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Upfront

I've experienced a death in my family. My loss is not unique. The slight nuance is that I have a bi-weekly essay column to discuss whatever. At this moment, it's Mushu. Mushu is on my mind.

Mushu?

He is – or was – a cat. A flame point Siamese. Which, perhaps, should be a “flame point Thai,” given the evolution of the sovereign name “Siam” to “Kingdom of Thailand” in 1939. “Thailand,” as it is commonly known, is a constitutional monarchy with modern parliamentary leanings. Its current king is a guy named Maha Vajiralongkorn, who – depending on exchange rates and your chosen news source – is worth roughly \$30 billion, maintains a bona fide harem, sports fake tattoos, and spends a lot of time in Bavaria. “Maha X,” he calls himself: Who could reasonably expect him to remember and write out that messy string of characters every time? A cardinal-billionaire has better things to do, for sure.

Anyway, Siam has a history of kings. Thailand has a king today. Which is appropriate since we have long considered Mushu to be the little king of our household, indeed.

“A cat?” you ask, incredulously. I would have thought the same thing 19 years ago. But that was B.M. (before Mushu). Times change.

How did Mushu come to be, anyway? Apparently, he was sired and birthed in Jesup, Georgia, sometime around the spring of 2004, welcomed into the world by the only breeder who was running classified ads in the

Savannah Morning News. My daughters – then as now – precocious and clever at 9 and 7, respectively, developed strong pet yearnings. They proposed a canine solution, which was summarily rejected due to practical concerns (we were away from our house more often than in it). So, they landed on cat. Which was of zero interest to me, having never spent a memorable moment consciously in contact with a feline creature.

Hence, “Absolutely not.”

Given their mother's nature, the kids understood “absolutely not” to be little more than the first step on the pathway to “hell, yeah!” They were (and are) as diligent and resourceful as they are stubborn, so they didn't leave things to chance with respect to the cat-quest. They crafted a PowerPoint presentation, detailing the general virtues of pet ownership in a family context, the relative ease of cat maintenance, the attractive assets of the aforementioned flame point breed, and the interesting coincidence that a typical specimen from such a litter would perfectly match/blend into our monolithic travertine floor. Their pitch included language like:

*“They bond more (deeply) with their owners than other cat varieties. They're great with families, kids, even other pets. (It's) an adorable cat with unique colors, an intelligent outlook, and an extremely friendly and outgoing personality.”****

Per usual, I was the last of our quartet to be looped in. “We're going to Jesup to ‘look’ at this litter of flame point Siameses.” It was a Saturday morning. I was dressing for golf.

“We're just looking,” their mother added for emphasis.

“You're just looking,” I repeated back to her, to them, for clarity.

“We're just looking, yes.” Like a well-rehearsed chorus.

Golf ended. I returned. I watched TV in the peaceful quiet of an empty home. And then Mushu arrived. In a plastic box with holes on the side, along with a Santa's bag of foods, toys, gadgets, medicines, cat “beds,” and other things that had been brilliantly conceived by a massive pet-industrial complex previously hidden from me.

Shockingly, shamefully, then shamelessly, I fell in love. Mushu was indescribably cool. Often friendly, yet frequently aloof. Scarily smart. Unimaginably self-aware. As I once described him to my friends, Joe and Cindy: “incredibly intelligent and generally miserable.” Though, he wasn't – miserable. He was moody and affectionate and distant and sol-

itary and needy, all at once. I got him. He got me.

He was an indoor cat. Unfortunately, our house, at the time, was roughly 80 percent glass. Floor to ceiling, everywhere. So, his domain was inside but his field of vision was expansive, natural, and green. He escaped whenever he sensed the slightest opportunity. Prompting me to become an obsessive searcher, sometimes under the darkest of black night skies. I developed a sing-song-y, high-pitched “Mu-shu,” inexplicably assuming he preferred alto to baritone. Once, in advance of a dinner date with the same Joe and Cindy referenced above, I spotted a distant white-rust ball atop a mound of mud well out in the marsh. Eventually, we were late by more than 45 minutes, the result of oozing into the earth up to my thighs with every step I took to retrieve my wayward cat.

