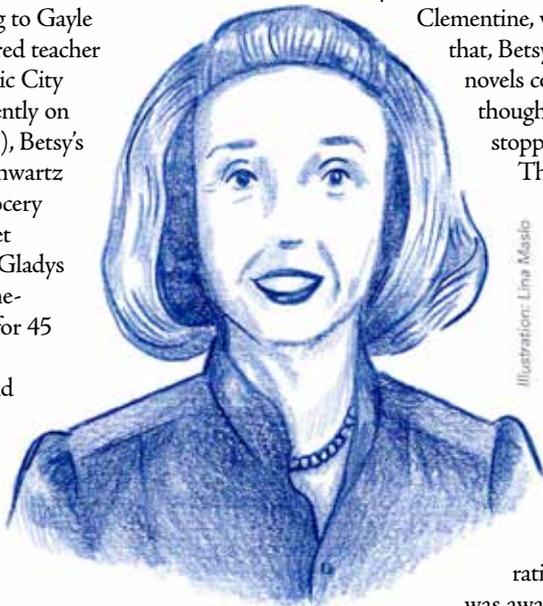


Illustration: Lina Maslo



ters, Betsy Duffey and Laurie Myers, are also children's book authors. They collaborated on several books with their mother including *My Dog, My Hero* (2000), illustrated by Loren Long, *Dog Diaries* (2007) and *Cat Diaries* (2010). Over her lifetime, Betsy wrote more

than 60 children's books, and her books have been translated into 19 languages.

For further reading on Betsy Byars: [www.BetsyByars.com](http://www.BetsyByars.com)  
Betsy Byars by Malcolm Usrey.

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# Hello, fall!

As the seasons change, so do our opportunities to experience new and exciting adventures. Although our summer memories will be forever treasured, the advent of Fall offers a unique array of fun and entertaining outdoor activities kids of all ages are sure to love. From jumping into a pile of leaves to going on a nature walk or having fun with arts and crafts- the possibilities are endless.



**Katie Laughridge**

Following is a list of twenty enjoyable ways to take advantage of this amazing season:

- Visit an apple orchard
- Make homemade apple pie and applesauce
- Build a scarecrow stuffed with newspaper to sit in your front porch rocking chair
- Make a leaf pile and jump into it
- Create leaf rubbings (place a leaf under a piece of white paper and color on top of it)
- Make apple stamps (cut an apple in half, dip it in paint, and stamp it onto a piece of paper)
- Stuff leaves in bags and decorate them like a pumpkin
- Play "I spy" during a nature walk
- Collect and identify leaves; make a leaf collection and press leaves
- Visit a zoo
- Get lost in a corn maze
- Visit a pick-your-own pumpkin at a local pumpkin patch

- Toast pumpkin seeds from your carved pumpkin
- Decorate a pumpkin with paint, markers, and/or stickers
- Carve a pumpkin
- Collect acorns and make faces on them
- Coordinate family Halloween costumes
- Go on a color walk collecting outside treasures that are yellow, orange, red, or brown
- Dress each other up as toilet paper mummies
- Play your own game of flag football in the yard
- Use white tissues, a black marker, and rubber bands to make miniature ghosts
- Read fall themed books such as "There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Leaves" by Lucille Colandro or "Pumpkin Jack" by Will Hubbell

Whatever you choose to do, the fall season is sure to provide fun and adventure for your entire family. Engaging in fun activities together as a family is also an excellent way to help your child build important background knowledge, learn pertinent social skills and become happy well-rounded adults. These activities will also help your child become more successful in school- as well as later in life. Most importantly, remember that taking time to share memories with your little ones today will be the things that mean the most to them tomorrow when they become adults.

"Family time is the best time!"  
Carmelo Anthony

## *Young artists invited to apply for SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities*

GREENVILLE, SC — Artistically talented students in grades 6-11 can now apply to the SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities' summer programs and tuition-free, residential high school for the 2021-2022 school year. All South Carolina residents are eligible and can apply online at [SCGSAH.org](http://SCGSAH.org).

