

In the library

The Postscript, by Carrie Classon

Sometimes I have to give myself a talking-to. I got back from my whirlwind library tour and had a lot to do. I tried to get things done and felt like I was spinning my wheels, leaving tire tracks on my office floor.

One of the things I had to do was record the comments made on the surveys handed out at my performances. This was something I was dreading. I suspected most of them would be nice—and there is nothing harder for me to do than read nice things written about me. I get embarrassed. I don't want to do it. But recording those surveys was one of the things on my long to-do list. So I started.

People were not asked to provide their names, but the first survey was signed "Pearl." I remembered Pearl. She had bright blue eyes. She told me she had recently moved into a senior assisted-living facility.

Pearl wrote, "It was very good and very interesting. I like hearing about books." Pearl and I chatted after the show. She had come to the library with a walker because she had taken a bad fall that spring and broken both her femurs. I told her that sounded terribly painful. She told me she had almost lost her life numerous times, and now she thought she should write about that: how she had almost died several times but was still alive and well—with a walker—attending a presentation at her local library.

I talked a lot about optimism in my presentation, and a woman came up to me afterward and asked, "Do you think there is a difference between optimism and hope?"

I told her I wasn't sure and asked her what she thought. She appeared thoughtful for a moment.

She was going straight from the library to a fish fry to support a political candidate who probably will not win. But she felt he wanted to do the right things, so she was campaigning for him anyway. "I think hope is what you do even if you know it won't work out," she said. "Because it might work out for your kids—or your grand-kids."

I liked that a lot. Another man told me he was turning 90 later this year. When he heard a character in my book had a passionate romance at 86, he said he thought 86 was kind of young. I promised him that the next romance I wrote would involve mature adults.

I kept reading surveys. "You inspired me so much! I was feeling old and down—not anymore. I'm not a writer but a painter, and I am going to try."

I had no idea who this painter was. I wondered if they would start painting. I wished they had told me in person so I could have encouraged them.

"Loved your enthusiasm and can-do attitude. I left feeling good today. Thank you."

"Very uplifting. Food for my soul."

"You inspired me to write my story for family."

And that was when I gave myself a talking-to.

I saw how foolish I was to be embarrassed. I have been given the chance to provide a little optimism, a little entertainment and maybe a little hope. It isn't a big thing that I do, but maybe it helps. And that is enough.

"People keep telling me I should write my story down!" Pearl said, right before she left.

"You should!" I agreed.

Pearl nodded thoughtfully. "I might have to do that. I hear they're starting up a writing group in the library."

Till next time, Carrie



CARRIE CLASSON

A vote for your friendly neighborhood Spiderman

With the Encore edition of Avengers: Endgame back in theatres prepping the holiday masses for Doomsday, I think it is time to put a long-standing argument to rest.

I firmly believe that Spider-Man is the best Marvel superhero. And, if you disagree, well, your opinion is about as reliable as Aunt May's cooking after she watched one too many celebrity chef shows. Let's be honest: most heroes are either brooding billionaires with daddy issues, Norse gods who still haven't figured out how to use a smartphone, or walking tanks who solve every problem by punching it until it stops moving. Spider-Man? He's the only one who can swing through the sky while cracking jokes about his own life falling apart, and somehow still make it look cool.

First off, the powers. Super strength, wall-crawling, enhanced senses, and web-shooters that he built himself because the universe decided a poor kid from Queens needed even more responsibilities. Compare that to Thor, who got his powers from a magical hammer and a questionable family tree. Or Iron Man, whose entire hero career is just

"what if I put a mini nuclear reactor in my chest and then complained about it for three movies?" Peter Parker invented his own gear in a high school lab while failing chemistry. That's not just heroism—that's overtime with extra sarcasm.

Personally, Spider-Man is the only Avenger who would actually be fun at a party. Tony Stark shows up, monopolizes the conversation, and leaves you with the bill. Captain America lectures you about the Constitution while refusing to sit because the chair is "too modern." Hulk just smashes the snack table. Spider-Man? He's the guy who shows up late, apologizes with a terrible pun, helps clean up the mess he didn't even make, and then leaves early because he has to study for a midterm and stop a bank robbery. He's relatable. He's the hero who still has to worry about rent, relationships, and whether his suit is starting to smell like regret and subway air.

And the villains? Spider-Man's rogue gallery is peak entertainment. Green Goblin is a rich guy on a glider with pumpkin

bombs—basically Tony Stark if he had worse impulse control. Doctor Octopus is a scientist who lost an argument with his own arms. Venom is what happens when you give a parasite a gym membership and zero social skills. These aren't cosmic threats that require seventeen heroes and a time heist. These are everyday disasters that Peter handles while still making it to class. That's

efficiency. That's commitment. That's a man who understands that with great power comes great paperwork and even greater disappointment from your landlord.

Look at the movies. Other heroes get origin stories filled with explosions and dramatic music. Spider-Man's origin is "got bitten by a radioactive spider, felt guilty, and decided to do better." No ancient prophecy. No alien bloodline. Just a kid who learned the hard way that doing nothing is its own kind of failure. And he still cracks wise while doing it. That's not just a superhero. That's a lifestyle. That's the kind of resilience that makes you believe maybe, just maybe, you could also get your life together



ROBERT ROE

if a spider bit you hard enough.