I was due back in Boston in 2018, and Mushu had been missing for a day or two. We were living downtown, now...he and I alone. I could easily argue he had become my closest friend. We looked and looked, seemingly everywhere – me, my mom, our neighbors, friends. Eventually, I gave up, numb – maybe in shock – begrudgingly resigned to his permanent departure and/or demise. A night or two passed and my phone rang...it was a FaceTime call from a young girl who lived next door. She chronicled her approach as she corralled Mushu in a parking lot diagonally across our square. I hadn't felt such joyous relief since one of my wife's more encouraging oncologists' reports: “no evidence of disease.”

Near the end, Mushu weakened fast. On the last day, he lacked energy to rise from his side. His ribs had been visible for months, if not years, and stroking his back felt like running your hand down a long set of gears, as his spine pushed through his thin skin. We cried as we said goodbye to him. Hard.

“I heard the faucet trickle last night,” I said, knowing I didn't because I could see it was off.

Mushu preferred a dripping stream from the tub tap to a traditional bowl.

“So did I,” said Jenna. And she was serious.

Maybe, we did. Those whom we truly love are never fully gone.

Scott A. Lawrence

****from the esteemed digital cat authority, Hepper.com*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TASTY VARIATIONS

I really enjoyed your recent Up Front recipes for braciolo, meatballs, and smells-like-Sunday Sunday Sauce. It is, indeed, a recipe that all home cooks should try to make.

I have a mixed heritage: My maternal grandfather is from Udine, Italy; my stepfather (since I was 4 years old) is from Budapest, Hungary; I was born in Germany and came to the great USA when I was 4. Most of the time, I cook virtually everything from "scratch."

Two things that I personally change in your recipe is in the final sauce:

I use either real (not canned) Roma or San Marzano tomatoes. I par-boil them so I can easily remove the peels. If someone cannot digest the seeds, I cut up the tomatoes to remove them. Instead of white wine, I use Chianti or Amarone (red varieties). Lastly, and most controversial, I taste test, and may add some sugar and/or oregano.

Thanks for sharing this great recipe with all of us.

Michael Klavon

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on the cover:

Susan Tedeschi of Tedeschi Trucks Band (photo by Elizabeth Leitzell/Savannah Music Festival). The 34th Savannah Music Festival returns March 23 through April 8. Get the low down on page 13.

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I Lost My Heart to

Galway

By Laura lunghuhn

From Dublin, Ireland, my husband Tim and I journeyed west to Galway by train. We enjoyed a bit of that famed Irish luck, from the reassurance of an on-time train, the excitement of strolling the cobbles of an ancient city, and a sky that shone as blue and bright as the eyes of the Galway girl. We had pre-booked tickets with Irish Rail, guaranteeing us reserved seating. At about €30 per person for a round trip to Galway, it's the best way to travel across Ireland. Always comfortable, spacious when not crowded, and idyllic countryside views – what's not to like? If you're lucky (as we seemed to be), an excellent Irish story isn't out of the question. The locals love to talk.

After a downpour the previous night, we doubted the newspaper-gray sky would give way. But when we disembarked at Ceannt Station in Galway City, the sun broke through cotton puffs of cloud and we knew this would be a special weekend. We dropped our luggage at a local Airbnb and headed to central Eyre Square, the meeting point for our walking tour. In cities as old as this one – Galway was founded in the 13th century – a walking tour is a great way to immerse yourself in history. Local guides point out the “secrets” you won't find in museums or recount a place's favorite myths. Guides are also great with local restaurant or activity recommendations. Once acquainted with Ireland's famous coastal city, we began exploring it on our own.

FACTS AND FAITH

Though a guide is an excellent introduction to Galway and Irish history, the Irish always have more to say. Head to the Galway City Museum (entry is free) for a comprehensive (and factual) telling of the area's past. It details the conflict between Ireland and England, beginning in 1169 and ending in 1921 with the War for Independence. Also on display is an authentic Galway Hooker, the area's iconic fishing boat. These vessels have been an important part of life in Galway since the 19th century. The museum's most notable exhibit explores Gaelic culture and society between 1200 and 1600 AD. The Gael were Ireland's learned – historians, lawyers, physicians, and bards. Their artifacts, along with sounds, images, and interactive displays, explain their customs and relationships with the natural world and the Catholic Church, a tradition they trace to St. Patrick's missionary work across the country.

The Galway Cathedral is the city's most impressive edifice. Constructed in 1965, it is Europe's youngest great stone cathedral. Though new, the church was designed to reflect classical styles, drawing on the Catholic Church's architectural history. Rows of round arches line the long central aisle, and a dome rises over the altar, where sunlight filters through blue glass and glows on grey stone. Rose windows mark the cardinal directions, and a colorful mosaic depicts the Crucifixion. The ceiling is paneled in California red cedar, and the floor is laid with Irish marble. Even for non-Catholics, the building is awe-inspiring and a testament to an Irish history of craftsmanship.

THE LEGEND OF THE CLADDAGH RING

The Claddagh – a ring in the shape of two hands holding a crowned



Visitors are welcome to visit the Galway Cathedral, free of charge, but are asked not to enter during Mass unless they wish to participate. OPPOSITE PAGE: the island of Inis Mór

heart – originated in Galway and is known worldwide. Just beyond Galway City, on the other side of the River Corrib, is An Cladach, one of the oldest fishing villages in the country. Legend says that Richard Joyce, a fisherman from the village, was kidnapped by pirates and sold for labor to a jeweler in the West Indies who taught him the trade. When Joyce returned to Ireland, he opened a jewelry shop and made the first Claddagh ring. A red shop in Galway with a bright yellow door claims Joyce's legacy as the original maker and has turned its back room into a mini museum of the ring's history. For an immersive



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Inis Mór's cliff-top fort, Dún Aonghasa, is one of the oldest archaeological remains in Ireland.

experience, head over to the Claddagh Ring Visitor Center for a short movie recounting the legend and symbolism of the ring, and observe skilled craftsmen make new pieces by hand. Both museums are free.

SALTHILL PROM

Salthill is a suburb of Galway City and can easily be reached on foot. Tim and I walked along Claddagh Quay, through South Park, and along the Salthill Promenade – about a 30-minute walk. With picturesque views of Galway Bay, it's a leisurely stroll that's not to be missed; if you go in the evening, you may catch a beautiful sunset on the water. With its sandy beach and the National Aquarium of Ireland, this short trip down the coast feels like a day out. We headed just beyond the promenade to Micil (mick-il) Distillery, tucked in the back of the Oslo Bar, for a tour. This small, family-run distillery, known for its poitín (Irish moonshine), boasts six generations of distillers – yes, that means they were distilling poitín illegally until 1997, a fact they state proudly. Now they make poitín, whiskey, gin, and cream liqueur (our favorite), using modern methods, but the recipes remain the same, handed down by word of mouth in the Irish language. Our guide kept the talk going in true Irish fashion. Since we were the only ones who booked the 4 p.m. tour, he didn't hesitate to pour us an extra drink. Though the experience isn't showy like a trip to Guinness or Jameson in Dublin, for a couple of hours you feel welcomed into the Micil family. And for us, these are the moments that make Ireland come alive. Tours are about \$25 per person.

THE ARAN ISLANDS

We booked a ferry from Galway Bay to Inis Mór, the largest of the three Aran Islands. The round trip takes four to five hours – with four hours on the island in between – and costs about \$58 per person. The return trip includes a cruise by the stunning Cliffs of Moher. The ferry docks at a small village port

with a few hotels and restaurants, but once we set off to explore things quickly turned barren. Endless drystone walls enclosing rocky pastures, houses few and far between. There's only one convenience store. However, it's a center of local culture and history. Inis Mór was a popular retreat for medieval priests and monks. At one time, there were a dozen monasteries on the island. During the mid-17th century, many Irish Catholics fled to the islands to escape persecution. To adapt to the extreme climate, they developed a system of self-sufficiency for survival. One element of their culture that we all know and love today is the Aran wool sweaters, which are for sale on the island. Inis Mór can be toured by bike rental or pony and trap – chances are the driver knows the Irish language. Picnicking on the island's cliffs was our favorite Galway experience.

GALWAY GRUB

A trip to Galway – or anywhere in Ireland – isn't complete without a plate of fish and chips. We stopped at McDonagh's at the end of Quay Street. The family-run chippy serves fresh fish and plenty of chips (or fries, if you're American) to go around. The shop stays busy, so if you can't get a seat, take your meal to-go. If you "take a stroll on the old long walk of a day," you'll find a seat and a view. If you're after something sweet, you can't go wrong with Murphy's Ice Cream, handmade with natural ingredients in Dingle, Ireland. The flavors capture the nation's sweetest traditions (including one flavored with Micil's Irish Cream Liqueur), and it's sure to be a delicious memory of the Emerald Isle.

