

Poetry Corner

MORNING PRAYER

by Chad Ashby

You must work and
So must I—
Sun and duty
Both arise.

Make our “musts” and
“Oughts” to be
The dawning of
Desire for Thee.

HOME

by Chad Ashby

If Plato is right,
Then justice means
A place for everything.

If God is just,
Then his cosmos has
A home for every creature.

If I feel homeless,
It cannot be
Because I do not have a home.

BOTS CAN'T MAKE PIES

by CHAD ASHBY

The recent surge in AI technologies has me thinking, *can robots make pies?* Maybe machines will soon put the Hutch out of business? I'm not too worried. Computer systems are all about efficiency and eliminating waste—which is kind of the opposite of pie-making.

Anyone who's rolled out a pie crust knows there's inefficiency built into the whole process. Crust recipes always make way more than we need. The goal is to have extra so that when we've rolled it out, we can cut out a perfect circle from the center—and discard the rest.

True, we could adjust the recipe to make only *just enough*. The problem is, even after the hundreds of pie crusts I've made, I've yet to roll one into a perfect circle. I always need the crust to be *forgiving* around the edges.

Crust never behaves quite how we expect. It cracks, forms oblong shapes, sticks to the counter. Without extra, we are forced to ball it up and start again, making for a tougher end result. But a forgiving crust allows for mistakes without a bunch of do-overs. Forgiveness makes for better pie in the end.

But there is an inefficiency to forgiveness. It has to allow for some waste, some falling short, some sacrifice.

This is why pie-making is a perfectly *human* endeavor. We are not exacting, efficient, wasteless bots. We are made in the image of a forgiving God. Chasing wayward sons, seeking lost sheep, dying in the place of those who have fallen short—these are all a part of a plan of salvation that is anything but efficient:



peach pies (july 15)

“IN HIM WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD, THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR TRESPASSES, ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE, WHICH HE LAVISHED UPON US...” (EPH 1:7-8)

His grace is more than *just enough*. God so abounds in forgiveness that he can absorb all our cracks, shortcomings, and sins and still end with perfection. Forgiveness is baked into his plan—his forgiveness toward us and our forgiveness toward one another.

I have to admit, it pains me to toss out that trimmed-off bit of perfectly good pie crust—which means my forgiveness probably still has room to grow.

ORDER A PIE

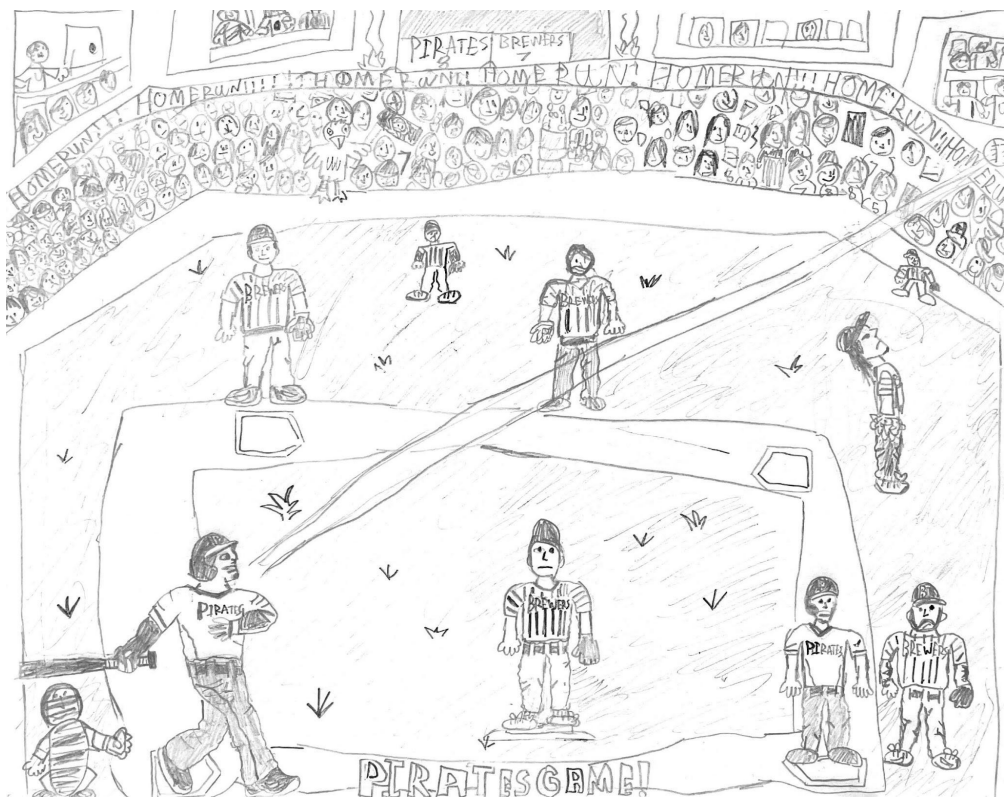
Residents of Greenville, SC can contact us via Facebook at facebook.com/thehutchgvl or email at ashbycc1@gmail.com

VISIT THE HUTCH

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Santana's Smash (Pirates' Game!) by Teddy Ashby (Age 9)



Dog Days of Summer by Peter Ashby

MINDY'S PICKS

ISLANDS OF MAINE: WHERE AMERICA REALLY BEGAN

by BILL CALDWELL

I found this book in a stack from Chad's Gram Patty's house. I'd like to think that she, as a fellow lover of Maine, would be tickled that I took it, read it, and am now recommending it.

Written by another lover of the great state, this book will surprise you with tales of explorers and sailors who adventured in Maine before settlements at Jamestown or Plymouth existed. An easy-to-read writing style and some captivating anecdotes will make you want to plan a trip to these islands ASAP.

CHAD CLASSICS

THE DEATH OF IVAN ILYCH

by LEO TOLSTOY

Tolstoy will force you to wrestle with some of life's "cursed questions," as the Russians call them: *What do I want? Why do I exist? What is my purpose?*

Russian novels are the quickest way to realizing the gulf between their culture and ours. But *Ivan Ilych* will also reveal that the middle-class mentality—the desire for comfort, ease, and pleasure—is the same on every continent. This book comes with the plus of being able to say you've read Tolstoy—and it's 900 pages shorter than *War and Peace*.



The Moors by Fletcher Ashby (age 11)

JULY SCHEDOODLE

Keep up with our weekly offerings:

THUR JULY 6
RASPBERRY &
BLUEBERRY
POP TARTS
(\$2 each)

SAT JULY 8
APPLE PIES
(\$22 each)

THUR JULY 13
MAPLE & CINNAMON
MOON PIES
(\$2 each)

SAT JULY 15
PEACH PIES
(\$22 each)

JULY 16-AUG 4
HUTCH CLOSED!

SAT AUG 5
CINNAMON
DOUGHNUTS
(\$12 for 6 whole
or 15 donut holes)

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HOMEMADE WHIPPED CREAM

No one should be buying miracle whip. I repeat: With how easy it is to make whipped cream, no one should be messing with the store-bought stuff! Keep whipping cream in the fridge, and you will always be 3 minutes and a stand mixer away from this dreamy miracle.

MAKE IT

2 c whipping cream
4 tbsp sugar
2 tsp vanilla

Add all ingredients to the bowl of a stand mixer with whisk attachment. Slowly turn up the speed to high, making sure not to fling out the cream. Watch closely until it thickens to desired whipped consistency. Should take around 2 minutes. Enjoy!

KITCHEN TIP:

PROOFING RIG

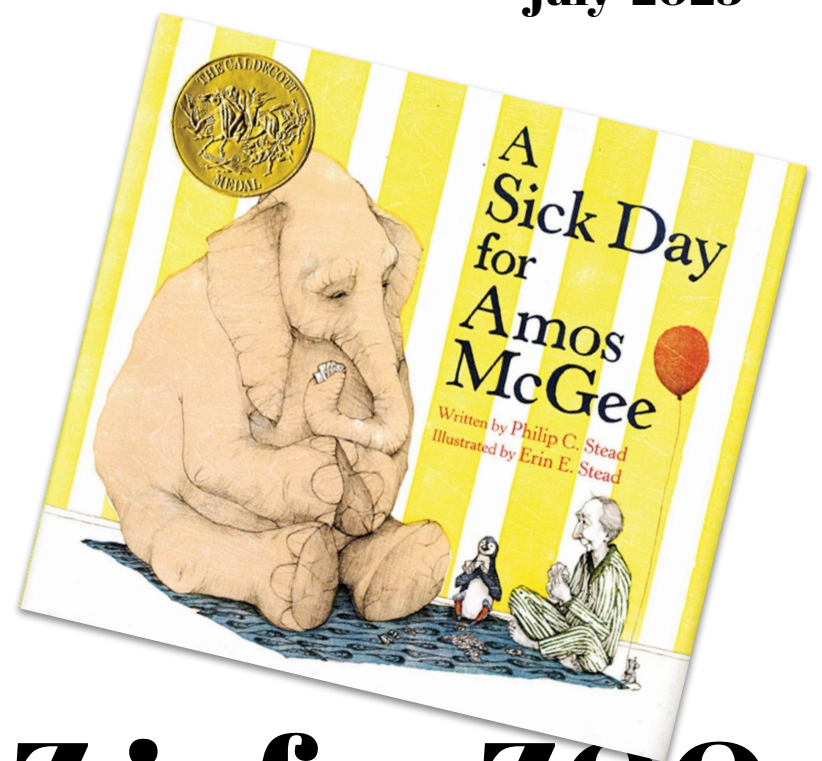


When I started making yeasted doughs, I always ran into the problem of covering items while they rose. Plastic wrap was always sticking to the dough, making tears, and ruining the proof.

That is, until I invented this proofing rig. It's simple: Two lengths of aluminum foil rolled, flattened, arched, and tucked under the pan and two sheets of plastic wrap. When you're done, roll up the foil for next time!



maple & cinnamon moon pies (july 13)



Z is for ZOO

by DAVIS ASHBY (age 4)

I don't really remember anything but I think he's waking up, he's getting tea, then he gets his clothes on—hat—he goes out his house and opens his gate. He goes to the Bus 2—I mean 5—and he wants some new friends (He's going to the zoo).

He gets an elephant, he gets a turtle, he gets a penguin, he gets a rhino, he gets a owl, he goes back to his house and waits for his friends.

They go to the bus, and they're walking, then the bird is on the turtle—did you write the bird's on the turtle?—they're in the bus, the animals. The penguin is holding a balloon—to go see Famous McGee.

They go to his house, and he has new friends (I bet his old friends were the bird and the mouse). The elephant and him play chess, then they're playing hide and seek—the turtle hides under his shell. The penguin keeps him warm. He needs to sneeze. They have some tea. Then the owl reads a book. Then they go to sleep—all the people except for the penguin on top of that thing. Um, the balloon and the half-moon. And the bird is right there. And the mouse is sleeping under the rhino's scarf. The owl took off his glasses and so did he—Famous the Mickey.



We made our first wedding cake this past month!

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SANTANA'S SMASH

by GRIFFIN ASHBY (age 12)

Last Thursday, we drove up to Pennsylvania to see our grandparents. They had reserved box seats at PNC Park to see the Pittsburgh Pirates with our cousins.

Our private box was really nice. It had a refrigerator with Cokes, 16 seats with a full view of the field, and a living room with a couch and buffet. A waiter also brought food up for us: sandwiches, hot dogs, chicken fingers, fruit, salad, and giant chocolate chip cookies.

The game went back and forth. The Brewers led 4-0 at the top of the second, and then the Pirates tightened it up at 4-3, then the lead grew to 7-5. At the bottom of the ninth, the Pirates were down 8-7 with veteran Andrew McCutchen on first. Facing Freddy Peralta, first baseman Carlos Santana stepped up and smashed a walk-off homer out of the park to win the game for the Buccos.

WEEKEND AT MAMAW'S

by CAROLINE ASHBY (age 7)

We went to our Mamaw and Grandad's house. It took seven and a half hours to get there. The next day, we went to a Pirates game. They were losing by 1. In the last inning, they scored a homerun. We went to our Aunt Mimi's house for a cousin reunion, and we swam in her pool. That night, I had a sleepover at my cousin's house. In the morning, I went to church in my cousin's car. After church, we went home.



homemade
pop tarts (july 6)



ABOUT US: The Ashbys live in Greenville, SC, where Chad is instructor of Math, Lit, and Theology at Greenville Classical Academy. Mindy has been homeschooling for 8 years. The Ashby kids are Griffin, Fletcher, Teddy, Caroline, Davis, and Peter.