Some people will argue for Wolverine because of the claws and the attitude. Cool. He's been alive for two hundred years and still hasn't learned how to process emotions without stabbing someone. Others will swear by Captain America because of the shield and the moral compass. Admirable, sure—but the man still thinks "streaming" means something you do with a fishing rod. Deadpool is funny, I'll give him that, but his humor comes with a body count and a severe lack of boundaries. Spider-Man's humor is the kind that keeps him sane while the world tries to crush him. It's survival with a punchline.

So yes, Spider-Man is the best. Not because he's the strongest. Not because he's the richest. Not because he can fly or summon lightning or turn into a giant green rage monster. He's the best because he's the one who keeps showing up, webs out, quips ready, even when the universe is clearly rooting against him. And if that doesn't convince you, well... I hope your favorite hero is ready to hear some very pointed web-based criticism.

A new scholarship opportunity is available for Kentucky students K-12!

Submitted by Crystal L. McCall Ruark

On Wednesday, September 30, Buffalo Trace Area Development District welcomed Will Hodges with the Kentucky Education Fund - Scholarship Granting Organization to share information with our local school district representatives about the new scholarship program created under House Bill 1. This would provide

scholarships opportunities for students in K-12 to assist with eligible educational expenses. The newly incorporated Kentucky Education Fund is launching on January 1, 2027, to support students across all 120 Kentucky counties.

Individuals who make donations to the Kentucky Education Fund - may be eligible for a dollar-for-dollar federal income tax credit of up to \$1,700 per calendar year.

BTADD's school district Representatives discussed how donors could support a participating school district and what the process would look like for students applying for funds. Potential expenses include books, supplies, technology, special needs services, and fees for educational programs, dual credit, are subject to eligibility rules. Anyone in the United States can donate to a participating school

district and there are currently 30 states participating. Superintendents and guest engaged in some great conversation and look forward to seeing the positive impact this has on their students as well as their districts.

Learn more about Kentucky Education Fund at kyeducationfund.org, Facebook @ Kentucky Education Fund or email: info@kyeducationfund.org

Notices

Street, West Union OH 45693
Wednesday 12:00 PM – Noon Time Serenity Group First Presbyterian Church 21 West 3rd Street, Maysville KY 41056 Basement door on Stanley Reed Court
7:00 PM – Mt Olivet Group Robertson County Community Center 110 Pinhook Road, Mount Olivet KY 41064
7:30 PM – Georgetown Church of Christ 402 North Main Street, Georgetown OH 45121
8:00 PM – Flemingsburg St Charles Catholic Church 211 Mount Carmel Avenue, Flemingsburg KY 41041
Thursday 8:00 PM – Manchester AA Community Building 21 East 2nd St, Manchester OH 45144
Friday 9:00 AM – Come As You Are Church of the Nazarene 4886 East State Street, Georgetown OH 45121
8:00 PM – Road to Recovery Church of Nativity/Hunter House

Notices

31 East 3rd Street, Maysville KY 41056 Corner of 3rd and Limestone Street
8:00 PM – Flemingsburg St Charles Catholic Church 211 Mount Carmel Avenue, Flemingsburg KY 41041
Saturday 1:00 PM – WHO Group Centenary United Methodist Church 110 North Second Street, Ripley OH
8:00 PM – Pioneer Group Brooksville United Methodist Church 131 Woodward Avenue, Brooksville KY

Wanted

Maysville: Broadway Street-Seddon Methodist Church-Indoor Basement. Sat. Oct. 3. 9am-3pm. Clothes, home decor, glassware. Lots of Misc! No Early Birds!

Yard Sale

Mason Co. Homemakers Indoor Yard Sale & Bake Sale. Sat. Oct. 3rd. 8am till 2pm at the Extension Office on Rt 68. Something for EVERYONE! No early sales.

Apartments/Townhouses

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Bible

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." -Psalm 34.19 Rip's Farm Center 606-798-3276

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For assistance call:
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LEGALS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF HORRY)
Kija Evelyn Krystyne Wolfe and Michael Andrew Wolfe,)
Plaintiffs,)
vs.)
Alexander Johnathan Ruby, A.E.J.R. A Minor)
Under the Age of Fourteen, and S.D.R. A Minor)
Under the Age of Fourteen,)
Defendant,)

TO: THE DEFENDANT ALEXANDER JOHNATHAN RUBY:
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action is being brought by the Plaintiffs in the Court indicated above for the termination of your parental rights and adoption. The action was filed on January 16, 2026 at 8:52 AM at the Horry County Clerk of Court located at 1301 Second Ave in Conway, SC 29526. You must respond in writing and serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiffs at 11019 Ocean Hwy in Pawleys Island, SC 29585 within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you. If you do not answer the Complaint within the specified time, the Court may grant the relief requested by Plaintiffs in the Complaint due to your default.
You are further notified that a Final Hearing has been scheduled for December 3, 2026 at 10 AM before the Honorable James McGee at the Horry County Government and Justice Center located at 1301 Second Ave in Conway, SC 29526.
WINSLOW LAW
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SUMMONS TO COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING

See What's Brewing

In your community

Nothing goes better with your morning coffee than your local paper.