LUCK OF THE IRISH, INDEED

Our lucky Galway weekend ended with a walk out to Mutton Island – about halfway between Galway City and Salthill – to admire the sunset. We soon saw streaks of pink settle into wispy clouds, reflected on the waters of Galway Bay below.



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SAVANNAH MUSIC FESTIVAL

An Amazing Range

By Larissa Davidson

As a fixture of Savannah's musical and cultural landscape, it's a wonder there's anyone left in the region who has yet to experience the Savannah Music Festival (SMF). For more than three decades, this awe-inspiring boutique festival has been bringing world-class, award-winning musicians to the Hostess City for its multi-genre live music celebration. Now in its 34th year, the SMF has announced an unparalleled lineup for its 2023 season, which will run from March 23 through April 8 at various historic and distinctive music venues around downtown.

"Our 34th season expands upon what our organization has always championed – creating a compelling musical experience of global scope within Savannah's Historic District," explains the SMF's artistic director, Ryan McMaken. "We welcome audiences and artists into our creative community to enjoy stellar performances in intimate, historic indoor venues as well as expansive outdoor spaces."

While this year will feature performances in many of the familiar and well-loved venues as previous years – the Lucas Theater for the Arts, Ships of the Sea Museum, and the Metal Building at Trustees' Garden, among others – there is an exciting new addition to this year's schedule in the form of an expanded outdoor main stage at Trustees' Garden behind the Charles H. Morris Center. This outdoor main stage will lend an even more festive feel to the already exciting lineup and provide a new backdrop to experience the festival's live music performances.

"We're thrilled to host a series of high-energy outdoor concerts at Trustees' Garden this year featuring top blues, rock, and funk artists," says McMaken. "We can't wait to kick off the 2023 festival and to welcome talented artists from around the world to Savannah for unforgettable live performances that celebrate the power of music, connection and community."

This year's lineup offers a characteristically eclectic mix of acclaimed classical, jazz, folk, blues, and international roots musicians,



Sean Jones is among the artists returning to perform at the 34th Annual Savannah Music Festival. (photo by Elizabeth Leitzell)



After a four-year hiatus from the SMF, Tedeschi Trucks Band will perform Wednesday, March 29. (photo by David McClister)

building on the distinguished reputation the festival has developed over the years.

On Saturday, March 25, and Sunday, March 26, blues pioneer Buddy Guy performs his "Damn Right Farewell" tour show with special guests Christone "Kingfish" Ingram, Eric Gales, King Solomon Hicks, and Jontavious Willis. The Tedeschi Trucks Band performs on Wednesday, March 29, after a four-year hiatus from the festival, while New Orleans jam favorites Galactic teams up with funk maestro Cory Wong and the jazz, R&B, and pop fusion of Nate Smith + Kinfolk for a special live performance on Sunday, April 2.

The characteristically eclectic mix features something for everyone, including the Zydeco Dance Party featuring Jeffery Broussard and The Creole Cowboys, a Latin Dance Party with Eddie Palmieri's Latin Jazz Band, and a Cajun Dance Party featuring The Lost Bayou Ramblers. Additional performers include Pink Martini, St. Paul and the Broken Bones, Patti Griffin, Los Lobos, Terence Blanchard, Leo Kottke, Sona Jobarteh, Regina Carter, and many more.

Stalwart venues like the beloved Trinity United Methodist Church will play host to some of the most illustrious classical music performances to be seen anywhere in the Southeast. Some of the notable classical music performances of this year's festival include the Philip Dukes and Friends chamber music series, led by the world-renowned viola player and SMF associate artistic director Dukes. He will also perform with the Zurich Chamber Orchestra, along with the former SMF artistic director, Daniel Hope, representing a sort of symbolic passing of the baton from Hope to Dukes. The highly esteemed chamber ensemble, the Emerson String Quartet, makes a stop at the festival as part of its final tour, and the Dover Quartet will perform with Savannah's own Joseph Conyers. Acclaimed emerging pianists Alexander Malofeev and Drew Petersen will give recitals, along with many other offerings.

The SMF has become known for its unique artist collaborations, and this year there are several surprises, including one-time-only programs and special double-bills that are not to be missed. Among many interesting collaborations is a melding of world music with Americana when the Malian master of the ngoni (a precursor to the banjo), Bassekou Kouyate, shares a bill with Jake Blount, a scholar and performer within the Black string band tradition, who will be joined by award-winning folk performers Nic Gareiss and Laurel Premo. An-

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Classical performances and Latin and Zydeco dance parties are among the wide variety of offerings at the Savannah Music Festival. Photos by Frank Stewart (left) and Elizabeth Leitzell (right).

other notable pairing is the master bluegrass practitioners Bruce Molsky, Tony Trischka, and Michael Daves, sharing the stage with the Onlies, finding the old-time mentors alongside a young, award-winning string band. Newgrass pioneers Sam Bush and Jerry Douglas will also share the stage, and Bush's set features the inimitable music of the late John Hartford. Acclaimed jazz violinist Regina Carter will offer her performance of "Gone in a Phrase of Air," an original music and multimedia presentation that explores the effects of the urban renewal of the 1950s and '60s. Kenny Barron, Dave Holland and Johnathan Blake celebrate Barron's 80th birthday at the festival, while Terence Blanchard & E-Collective perform with the Turtle Island Quartet. Grammy Award-nominated jazz singer Cécile McLorin Salvant shares the stage with French vocal "Occitan polyphony" sextet San Salvador.

Established in 1989 as a nonprofit performing arts organization, the SMF is Georgia's largest musical arts event. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution has called the festival "one of the Southeast's most creative cross-cultural musical events," and raves from across the globe have included praise from *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*,

WHAT: Savannah Music Festival 2023
WHEN: March 23 – April 8
WHERE: Various music venues in downtown Savannah
HOW MUCH: \$31 and up
CONTACT: savannahmusicfestival.org

Toronto Star (Canada), *The Times* (London), *The Guardian* (UK), *Gramophone* (UK), *Le Monde* (France), *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (Germany), among others.

The festival has garnered financial support from organizations such as the National Endowment for the Arts, Georgia Council for the Arts, and the City of Savannah, as well as corporate partnerships from Gulfstream and other sponsors.

One of the joys of the SMF is discovery. In addition to performances by some of your favorite and cherished musicians, there is a host of new music. As past attendees have attested, some of the festival's highlights will likely include music you never knew you'd love. Even if you're not a music aficionado, it can be well worth the price of admission to expand your horizons and embark on a mu-

sical journey that might take you somewhere delightfully unexpected. To help with that discovery, the festival provides a selection of audio and video from its compendium of artists at savannahmusicfestival.org. Click on any artist or performance, you'll be taken to a page that provides a brief synopsis of the performer with audio and video samples of their work. If you like what you see and hear, tickets can be purchased directly from the page.

Tickets for shows that aren't sold out are available for purchase up to the day of the show, available at the Savannah Box Office, 216 East Broughton Street, or by calling 912.525.5050, Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

During the festival, you can purchase tickets at each venue, where the box office will open a hour before each show. Prices start at \$31, with many opportunities to save, such as senior and military discounts, student and educator discounts, and group discounts. There are also numerous ticket bundles that can be purchased for a steep discount, as well as a pick 3, 5, or 10 deal where you can save 10, 15, and 20 percent, respectively.



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The Advanced Thoracic Oncology Center

Improving Early Lung Cancer Detection and Treatment

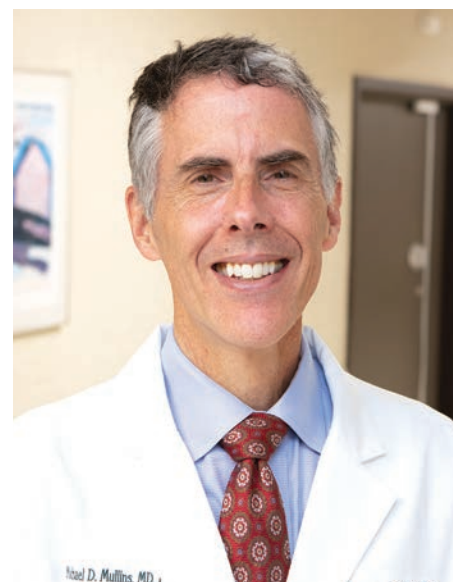
Many cancer centers have physicians from multiple disciplines under the same roof. But it's uncommon to find those specialists in the same room, talking directly with a patient. Yet, that's what lung cancer patients experience in the Advanced Thoracic Oncology Center (ATOC) at the Nancy N. and J.C. Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion (LCRP).

"The ATOC is the culmination of years of labor, love, and cooperation," says M. Douglas Mullins, MD, a pulmonologist with Southeast Lung Associates and medical director of the ATOC. "The new space at the LCRP is beautiful and relaxing, and from the moment you walk in the door, you will receive coordinated, multidisciplinary care."

Collaboration between Mullins and other specialists – such as thoracic surgeons and radiation oncologists – is nothing new. But advances in technology have created more treatment options for patients, often in earlier stages of the disease.

QUANTUM LEAP

The Monarch platform is a significant advancement in lung cancer treatment. Mullins utilized the technology in Candler Hospital's bronchoscopy suite. Monarch technology integrates robotics and advanced visualization with endoscopy – the use of small cameras and tools through a scope that enters the



M. Douglas, Mullins, MD

body. The precise, intricate design of the Monarch allows Mullins to investigate any area of the lungs.

"With the Monarch robot, there are no frontiers we can't reach," Mullins explains. "We can biopsy anywhere, anytime, any size."

This enables the doctor to diagnose and treat lung cancer early. "We can diagnose things at seven to eight millimeters before it becomes dangerously metastatic," Mullins says.

"We've taken a quantum leap forward," Mullins adds. "It's exciting, because it's the fulfillment of a shared vision, and now we want it to grow. We have the third-busiest Monarch program in the country. We want to build upon that reputation as the premier venue for the evaluation of lung nodules and minimally invasive cancer surgeries of the lung."

Meanwhile, robotic surgery and radiation technology continues to evolve. More patients than ever before are candidates for the da Vinci Xi Surgical System, the fourth generation in da Vinci technology. Also, CyberKnife technology at the LCRP allows physicians to treat tumors anywhere in the body with phenomenal accuracy.

IN THE ROOM

Patients come to the ATOC through a variety of pathways. Some are referred by their primary care physicians, some through self-referral, or they may have participated in St. Joseph's/Candler's lung cancer screening program.

"The patient may just see me to start with, and I set up a diagnostic procedure," Mullins explains, regarding the initial evaluation phase. "After that, I direct them to the next step in terms of appropriate treatment with another specialist."



Marc Bailey, MD

One of those specialists is cardiothoracic surgeon Marc Bailey, MD, FACS. "I don't think I've been more excited about a local development in my field as I am with this center," Bailey exclaims. "Our ability to diagnose and treat earlier is improving cure rates."

Bailey notes that there are a lot of moving parts to the ATOC, but there is also a framework for integrating all the different components. "It's not just streamlined for the doctors, though," he says. "That framework also benefits the patients."

Before seeing a patient, Mullins, Bailey, and perhaps a radiation oncologist, will review all their medical history, labs, pulmonary function tests, and other information. "Then we all go in the room together with the patient," Mullins says. "We sit down and discuss things in a relaxed way, often with the patient's family members present. We give the patients options for treatment – a kind of comprehensive road map for care."



Bailey adds that even though it can be a lot of information, patients know where they are headed in their treatment journey when they leave the room. "They get an answer and the treatment options faster, which is better for peace of mind and leads to better outcomes," he says.

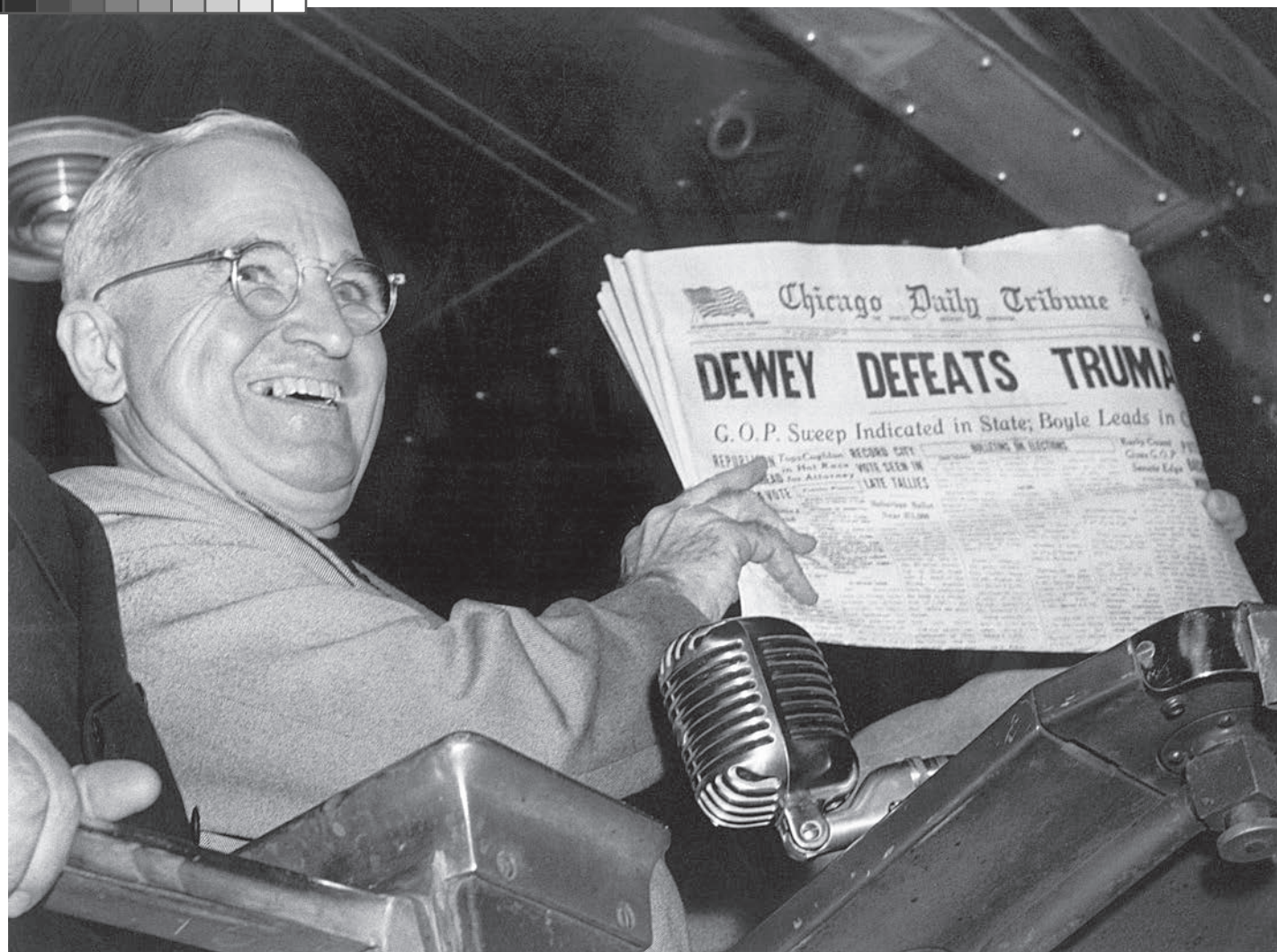
FULFILLMENT OF A VISION

Another essential aspect for the ATOC is to provide support for patients in a holistic way, which may include palliative care, nutrition, genetic counseling, or smoking-cessation classes. Mullins and Bailey agree that one of the ATOC's more important assets is its nurse navigator, Kaitlyn Youmans. "Our patients love her," Bailey says. "She has a great way with people and with guiding patients through this process. It's such a huge development for patient care that we can be under the same roof, in the same building as oncology, same building as imaging, and with

a nurse navigator like Kaitlyn. We're making it a more streamlined process for us and for the referring doctors; but, most importantly, for the patient."

Mullins agrees. "What we have is immeasurably robust in terms of how we treat patients, how we support patients, and how precise, safe, and efficient we are in getting a diagnosis," he says. "Patients will find the highest level of technology, experience, and expertise here that they can find anywhere in the country."

If a PET or CT scan shows a suspicious lung nodule, your physician may refer you to the ATOC, which is located on the second floor of the Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion at 225 Candler Drive. For more information or questions about self-referral, please call oncology nurse navigator Kaitlyn Youmans at 912.666.8000.



Harry Truman holds a copy of the Chicago Daily Tribune which erroneously named Thomas Dewey the winner of the 1948 presidential election.

Harry S. TRUMAN

Part 2

Ed. Note: This is the second of a two-part installment on Truman in the He Served series.

Harry Truman launched his political career in 1922, when he was elected a county judge in Jackson County, Missouri. Four years later, he was elected to the higher position of presiding judge of Jackson County. Both judgeships were administrative rather than judicial positions. Following his re-election in 1930, he helped coordinate the "Ten Year Plan," transforming Jackson County and the Kansas City skyline with new public works projects and an extensive network of new roads.

In 1934, with the patronage of the state Democratic Party and contacts he made as a county judge, a Freemason, a military reservist, and the American Legion, Truman won a seat in the U.S. Senate, joining

a wave of New Deal Democrats. He soon established a reputation as a senator who voted his own conscience and spoke out against corporate greed and the dangers of Wall Street speculators. Although he served on the high-profile Appropriations and Interstate Commerce Committees, he was largely ignored by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In the 1940 Senatorial election, Truman won reelection by a comfortable margin, expressing his dislike of both Nazi Germany and Communist Russia. Later that year, he visited numerous military bases and used his chairmanship of the Committee on Military Affairs to fight waste and expose corruption in the many pre-war contracts the government was awarding. His success greatly increased his reputation as the senator from Missouri who refused to squander public money, and he was featured on the cover of Time magazine.

HE SERVED BY RON LAURETTI

During the 1944 presidential election, Roosevelt's advisors secretly suspected he was too ill to live out another four-year term. Whoever his vice president might be would eventually become president. The current VP, Henry Wallace, was considered too far left, so Roosevelt agreed to choose a more conservative politician. Without much controversy, Truman was chosen. Roosevelt's advisors were correct. Three months after his record-setting fourth electoral victory, he died on April 12, 1945, in Warm Springs, Georgia, and Truman took the oath of office just a few hours later. After his first full day in office, Truman told reporters that he felt as if the moon, the stars, and all the planets had fallen on him.

No wonder. Among his new responsibilities was the development of the atomic bomb. Under direct orders from Roosevelt, it had remained top secret even to the vice president until Secretary of War Henry Stimson told Truman of the Manhattan Project. The new commander-in-chief handled the burden admirably.

The White House was badly understaffed, and Truman acted as his own chief of staff, as well as his own liaison with Congress. On major issues, he was no loner. He discussed them in depth with his top advisors and mastered the details of the federal budget. But he never had a jovial relationship with the press, and he bitterly mistrusted the media. Because he was such a hard worker – to the point of exhaustion – he often appeared testy and easily annoyed. He was a poor public speaker, but supporters offered encouragement by shouting "Give 'em hell, Harry!"

On May 8, 1945, after only 24 days in office, Truman had two reasons to celebrate – it was his 61st birthday and the Allies celebrated V-E Day, the formal surrender of Nazi Germany. Now, America and her allies could turn their full attention to the Pacific.

Led by the U.S., the Allies had defeated the forces of Japan, island by island, from Guadalcanal to Okinawa, a mere 800 miles from mainland Japan. Fleets of B29 bombers, taking off from Pacific island bases, laid waste to many of Japan's main cities and military sites. Millions of Japanese fled into the countryside. Food was rationed and morale was falling. But the Japanese leaders refused to consider surrender. Several million Japanese – including military reserves and trained civilians – were ready to fight to the death to defend their homeland. They had been told that Allied forces, especially Americans, would murder, torture, and enslave. The American high command estimated at least a half million Allied casualties should an invasion be launched against mainland Japan, and Japanese casualties would be twice that.

On July 16, 1945, Truman was informed that the first atomic bomb test had been successful. With the invasion of Japan imminent, Truman had to make a momentous and incredibly difficult decision – to order an assault on the main Japanese islands or use the devastating weapon on a Japanese target. He chose the latter, and authorized two atomic bombs to be deployed – first on Hiroshima on August 6, then Nagasaki three days later. Much of the two cities were reduced to ashes; combined immediate casualties totaled more than 100,000 people, mostly civilians. