

The Skinnie

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"Backyard Pesto is a big hit! Thank you, Scott!" The email came last Saturday, around 6:30 in the evening, presumably as the sender and her family were enjoying the recipe we published in a recent issue of The Skinnie.

The sender – we'll call her Phyllis, because that's her name and I doubt she'd mind me using it – is a person for whom I have genuine affection, and she'll check in with a nugget of mutual interest from time to time. A sample size of one is not statistically significant (at least I remember this much from all the math I took), but a single reader taking the time to affirm the value of our work – to her, anyway – is heartwarming, nonetheless.

Then, the sample group grew. Jenna, who is unusually adept at creating and maintaining relationships with our advertising partners, was visiting one to arrange a photo for an upcoming issue. One of the women in the visited office offered the following aside: "I don't really like to cook, but I LOVED the lemon pasta recipe (from an issue earlier this summer), and the Backyard Pesto, too!" Jenna, delighted by the feedback, teased out more. Said the cooking-unenthusiast, "We'd love a recipe or two for a great and simple summer salad." And so, it will be.

Let's not forget Herb. He might be my most vocal supporter, and the spryest man his age. He texts. He did so on February 3: "Just read your current Up Front – Amen, brother!" On March 15: "Enjoyed your Up Front – Classic you." Somehow, I know exactly what he meant. June 8: "Current Up Front – First class love story!" I love Herb's sense of curiosity and wonder and genuine interest in the world; he has the enthusiasm of a boy, which hasn't been suffocated by nine decades of significant life experience.

My mom is arguably my most ardent and biased fan. A few weeks ago, she texted: "Just read your Up Front again and it is a really good one / U will probably get great response."

To which I answered in wet-blanket fashion: "I don't really get much response to any of them but thank you."

I toggle between assumptions. Is the silence that follows my thought-sharing an indication that almost-nobody reads my stuff, that those who do don't care about or enjoy it, that it's not very interesting or good? Or for every Phyllis or Herb or salad-seeking-office-worker or Mom, are there dozens more with whom I unknowingly commune, at fortnight increments, with thudding regularity, as the decades pass?

A magazine like this one is a business – a commercial enterprise. But it's a conduit, too. It connects us to you. Jenna and I often sit around our house exchanging ideas for features, shuffling through photos that might look good on the cover, reviewing ads to ensure our clients get noticed and promoted in the most favorable light. There's a personal aspect to an essayist's work. It's therapeutic to unburden oneself of private thoughts, as it's simultaneously daunting to do so. There's a strange du-

ality that exists within the psyche. On one hand, general indifference to the state of nearly-non-existent feedback; on the other, an emotional rush when you realize you have connected with someone through your thoughts and words.

This is more than an insecure quest for accolades. At least, I hope it is. I/we enjoy the vitriol, too...sometimes the invectives are more fun than the praise. Although, as I've detailed, most readers remain anonymous to us, we can easily tell when we've irritated a collective nerve. There are those who relish the opportunity to share with us their disdain.

The nature of our enterprise suggests a significant component of community service, which we are happy to provide. In fact, it's our reason for being, our sustaining force. But sometimes we are amused by the expectations that some of our constituents apply to us. This is an actual excerpt (with identifying details omitted) from an email I received yesterday, three days after deadline for such submissions: "I'm a member of The Landings...I need (the event) listed in the calendar portion of *The Skinny*...I need it published in the next issue and all issues leading up to the event." Attuned to the urgency suggested by the writer's language, I dropped what I was doing, which was related to an altogether different but important-to-me-and-others endeavor, and wrote back to the sender that, despite the difficulty associated with shoehorning her item into an already-built publication, we'd do our best. I thanked her for thinking of us while resisting the temptation to correct the spelling she chose for our name (though that temptation obviously got the best of me here).

What's the point? Sometimes I wonder what you make of us. The guy who sent a photo of the magazine in his trash can because he assumed our politics don't align: Does he still secretly read every two weeks, perversely and subconsciously hoping to be annoyed? Is there another family like Phyllis's who were as blown away by the elemental deliciousness of a five-ingredient, no-cook sauce as I was when I first conceived it? Will you look at our cover and think: That's beautiful? Mostly, I/we will never know. Which is fine. But if you ever want to engage, or seek us out to satisfy your informational needs, that's fine, too. We'll be here.

Scott A. Laurent

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on the cover:
George Schmink shared this issue's cover image, coinciding our Bug's Life photo feature on page 22.

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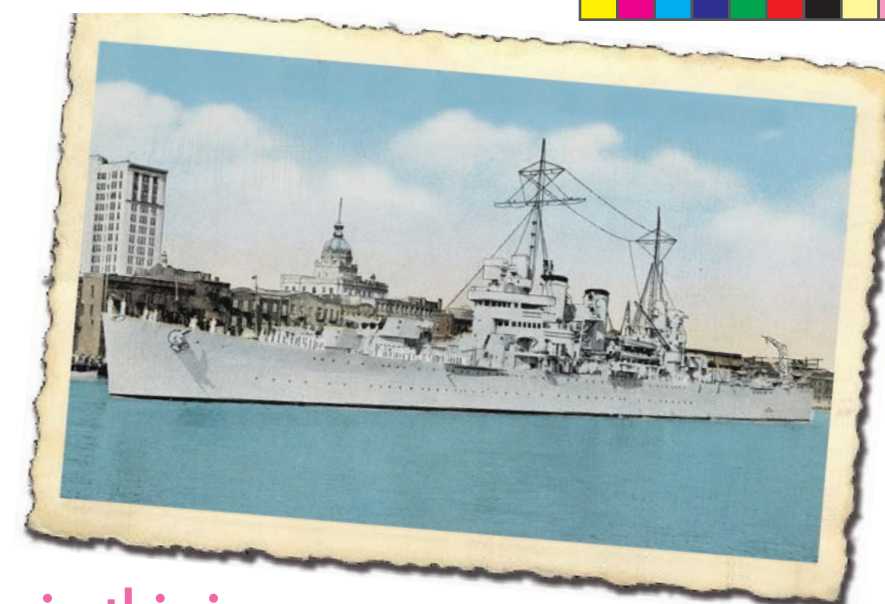
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We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and content. We do not print unsigned letters. The Skinny Magazine is not responsible for unsolicited materials and the publisher accepts no responsibility for the contents or accuracy of claims in any advertisement in any issue. The Skinny Magazine is not responsible or liable for any errors, omissions or changes in information. The opinions of contributing writers do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the magazine and its publisher.



This autumn, Fort Pulaski will celebrate its centennial as a National Monument

A MONUMENTAL CENTURY

This October marks 100 years since President Calvin Coolidge designated Fort Pulaski a national monument. Four other sites, including the Statue of Liberty, were included in Coolidge's 1924 declaration.

The difference between a national monument and any number of other designations (national park, national battlefield, national seashore, and others) is that it's a president doing the designating.