"We want every parent who has an artistic child to know about the transformative opportunities that the Governor's School offers them," said Cedric Adderley, school president. "We're hosting numerous virtual events throughout the fall for families to learn more about our programs and the life-long benefits of our pre-professional training."

The Governor's School is hosting a continuous series of virtual information sessions each week and a virtual open house, First Look, on Saturday, November 7. They have also teamed up with the SC Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and the new Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe for several Endless Opportunities events for those who wish to learn about the offerings from all three Governor's Schools.

Located in downtown Greenville, the Governor's School offers pre-professional training in creative writing, dance, drama, music, and visual arts. Students attend from all over the state to learn from established, practicing artists in an environment that provides the resources needed to hone their artistic abilities including specialized arts studios, state-of-the-art performance halls, a world-class library and dedicated rehearsal spaces.

Governor's School graduates attend the nation's top colleges, universities and conservatories, and many students receive arts and academic scholarships. The Residential High School program has been nationally recognized by U.S. News and World Report, The Washington Post, The Daily Beast, and Niche. The Palmetto Gold award-winning high school consistently ranks above state and national averages for SAT and ACT scores and had a 99 percent graduation and college acceptance rate for the 2019-2020 school year. The reviews and rankings site Niche.com ranked the Governor's School the third "Best College Prep High School" and the fourth "Best Public High School" in South Carolina.

"About half of our graduates continue to pursue their arts discipline in college and as a career," said Adderley. "The other half choose collegiate studies in education, business, medicine, technology and other fields where they are very successful because of the discipline and life skills they learned from their experience at the Governor's School," said Adderley.

The Governor's School also offers summer programs that provide younger students the opportunity to immerse themselves in their artistic passion while learning from practicing artists.

Interested individuals can learn more about the upcoming admissions events, arts programs, and application process at [www.SCGSAH.org](http://www.SCGSAH.org).

## THE GARDEN SHOP



Curlyleaf tea olive



Orange tea olive



Fortune tea olive

# Enticing tea olives



**SUSAN  
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Tea olives can be just another shrub until they bloom. The marvelous fragrance catches our attention before the flowers do. Fall is primary bloom time for tea olives but they bloom some in spring too and sporadically other times of the year. Some say tea olives bloom in months with an R. Other varieties offer different bloom times. A friend's Facebook post prompted some discussion and questions on the color and smell of the flowers. *Osmanthus fragrans*, Fragrant Tea Olive, is the most common type. Pale, buttery yellow flowers start in September and bloom well into November, sometimes into winter. They are moderate, maybe a bit slow, growers. But they will eventually get big, 15 – 20 feet tall

and at least half that wide. If true white flowers are your favorite, Fortune (*Osmanthus x fortunei*) and Holly tea olive (*Osmanthus heterophyllus*) will be your best bet. They grow a bit smaller too if that helps. These types will also take more pruning than traditional fragrant tea olive. Fortune and Holly can be pruned into formal hedges. They bloom a little later too. My Fortune just started blooming a couple of weeks ago. According to "Landscape Plants of the Southeast" by R. Gordon Halfacre and Anne R. Shawcroft, Holly *Osmanthus* blooms in July and August. There is a little known variety, Curlyleaf Tea Olive (*Osmanthus heterophyllus* 'Rotundifolius'), that looks very similar to a boxwood. Leaves are dark green and shiny. I had one that came from Busby Nursery but it died. I haven't seen one in a nursery again to give growing it another try. My place is named *Osmanthus Valley* so I am trying to grow lots of different varieties.

I posted a picture of an orange tea olive (*Osmanthus aurantiacus*) that got attention.

It grows and blooms just like the fragrant tea olive but has true orange flowers. Before Husband broke up with IPTAY, I took orange tea olive and purple beauty berry in a white vase for the tailgate table. I missed a marketing opportunity. I could have sold those arrangements all day long.

If native plants are your fancy, there's a tea olive for that too. *Osmanthus americanus*, commonly called Devilwood because the wood is the devil to cut, may be the largest growing variety. It grows moderately fast too. Devilwood grows more open than other tea olives but could still make a privacy screen. It blooms in spring with flowers that are buttery yellow and smells slightly different. I suppose it has a bit of a citrus smell to it but smells wonderful also. Devilwood is the only tea olive that deer eat. Fortunately, they don't bother it much. All tea olives are drought tolerant and very easy to grow in well-drained soil. They do well in shade too. If your garden is small, they can be limbed up to grow in a multi-trunk tree form.

## MUSINGS OF AN OLE BALL COACH

# JUST DO THE RIGHT THING

Most of us in life's journey are at times speared on the horns of a dilemma (a Hobson's choice) - whether to do what is honorable and right or what is expedient and advantageous. To simply do the right thing can occasionally be a gut wrenching and soul searching decision.



Jim Fraser

Allow me to muse about two people who did the right thing although by contemporary standards it was not. These are two of my

most favorite people, my dear departed lovely wife, Joyce and my fast friend and confidant Chuck Allen.

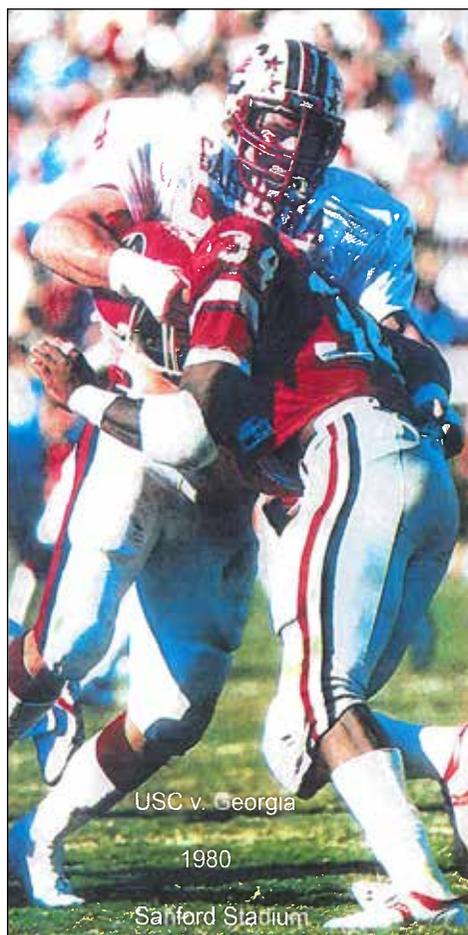
Chuck was a highly regarded, national football recruit and high school all American when he graduated from T.L. Hanna. To say he was one of the most distinguished and stellar players to don the Yellow Jacket colors would be an understatement. I was fortunate to benefit from his playing ability and his leadership ability on and off the field. He and Hardy Gambrell and myself led the South Carolina Sandlappers to victory over the Tar Heels in the 1976 Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas. Chuck was a team captain.

He continued his career at the University of South Carolina where he was an all American Defensive Lineman. He and Heisman Trophy winner George Rogers, captained a Carolina team that led the Gamecocks to victory into two of college football most storied venues; the Big House at the University of Michigan and the Los Angeles Coliseum of the Southern California Trojans.

After graduation from Carolina and USC Law School Chuck has practiced law in his hometown for 30 years as lead counsel in Allen & Allen Law Firm. He served as a legislator from Anderson County in the South Carolina House of Representatives. For the last 12 years he accomplished two of his dreams - induction into the U.S.C. Athletic Hall of Fame and to serve on the USC Board of Trustees. Space doesn't permit me to list all of his Board accomplishments but suffice it to say much of the amenities and beautification at Williams-Brice Stadium are products of his handiwork.

As he faced his 4th term he faced a terrific decision. The Anderson and Oconee County legislative delegation had an unwritten tradition that deemed the two counties would alternate Board membership after three terms. Rather than drag his beloved University through a contentious election, he withdrew because that was simply, the right thing to do. Guided by conscience and integrity he truly did, the right thing!

Joyce's saga occurred in April 1, 1958. We



**Chuck Allen tackles legendary Georgia running back Herschel Walker**

were to be married in July and had accepted positions in Marlboro County, she at Clio High and I at Bennettville.

I breathlessly accosted her at her house one block from the Newberry College Campus. I had just been offered a head coaching position at a newly formed school, Mid Carolina, located in Prosperity. She countered my revelation with a sardonic, "But Coley you can't accept, you have a job,"

"I've signed no contract and look it's \$5,100 against \$3,900 and it's a head job vs an assistant job. After much back and forth, I acquired. We both had given our word. I would have gone to Spain and fought wild raging bulls for her so it was really a no brainer.

We spent two wonderful years in Marlboro followed by eight splendid years in Aiken before coming to Anderson in 1968. All because we simply, did the right thing, a recipe that always works.

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



Jim and Joyce Fraser



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## NIBBLE &amp; SIP

# Frightening finds in the bottom of the bowl

Halloween is filled with fright. From October 1st until the big day, horror movies are on every channel, and haunted houses compete to terrorize their visitors. A few years ago, South Carolina even made the national news when menacing clowns were running amok in the Upstate.

Yawn.

I'm not scared of any of these things. What scares me most is what might be hiding in the bowl of Halloween candy, one of the few flavors that I absolutely cannot stand: licorice.

My England-born brother-in-law loves it, and my dad did too. I still remember the creepy way his teeth would turn black after eating it. But as much as I detest it, the flavor of anise, which is very similar to licorice, plays an important role in some classic Nibbles and Sips.

Unless you have strong ties to the south of France, you're probably not reading the Electric City News while sipping a glass of Pernod. But when paired with other ingredients, this anise-flavored liqueur, along with cousins Herbsaint and Ricard Pastis, provides an elegant punch to cocktails when used judiciously; just a drop or two is enough. So

if you're thinking of buying a bottle and are put off by the price, just remember that it will probably last at least a decade.



Kim von Keller

During October, my favorite of the anise-scented cocktails is the Corpse Reviver No. 2. While its flavors of gin and citrus make it a refreshing summer drink, it's also a great Halloween-themed drink to settle in with when the trick-or-treaters have all gone home. And to accompany it while you curl up on the sofa to watch *Get Out* or the original *Dracula*, Cheddar and Hard Cider Fondue is the epitome of fall comfort. For dessert, just grab whatever's left in the bottom of the candy bowl. I'll trade you my licorice for a Snickers.

#### Cheddar and Hard Cider Fondue

1 (12-ounce) bottle hard cider  
 ¾ cup chicken broth  
 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce  
 ½ t. garlic, finely chopped



Sprinkle some of the cheese mixture into the warm liquid and continue to stir in small amounts of cheese, using a whisk, until it is all incorporated and the fondue is smooth and melted, about 15 minutes. Stir in cayenne and salt to taste. Transfer to a fondue pot and serve with dippers.

#### Corpse Reviver No. 2

1 stemless maraschino cherry  
 1 oz. good quality gin  
 1 oz. orange liqueur  
 1 oz. lemon juice  
 1 oz. Lillet blanc  
 3 DROPS Pernod or other anise-flavored liqueur

Drop the maraschino cherry into the bottom of a Martini glass. In a cocktail shaker, combine the gin, orange liqueur, lemon juice, and Lillet. Shake vigorously, and strain into the glass. Carefully drop 3 drops of the Pernod onto the top of the drink, and serve. Serves 1.

½ pound Gruyere cheese, grated  
 ½ pound sharp yellow cheddar cheese, grated  
 3 tablespoons corn starch  
 ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper  
 Salt

Dippers, such as bread chunks, ham chunks, broccoli spears, baby carrots, or Granny Smith apple wedges.

Heat cider, broth, Worcestershire sauce, and garlic in a medium pot over medium heat and simmer for 5 minutes. Toss the cheeses together in a medium bowl. Sift the corn starch over the cheese, and toss to coat lightly.



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