Since Theodore Roosevelt's Antiquities Act in 1906, the president has held the authority to declare national monuments. In 1933, Teddy's cousin Franklin established the National Park Service as part of his New Deal. This brought national monuments under the same umbrella as all the other national spaces. Still, the 84 national monuments remain a category unto themselves. Two are in Georgia, the other being Fort Frederica National Monument in St. Simons Island.

Fort Pulaski's archives contain no evidence of a ceremony or fanfare connected with the 1924 designation. Park Ranger Max Farley says, "Documentary evidence exists on topics such as fort management, funding for repairs, and local desire for monument designation. But as we look back at 100 years, the more stories and information we can

By Roger Smith



Calvin Coolidge



Robert E. Lee

gather, the better equipped we are as a staff to tell the story of Fort Pulaski. We'd love to flesh out that early 20th Century period."

The fort's history reaches back nearly 200 years when, in 1829, a 22-year-old West Point graduate, Robert E. Lee, arrived at Cockspar Island as a junior officer reporting to Maj. Samuel Babcock, who had taken command of the construction project beginning a year prior. Until his departure for another assignment in March of 1831, Lee joined in the mammoth engineering feat to situate a fortification at the mouth of the Savannah River in response to vulnerabilities along the Eastern Seaboard that became obvious during the War of 1812.

Finally completed in 1847, the fort saw its main action during the American Civil War. The "enemy" was not a foreign power, but rather the U.S. Army itself. Troops from Georgia took control of the U.S. military stronghold in January of 1861, just before Georgia seceded from the U.S. Later that year, Col. Charles Olmstead (CSA) assumed command, overseeing some 385 men of his First Volunteer Regiment of Georgia.

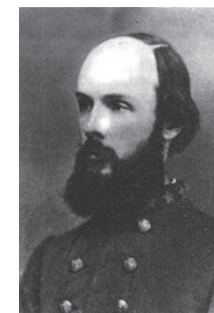
The most dramatic military event in Fort Pulaski's history was the April 1862 bombardment by U.S. forces positioned at Tybee Island.

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The thick walls of Fort Pulaski suffered extensive damage from Union artillery during the bombardment in April 1862.

Once believed impregnable, Pulaski and its sturdy brick ramparts proved no match for the rifled cannon. In less than two days, Olmstead surrendered the severely damaged fort. Union forces occupied it for the remainder of the war, effectively controlling Savannah. A major historical lesson visitors take away from a visit to Fort Pulaski today is that of ever-evolving military innovation and its ability to render obsolete the very technology once thought to be state-of-the-art.



Charles H. Olmstead

The fort played an important part in the history of emancipation. Occupying Gen. David Hunter issued General Orders Numbers 7 and 11, freeing first the enslaved people who lived and labored at Cockspar Island, then later (ambitiously) freeing the enslaved people in all of Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida. Although President Lincoln - not yet prepared to make a war referendum of abolition - overturned these precursors to emancipation, Hunter's orders nevertheless made a magnet of Fort Pulaski for enslaved people seeking freedom. "Not all pathways of the Underground Railroad went north," Farley points out. "Some escapees traveled to the Caribbean or to Mexico."

The best-known story of African Americans at Fort Pulaski is that of March Haynes (so named because he was born March 4, 1825). The property of Savannah slave-owner John C. Rowland, Haynes was leased out to work as a boat pilot. When Rowland enlisted in

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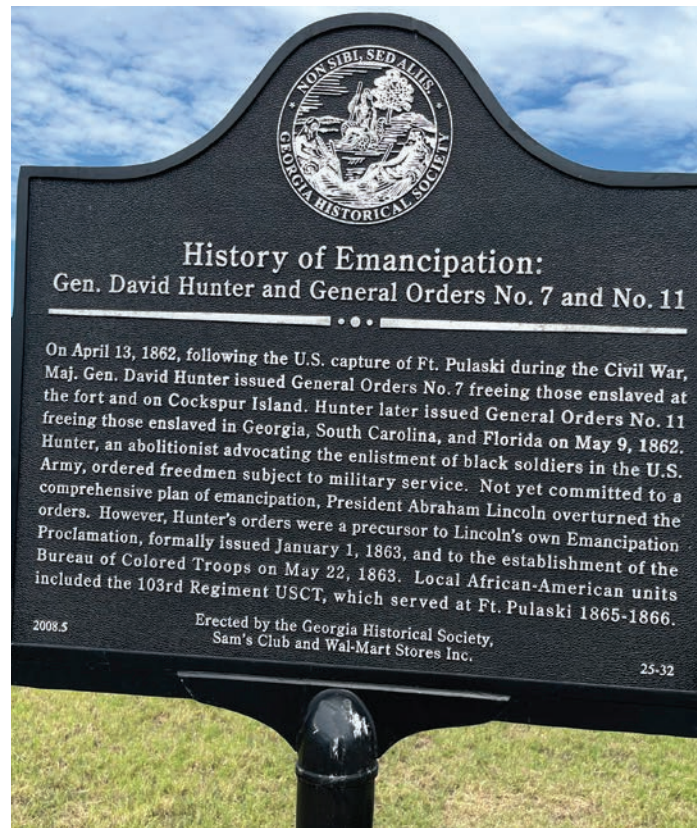


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This marker commemorates Gen. Hunter's General Orders No. 7 and No. 11, freeing enslaved people on Cockspur Island.

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Confederate service at Fort Pulaski, Haynes accompanied him and worked there as a carpenter. Upon Rowland's surrender to Union forces, Haynes became a free man, but remained at the fort to serve under Gen. Quincy Adams Gillmore and apply his extensive knowledge of coastal Georgia's waterways to escort hundreds of newly freed Blacks to freedom. Fort Pulaski celebrates March Haynes Day annually in early March. More of Haynes's story is found in an NPS historical publication entitled, "African Americans at Fort Pulaski, 1733-1900: A Special Study."

The military history of the fort extends far past the Civil War. At the shore of Cockspur Island is a squat cement bunker called Battery Hambright, built at the time of the Spanish-American War and in continued use into the first world war. Fort Pulaski served as a strategic naval supply base starting in 1939, and Cockspur Island is shared today with the U.S. Coast Guard. Visiting Fort Pulaski as a historic site may shield the site's identification as an active military position.

Ranger Farley praises the National Park Service for stable funding from year to year and credits the team of full-time NPS staff who works continually to monitor the physical integrity of the brickwork, grounds, waters, and other elements that comprise the site. "Approximately 90 percent of the fort is intact," he explains. "Our conservation team does an amazing job of keeping everything in good order, making it a historical and recreational human destination."

NPS and military personnel are not the only workers at Fort Pulaski. Scores of volunteers join in a robust range of responsibilities to realize the monument's successful operation. Farley emphasizes that new volunteers are always needed. Roving volunteers to walk the trails, outside-the-fort volunteers to narrate the ecological significance of the site, and even a cannon crew to fire the guns. All are welcome.

The site's centennial celebration is set for October 12-13. The weekend will kick off with a keynote address on October 12, while a showcase of community partners will come together for the October 13 festivities. All weekend long, visitors will enjoy a photo exhibit, historical interpretations, and weapons demonstrations. Details are still being finalized, so checking Fort Pulaski's website closer to autumn is a great idea. All the activities will be offered free of charge to the public, and Farley notes there are free-admission days throughout the year.

Celebrating 100 years of national monument status for a nearly 200-year-old fort begs the question: Does Fort Pulaski have another one or two centuries to anticipate? Climate change and rising sea levels present constant concerns for the historic site, but innovative engineering is inherent to the fort's foundational story. Perhaps innovation will come to bear once again as Fort Pulaski National Monument enjoys its still-to-come centuries.

Roger Smith is a Savannah native who served as director of education at the Georgia Historical Society. For the past 18 years, he has been the director of The Learning Center, Savannah's premier lifelong learning program and a service of Senior Citizens, Inc. For information about TLC programs, visit seniorcitizensinc.org/the-learning-center or call 912.236.0363 x.145.



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The Feral Golfer

Notes From the Deep Rough by Peter Sizer

Leaving the first tee is much the same as walking away from the altar after saying "I do." From that point on, it's for better or worse. You either tear up your scorecard and storm off, as did a young Bobby Jones at St. Andrews in 1921, or you see it through. When partners apologize for their bad play, I always say, "Golf means never having to say you're sorry." In that, golf differs from marriage, the legal and emotional entanglement in which you are constantly saying, "Sorry, dear," if you have any sense at all.

I recently played a course that had undergone a major renovation which added punitive bunkering, difficult green contouring and pin positions, and fall-offs and shaggy mounding around the greens. I've heard complaints that the course had been made too challenging for the average duffer. These same people would probably grumble that the windmill blades are rotating too quickly, and the clown's mouth is too small. By definition, any course is much too difficult if the player has absolutely no chance of ever shooting par for 18 holes. Then, the question that every golfer must answer is, "How much frustration am I willing to endure?" Followed by, "Will my playing companions decide me for moving forward to the next set of tees?"

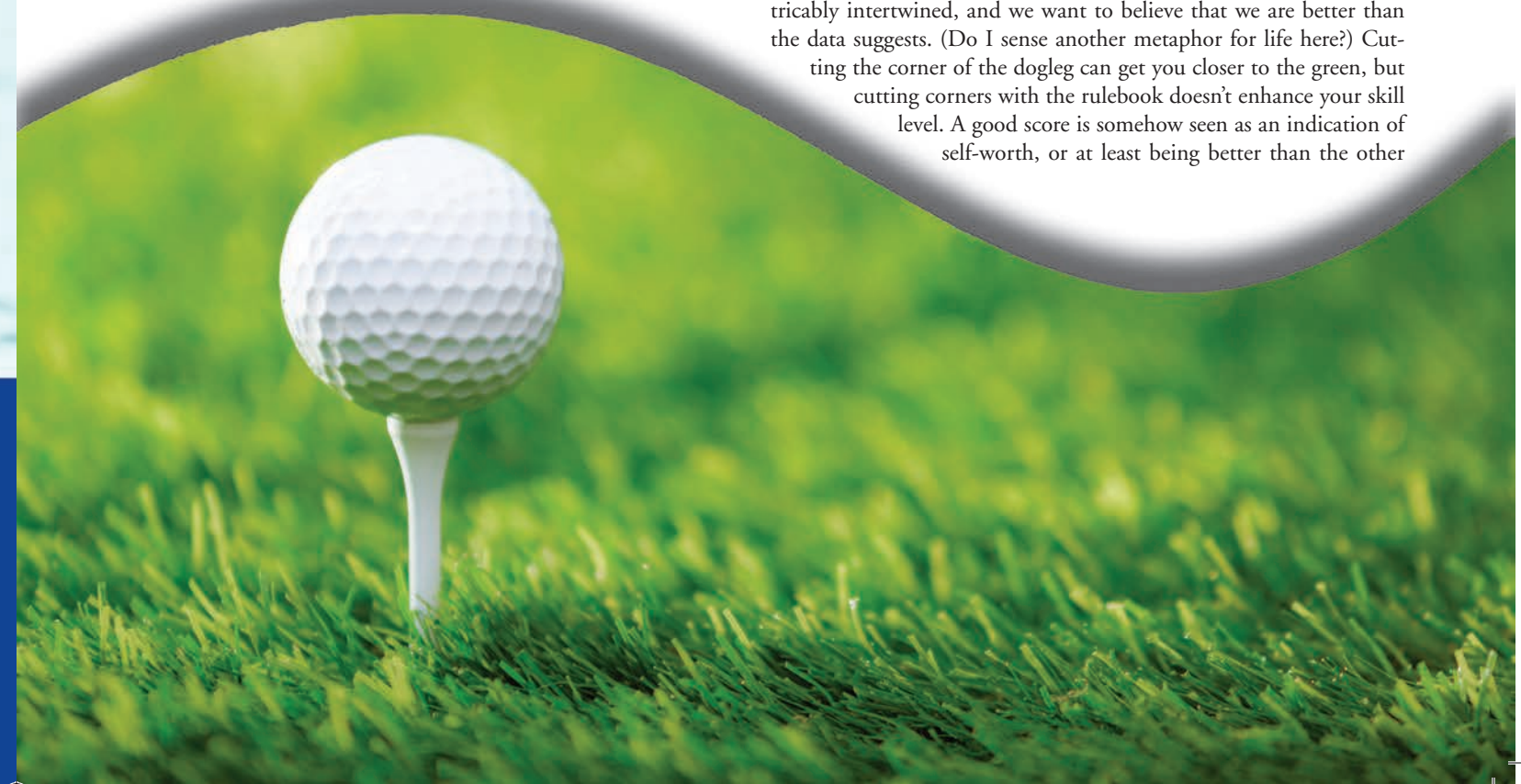
As to the aesthetics of the renovation, Willie the Shake said it best: "Beauty is bought by judgement of the eye." Given that a golf course is an artificial construct of humans with access to heavy equipment, to the feral eye the most appealing courses are those where the designer has fooled us into thinking that nature had a significant hand in the result. Pinehurst No. 2, Bandon Dunes, and Whistling Straits are prime examples of this trompe l'oeil. The least appealing are those layouts with features akin to what geologists call "erratics" – rocks



deposited by glacial movement that came from someplace else and are not naturally found where they now rest. These anomalies in the landscape are akin to placing a Victorian credenza in a Walter Gropius International-style house. Many features of the renovation do not seem characteristic of our Lowcountry terrain. In golf course design, there is tricked-up difficulty and subtle difficulty. The best architects are masters of the latter approach.

Whether played on a classic course or a cow pasture, golf is just a game. That is why the course should be played as we find it, and the rules as written should be observed. Your ball lands in a divot. So, what? Play it. In Monopoly, when you are ordered to go directly to jail and forego your undeserved stipend of \$200, you do it because those Tennessee Avenue cops are intransigent ess-oh-bees. So is the U.S.G.A.

A problem with golf is that ego and handicap have become inextricably intertwined, and we want to believe that we are better than the data suggests. (Do I sense another metaphor for life here?) Cutting the corner of the dogleg can get you closer to the green, but cutting corners with the rulebook doesn't enhance your skill level. A good score is somehow seen as an indication of self-worth, or at least being better than the other



guy, and the temptation to nudge that ball in the rough is strong. We never really get past the childish impulse to say, "See what I did!" How quickly we forget that yesterday we were total trash on the wrong side of the bell curve.

My partner was about to tee up his ball on a par-3 with a carry over a lagoon when he stopped and said he needed to get a water ball, one whose loss he wouldn't mourn. I warned him that the ever-observant golf gods would view this as a spineless act of cowardice: Even if they had intended to keep the original ball dry, they would surely deep-six the substitute. Still, the loss of the three bucks he had invested in the first ball proved too dear a risk to accept. I need not spell out what happened next, but the classic World War II submarine movie "Run Silent, Run Deep" comes to mind.

My brother was recently fitted for a new set of irons and the pro recommended a design without offset heads. I pointed out that this was a bad idea, as he would still need to offset the many flaws in his swing.

Payne Stewart opined that a bad attitude is worse than a bad swing, but I'm not sure what he meant. You are either capable of lofting a wedge over that tree and reaching the green or you punch it out into the fairway. No amount of positive "I think I can, I think I can" atti-

tude is going to change the fact that you don't have that shot. Is it an indication of a bad attitude to accept reality? Most rounds are bundles of disappointment, lip-outs, bad bounces, and pathetic swipes at the ball – made palatable by a few pure strikes, lip-ins, and dumb luck. A realistic attitude as to what lies ahead is best. Most people who pick up a golf club will never be any good. Acceptance frees you from expectation and allows you to enjoy the day. Perhaps Payne was actually

speaking about confidence. If so, most duffers have very bad attitudes.

I can't explain a recent streak of good play, considering that I have arthritis in just about every joint. If credit goes to my meds, Big Pharma has missed an obvious and lucrative marketing strategy. Or perhaps the golf gods do have hearts that are not two sizes too small after all, and they are rewarding me for my dedication over six decades. Nah, they're just setting me up for the final, devastating, career-ending humiliation. What abasements might they have in store for me? A shank on every hole? Finishing 10-10-10 after standing on the 16th tee with a career round seemingly firmly in hand? Loss of sphincter muscle control when taking a full swing? Time will tell.

As my wildly inconsistent partner stepped to the first tee, he pondered the age-old question, "Okay, which guy is going to show up today?" After hitting a weak banana ball into the rough, I observed, "Oh, that guy."



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Even though it's hot, you and your family are probably spending a lot of time outside this summer. With the seasonal increase in outdoor activities comes the possibility of suffering a common summertime wound. This can be especially true for people with diabetes who have lost sensation in their feet, or more mature adults who may have thinning skin.

When skin is broken or compromised by

a bug bite, burn, or cut, germs can enter the body. Open wounds, even a small bug bite, can become infected and cause serious complications.

If you are diabetic, you should check your feet daily for sores. Feet sweat, and socks and shoes tend to trap moisture around the feet. Moisture can invade tissue and cause a laceration which can lead to a wound. Diabetic food problems can progress to very serious

levels, so care and diligence are important.

Most wounds heal reasonably quickly; but, if you suffer a summertime wound, St. Joseph's/Candler's Centers for Hyperbarics and Wound Care are here to treat patients in a timely fashion. Early treatment is important, as quick intervention contributes to successful healing. The centers' wound care providers do more than bandage or wrap a wound. The nurses and doctors are specially trained in wound care and treatment and employ numerous methods for treating wounds so patients can get back to enjoying their summers.

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ing ulcers or non-healing wounds, there may be underlying problems that hinder the healing process. The centers' specialists examine possible causes for slow healing, such as blood flow, compression, inappropriate shoes, or how you sleep. By addressing the root cause, future wounds can be avoided.

If you experience a wound this summer, or anytime, consult your physician about a referral or give a St. Joseph's/Candler Wound Care Centers a call. The three facilities are in Savannah, Hinesville, and Bluffton, South Carolina.

For more information or to contact a wound care center, visit sjchs.org.

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This year's SmartWomen® speaker is Laila Ali, daughter of the late beloved global icon, humanitarian, and heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali. Laila has made a name for herself as a professional athlete, wellness advocate, TV host, and chef.



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- Wear appropriate shoes and avoid hot surfaces, including sandy beaches, with bare feet.
- If you have a history of falls or dizziness, have supportive equipment when walking around.
- Consider derma savers, padding-like material that protects thin skin.
- Check your legs and feet often for cuts and scrapes.

The Impact OF UNTREATED HEARING LOSS

Untreated hearing loss can have far-reaching effects on other aspects of your health.



Hypertension
Can make hearing loss worse



Cardiovascular Health
Associated with an increased stroke risk



Diabetes
More prevalent in individuals with diabetes



Social Isolation
Leads to feelings of loneliness



Mental Health
Connected to higher rates of anxiety and depression



Falls
Heightens the risk of falls, especially in older adults



Cognitive Decline
Elevates the risk of dementia



Quality of Life
Negatively affects your well-being and relationships

Don't wait—schedule a hearing checkup today.

Savannah/Pooler—(912) 328-4859

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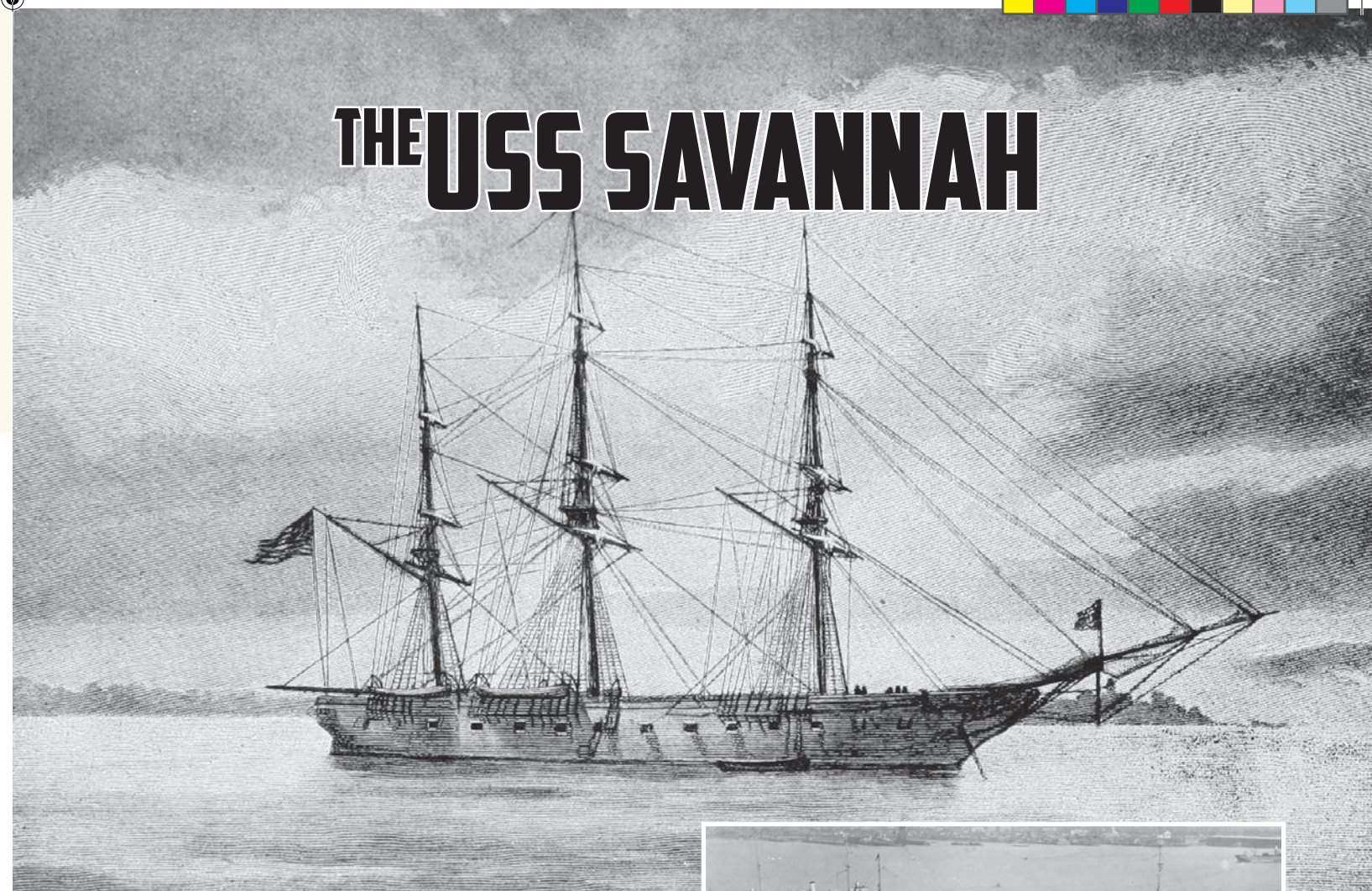
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OUR DOCTORS OF AUDIOLOGY:

Dr. Lucy Bradshaw, Dr. Casey Allen, CCC-A, Dr. Katy Laws, CCC-A, Dr. Sara King, CCC-A & Dr. Sieon Kim, CCC-A

THE USS SAVANNAH



ABOVE: The U.S. Navy frigate Savannah was heavily armed, serving in the Mexican-American War and the War Between the States. RIGHT: The U.S. Navy submarine tender USS Savannah (AS-8) with three S-class submarines alongside, in December 1924. (Images courtesy of Wikipedia)

The U.S. Navy has honored Savannah by naming six warships in the city's honor. The legacy began in 1798 with a wooden hull vessel carrying a three-ton brass 24-pounder cannon in the bow. The 25 Marines on board were armed with bayonets and boarding pikes, ready for action against enemy personnel.

At the time, a lingering cold war existed between the youthful U.S. and the French government. The only active hostilities during the period occurred when the French Navy plundered American merchant shipping assets. Neither side was eager for further conflict, and when the U.S. launched six military galleys to protect shipping around the Southern coast the minor conflict faded into history.

The second Savannah took 20 years to build and launch. The frigate remained under construction in a New York City dock from 1820 to 1840, the result of slow federal cash flow. Finally, in 1844, she joined the Pacific Squadron. She was a powerful force at the time, manned by 480 sailors and armed with four eight-inch shell guns, 28 32-pounders, and 22 42-pound carronades. At the outset of war with

Mexico in 1846, the city of Monterey surrendered to the Savannah without a single shot being fired, intimidated by the ships' imposing appearance.

The second Savannah's next duties included patrolling the Atlantic off the coast of Brazil. She was subsequently deactivated in November of 1856. Three years later, she returned to sea as the flagship of a squadron sailing the Gulf of Mexico. After the Civil War broke out, she participated in a federal blockade off the coast of Georgia, capturing two Confederate blockade runners. In 1862, she was removed from active service. Until 1870, her final years were spent as a practice ship for Navy Academy cadets. In 1883, she was unceremoniously sold for scrap to a maritime junkyard in Connecticut.

The third vessel to be named for the Hostess City began as the SS Saxonnia, launched in Germany in 1899. In 1914, it was impounded by the American navy, renamed and refitted to a submarine tender, operating off the U.S. east coast for the duration of World War I.

SHE SERVED BY RON LAURETTI

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TheSkinnie VOL. 22 ISSUE 15 - 19

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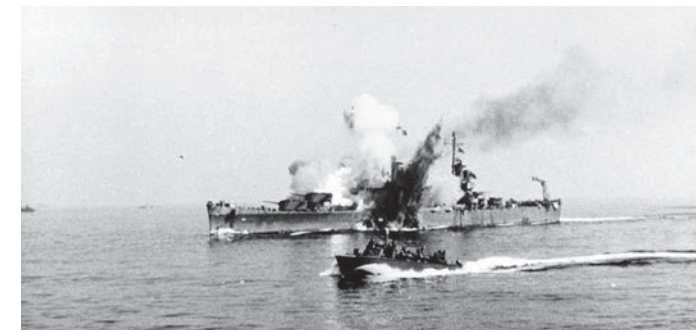


Following the armistice, *USS Savannah* supported her submarines in more advanced ways, as the threat of future submarine warfare increased to deadlier levels. In 1919, she dropped anchor in her namesake city, drawing the attention of thousands of residents who wanted to tour the ship. After serving in both the U.S. Atlantic and Pacific Fleets, she was decommissioned and placed in reserve at the Puget Sound Navy Yard until 1934 when she was declared surplus and sold for scrap.

As the Navy expanded and modernized, the fourth *USS Savannah* was a state-of-the-art light cruiser, which visited Savannah in 1938 during Fleet Week. Local school children enjoyed quite a celebration. The warship was in New York Harbor when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. She steamed from port that same day, bound for the coast of Brazil, where she joined the protective screen of aircraft carrier *Ranger*, and began patrolling the Atlantic Ocean north of Bermuda. On June 9, 1942, she entered Boston Harbor for a combat-ready overhaul, including armaments necessary for the invasion of North Africa on November 7, 1942. During the ensuing campaign, the *Savannah's* scout planes launched a new phase of warfare by successfully bombing enemy installations and equipment, including tanks, with depth charges armed with on-contact fuses. With extended flight times, the planes maintained anti-submarine patrols until hostilities in North Africa ended on November 11, 1943.

Four days later, she headed for Norfolk, then to New York City for minor repairs, before joining the U.S. Navy's South Atlantic patrol off the coast of Brazil. Two months later, she returned to New York Harbor, where she was overhauled in preparation for her next assign-

ment, assisting Operation Husky, the amphibious landing on the southern coast of Sicily. This was a warmup for her next major assignment, landing at Salerno, Italy. On September 9, 1943, the *Savannah* was the first American ship to open fire against enemy defenses off the Italian coast. She silenced a railroad artillery battery with 57 rounds, forced the retirement of enemy tanks, and completed eight more fire-support missions that first day.



USS Savannah (CL-42) is hit by a German guided bomb off Salerno, Italy, on September 11, 1943.

On September 11, 1943, the *Savannah* was knocked out of action when a high-flying German bomber released a radio-controlled bomb that penetrated three decks before exploding in the ship's lower ammunition room. The courageous crew sealed off the flooded and burned compartments and corrected the ship's list, but 206 men lost their lives. The ship managed to steam to Malta for emergency repairs, then to the naval yard at Philadelphia. During the next eight months, she received necessary repairs and a completely new weapons system. This refit made her a more formidable fighting vessel, but she never returned to a combat zone for the remainder of the war.

In February of 1945, *Savannah* the Fourth served a final important assignment when she escorted President Franklin D. Roosevelt, on his way to Yalta, Crimea, for the historic conference with British

Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin. When the conference was finished, the *Savannah* joined the presidential maritime convoy from Alexandria, Egypt, to Hampton Roads, Virginia. The veteran cruiser then steamed toward her new homeport of Newport, Rhode Island. For the next several months, the *Savannah* was used as a training vessel.

A highlight of *Savannah's* post-war experience was her involvement in Operation Magic Carpet, the return of thousands of American fighting men to the U.S. The distinguished warship was decommissioned February 3, 1947, and sold for scrap in January of 1960 to the Bethlehem Steel Corporation. But to the sailors who manned her battle stations during World War II, she remained a memory to be forever honored.

To be continued with Savannahs Five and Six...



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To Share Your Story!

There's a lot of military service among our readers, active and retired, from all branches of the Armed Forces, as well as police, fire and other first responders. Help us recognize their service by nominating them to be featured in an upcoming **He Served**.

Send your nominee's name and contact info to ronl35@comcast.net



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Update from The Landings Company: Understanding the NAR Settlement

Beginning on August 17, 2024, the National Association of Realtors (NAR) settlement will bring important changes to the national real estate market. Here's what you need to know.

Compensation is, and always has been, negotiable. These offers of compensation are no longer noted in the Multiple Listing Service.

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A BUG'S LIFE



LEFT: According to shutterbug John Taylor, a Pueblo myth states the dragonfly was once a dragon, but the coyote tricked it into shifting shape. As a result, the dragonfly symbolizes change, speed, and illusion.

BELOW LEFT: photo by Jorge Gojman

BELOW RIGHT: photo by Paul Brownstein



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SUMMER BREAK

WHAT: Luncheon meetings – Ladies on the Right (LOTR)

WHEN: No meeting in August, next meeting Sep. 19

WHERE: Landings Palmetto Club ballroom

HOW MUCH: LOTR members and military – \$35; Nonmembers - \$40

CONTACT: To register or to join LOTR: www.ladiesontheright.org

WHAT ELSE: LOTR is a greater-Savannah conservative leadership organization whose mission is to inform, educate, and inspire members to act on issues that impact our country, community, and lives. LOTR hosts a luncheon meeting on the third Thursday of each month. Members bring a paying guest to be entered into a raffle.

MAGPIE LADIES

WHAT: Landlovers Ladies Discussion Group

WHEN: First Thursday every month, year round, 1-3 p.m.

WHERE: Members homes

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Bernadette Maffei, bmaffei@comcast.net

WHAT ELSE: New members are always welcome, but participants must be members of Landlovers.

DUEL PURPOSE

WHAT: Skidaway Hamiltons meetings

WHEN: Every third Tuesday of the month, 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, Skidaway Island

HOW MUCH: Free for members of the Skidaway Hamiltons and Skidaway Abigails

CONTACT: HamiltonsMembers@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: To learn more about Skidaway Hamiltons, a non-partisan civic-minded men's organization, visit skidawayhamiltons.org. See the calendar for past and future speakers.

island hopping

Please email content to mail@theskinnie.com.

Deadline is the Friday prior to publication.

HEAR GREAT SPEAKERS

WHAT: Kiwanis Club of Skidaway

WHEN: Thursday mornings at 8 a.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Club

HOW MUCH: Free to attend, including any refreshments, which includes coffee/tea (compliments of Morgan Stanley) and occasional pastries from Auspicious Bakery.

CONTACT: Michael Klavon, 912.306.0474 for gate pass

WHAT ELSE: Membership is open to Savannah/Chatham area residents. Visit www.kiwanisofskidaway.com for more information.

WHO NEW?

WHAT: New Neighbors

WHEN: Visit www.landingsnewneighbors.com to see our calendar

CONTACT: Visit our website or contact Jody at nnnewmember@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: The club offers more than 250 different activities from biking, golf, pickleball, walking groups or fishing to Mahjong, Bridge, Needle-arts and Canasta. We have exciting military tours and special events for you to enjoy right here on Skidaway Island.

CATCH THE WAVE

WHAT: Introducing the "SkidaWave"

WHEN: August 2024

WHERE: The Landings

HOW MUCH: No charge, just a bit of courtesy

CONTACT: webmaster@landings.com

WHAT ELSE: The Landings really is "Our Home, Our Family!" And we've discovered once again that courtesy is contagious as we bring back the Skidaway Wave, saying "May I, Please?" and "Keeping Kindness Cool." Send your experience and SkidaWave photo or video to webmaster@landings.org to show how you appreciate our community.

THE ART MARKET

WHAT: Joie de Vivre Art Market

WHEN: Sunday, Aug. 4, 12 noon - 4 p.m.

WHERE: Jewish Educational Alliance, 5111 Abercorn St.

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

CONTACT: Katie Griffith, JEA Arts and Ideas Coordinator, 912.355.8111

WHAT ELSE: More than 30 vendors with works ranging from jewelry to pottery and painting will be featured. This event is family-friendly and a food truck will be on site.

MUSIC AT MESSIAH

WHAT: The Arts at Messiah with Trio Ondata

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 9, at 7 p.m.

WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 West Ridge Rd.

HOW MUCH: No admission charge, but donations are welcomed

CONTACT: MLC at 912.598.1188, Monday-Friday mornings

WHAT ELSE: A bold and exploratory young ensemble, the award-winning Trio Ondata consists of violinist Michael Ferri, cellist Miriam Liske-Doorandish, and pianist Anthony Ratinov. Formed in 2021 at the Yale School of Music, the award-winning chamber music ensemble will perform works of Reena Esmail Saans, Johannes Brahms, and Arno Babadjanian.

STUDY PARTNERS

WHAT: SCC's Women's Bible Study

WHEN: Tuesdays, Aug. 13 through Sep. 17;

morning sessions - 9:15 to 10:45 a.m., or evening sessions - 7 to 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Skidaway Community Church Library

CONTACT: To learn more and register, visit skidcc.org/biblestudy

WHAT ELSE: Whether you're new to Bible Study or furthering your journey, we welcome you to connect with a community of women committed to exploring Scripture and supporting each other along the way as we study *The Quest*, by Beth Moore.

VISIONARIES

WHAT: Vision Quest luncheon, hosted by the Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 23, 12 - 1 p.m.

WHERE: St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Hellenic Center, 14 W. Anderson St.

HOW MUCH: Lunch is free; the information is priceless

CONTACT: RSVP to Leslie at leatherly@savannahcblv.org or Kaleena at kcoble@savannahcblv.org

WHAT ELSE: This year's guest speakers are Rabbi Haas of Congregation Mickve Israel and SCBLV student Omari Blake.

HELLO, SAILOR

WHAT: Basic sailing class, sponsored by The Landings Sailing Club

WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 24, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., plus 4 hours on the water

WHERE: TLA Meeting Room, 600 Landings Way South

HOW MUCH: \$100, of which \$25 of which will be refunded if you join TLSC within 30 days

CONTACT: Angela Margolit, amargolit@hotmail.com

com, 973.296.8011

WHAT ELSE: Open to all Landings residents 21 or older who are either new to sailing or want a refresher course.

VOCAL SUPPORT

WHAT: 24 Children's Choir auditions

WHEN: Now through the end of September

WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church

HOW MUCH: Tuition is \$100 a month

CONTACT: Email Kathleen Turner at ktturner@saintpeterssav.org to schedule an appointment

WHAT ELSE: 24 Children's Choir is hosted by St. Peter's Episcopal Church to establish a love for excellent singing and music-making, and to encourage lifelong learning and enjoyment of music.

CULTIVATING INTEREST

WHAT: Children's vegetable growing class

WHEN: Saturday mornings, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., beginning in early October thru mid-February

WHERE: Skidaway Farms on McWhorter Dr.

HOW MUCH: \$40 per child, per season (Oct - Feb)

CONTACT: Jane Kollmann at gardenher52@aol.com

WHAT ELSE: Children ages 5 to 13 learn how to grow organic vegetables at Skidaway Farms during our weekly hands-on class experience. Registration is open until Oct. 1.

HELP AROUND THE HOUSE

WHAT: Habitat for Humanity volunteers wanted

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, possibly Thursdays

WHERE: locations vary

CONTACT: Mark Piven, 912.598.0323

WHAT ELSE: Prior experience is not necessary.

Many volunteers learn on the job and only do whatever they feel comfortable with. Tools are provided.

FINANCIAL AID

WHAT: AARP Tax-Aide Program needs volunteers

WHEN: Training in Dec. and Jan.; Tax preparation starts Feb. 1 for 10 weeks; hours and days are flexible

WHERE: Chatham SW and Bull Street Libraries

CONTACT: Volunteer coordinator John Gerardi, 912.661.8705 or johngerardi@hotmail.com

WHAT ELSE: This program provides free tax preparation for low- to moderate-income families, as well as the elderly and people with disabilities. AARP Tax-Aide saves underserved individuals/families millions in preparation fees and helps

taxpayers claim millions in refunds, which can be used to reduce poverty. Tax preparers will be trained to become IRS-certified. Volunteers are also needed to help with intake/front desk.

TAXATION REPRESENTATION

WHAT: Opportunities for volunteer income tax assistance with Neighborhood Improvement Association

WHEN: starting in January, flexible hours from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

WHERE: Several sites in Savannah, Pembroke, Rincon, Richmond Hill and Hinesville

CONTACT: Tiffany Carter, tcarter@niacdc.org or 912.447.5577

WHAT ELSE: This program helps underserved communities by offering free tax preparation. No experience necessary. Volunteers include greeters/screeners and tax preparers

LUNCH BUNCH

WHAT: Landlovers Men's Lunch Group

WHERE: Various restaurants around Savannah

WHEN: 2nd Wednesday of each month

HOW MUCH: Based on restaurant

CONTACT: Rick Armstrong, armstrp@hotmail.com or John Holmquist, llmenlunchgroup@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Participants must be members of Landlovers.

BODY AND SOUL

WHAT: Mat Pilates and Sit-Fit exercise classes at Skidaway Island Methodist Church (SIMC)

WHEN: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Mat Pilates, 9:15-10:10 a.m.; Sit Fit: 10:15-11:10 a.m.

WHERE: Bailey Hall at SIMC, 54 Diamond Causeway

HOW MUCH: \$5 per class for 8 or more classes per month. \$6.25 per class for 7 or fewer classes per month.

CONTACT: For more info or to register, call Elena Bennett, ACSM-certified fitness instructor at 404.510.6042

WHAT ELSE: Mat Pilates participants must bring an exercise mat and be able to get up/down from the floor. Sit-Fit participants should wear athletic shoes. Everyone should bring water.

REEL MEN

WHAT: Landlovers Men's Action Movies and Dinner

WHEN: We usually see an action movie once a month.

HOW MUCH: Movie admission

CONTACT: Dave Robinson, dave.robinson16@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Men's Action Movies is a friendly gathering of men who want to see movies your wife probably wouldn't want to see. Must be a Landlovers member. Membership is open to all residents of Skidaway Island.

READ ALL OVER

WHAT: Landlovers Singles Co-ed Book Club

WHEN: 4th Thursday each month, 5 p.m.

WHERE: Various Landings clubhouses

CONTACT: Marianne Claysmith, claysmith2@aol.com

WHAT ELSE: We read novels and biographies. Members belong to the Landings Club

LOSS MITIGATION

WHAT: Pandemic support group meeting

WHEN: Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church Library

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Suzanne at St. Peter's, 598.7242

WHAT ELSE: Many of us have lost friends or family, and pandemic isolation has made dealing with these losses difficult. Dr. Stevens Peirsol will guide the group, offering those who would like to share and find help in processing loss.

SHOP TALK

WHAT: Green-Meldrim House Gift Shop – Volunteers needed

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Green-Meldrim House, 14 W. Macon St. – Madison Square

HOW MUCH: Training provided

CONTACT: Jamie Credle, jcredle@green-meldrimhouse.org or 912.233.3845

WHAT ELSE: Request for two shifts per month. Please visit GreenMeldrimHouse.org for more information.

SPEAK EASY

WHAT: Savannah Speech and Hearing Center's "Speak Easy"

WHEN: Every Friday morning, 10-11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Savannah Speech and Hearing Center - 5414 Skidaway Rd.

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

CONTACT: Jenna Harcher, 912.355.4601 or jharcher@speechandhearingsav.org

WHAT ELSE: A support group for survivors of stroke or traumatic brain injury and their family or caregivers. Participants work on improving and maintaining skills associated with speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Attendance via video

Complete Island Hopping listings are available at www.theskinnie.com

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ACROSS

- 1. Hook for large fish
- 5. Like some cycles
- 10. Played for a sap
- 14. Superfruit berry
- 15. Battery terminal
- 16. Hot rock
- 17. Runner's sore spot
- 18. Measure up
- 20. Coat-of-arms system
- 22. Purpose
- 23. Doom's partner
- 24. Poker stake
- 25. Type of fever or break
- 27. Roundabout
- 31. Decided upon
- 32. Clarence was one in a classic holiday film
- 33. Down in the dumps
- 34. Major defeat
- 35. Curl one's lip
- 36. Lunch place
- 37. Late columnist Landers
- 38. Bake in a shallow dish
- 39. Audition tapes
- 40. Olympic winner
- 42. Stir up, as trouble
- 43. Brood
- 44. Communion plate
- 45. Fill, as a tenant
- 48. Half of PG
- 51. Erroneous warning
- 53. Fairy follower
- 54. Chimney channel
- 55. Dentist's request
- 56. Flatten, in a way
- 57. Iditarod racer
- 58. Steer away
- 59. "The ____ have it"

DOWN

- 1. Deep cut
- 2. Pain in the neck
- 3. Fun house setting
- 4. Adam Lambert was one, in 2009

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57						58						59		

- 5. Pomeranian, for one
- 6. Relieve of weapons
- 7. Like a busybody
- 8. Infomercials, e.g.
- 9. String around a finger
- 10. Northern Ireland province
- 11. Fill beyond full
- 12. Type of keel
- 13. Bull's-eye hitter
- 19. "____ we meet again"
- 21. Like Silver's rider
- 24. Sandler film, "____ Management"
- 25. "Beat it!"
- 26. Conversation piece?
- 27. Like some gases
- 28. CBS series that featured Holmes and Watson
- 29. List starter

- 30. Chubby Checker's dance
- 32. Cordial flavoring
- 35. Boat-building site
- 36. Madness
- 38. It may be slippery
- 39. Shower with love
- 41. Smiling, perhaps
- 42. Dairyman, e.g.
- 44. Anagram for "spare"
- 45. "Tip" or "rip" finish
- 46. Poker action
- 47. Sleuth's find
- 48. Breathe hard
- 49. Skin soother
- 50. Periscope part
- 52. Make stuff up

Puzzle answers, page 29

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CONCIERGE HOME WATCH HOME WATCH SERVICE • Skidaway Concierge Home Watch is owned and operated by Skidaway Island residents who understand the importance of providing exceptional service to neighbors. Our Concierge State of the Art Home Watch program is tailored to provide you with property protection and Peace of Mind. 912.598.6801 or www.skidawayconciiergehomewatch.com

IRRIGATION REPAIR

SKIDAWAY IRRIGATION REPAIR • As Skidaway Island residents we understand your needs! We specialize in irrigation systems and sprinkler repairs. We also offer many other services. Low-voltage lighting repair and installation, Seasonal flower planting programs to suit your needs, and long leaf pine straw/mulch installation. Give us a call at 912.210.9773 and 912.656.9088

AQUATECH IRRIGATION SOLUTIONS, LLC • Specializing in optimizing water usage and

enhancing system functionality, we offer expert assessments and reliable repairs to ensure your irrigation system operates at peak performance. As Savannah area natives and local experts, we take pride in our in-depth knowledge of the area's unique irrigation needs. Book online today at www.aquatech-sav.com or call 912.429.6254.

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GRASSMASTER LAWN CARE • We offer complete landscape management with year-round service. Our services also include fertilization, insect, weed, and fungus control, along with lawn and shrub programs. We are your total lawn care service. We also offer landscaping, i.e. lawn renovation and sodding. Licensed and Insured. Free estimates. Please call Mike Schuman at 912.354.8856.

SCOTT'S LAWN SERVICE, LLC • Customer service you deserve! We are committed to providing the most reliable lawn care service and maintenance. Offering complete lawn care needs including lawn mowing, edging, pruning, hedge trimming, blowing, and pine straw installation. Call today for a free estimate. Let us maintain your property, so you can enjoy it. Licensed and insured. 912.656.8472



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MARK ANTHONY'S SMALL MOVING & DELIVERY • Household and office small local moves. Pickup and delivery, loading and unloading, antiques, furniture, and fine art. References available. Call 912.398.7474

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SKIDAWAY CAT ALLIANCE TEAM provides for the humane treatment, health, welfare and population control (spay/neuter) of free-roaming cats on and around Skidaway Island. If you are interested in learning more or need help with a feral cat, please contact us at skidawaycats@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/skidawaycatallianceteam.

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• Do you or your grown children

G	A	F	F	L	U	N	A	R	U	S	E	D	
A	C	A	I	A	N	O	D	E	L	A	V	A	
S	H	I	N	P	A	S	S	M	U	S	T	E	R
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F	L	U	E	R	I	N	S	E	I	R	O	N	
S	L	E	D	D	E	T	E	R	A	Y	E	S	

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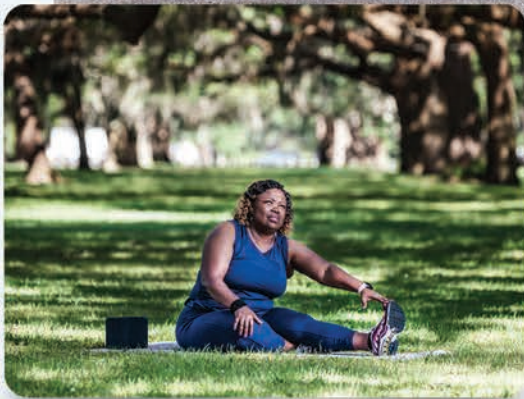


TAMMIE BRYAN, Landings resident since 2016
C: 912.661.7809 O: 912.295.5807
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Gwen Sparger - Savannah, GA

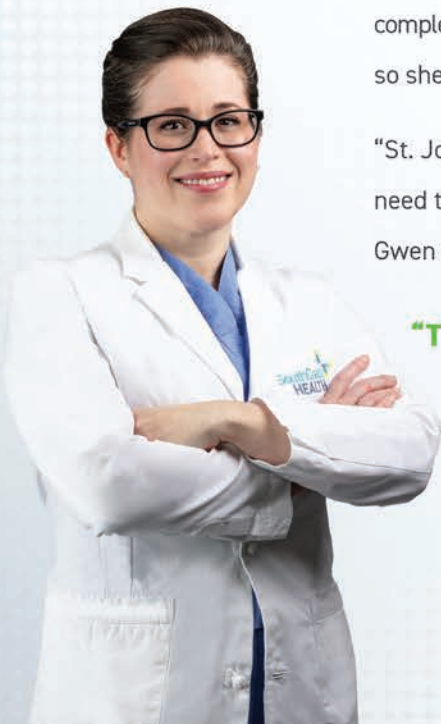
After two sleepless days and nights of debilitating abdominal pain, Gwen visited the emergency room at Candler Hospital. Dr. Emma Walker, the on-call surgeon, identified biliary dyskinesia, a dysfunction of the gallbladder. Dr. Walker then scheduled a robotic cholecystectomy to remove the gallbladder.

The procedure was performed using the innovative da Vinci Xi robot in conjunction with indocyanine green (ICG)—a solution that allows the robot to best visualize the patient’s biliary anatomy. This complex, yet minimally-invasive surgery allowed Gwen to recover quickly so she could get back to yoga, biking and walking her beloved Prissy.

“St. Joseph’s/Candler provides me with the team and technology I need to provide the best outcomes for my patients. We’ve relieved Gwen of her acute pain and she feels fabulous again!” – Dr. Walker

“THAT’S WHY I CHOOSE ST. JOSEPH’S/CANDLER”

– Dr. Emma Walker, D.O. – General Surgeon, SouthCoast



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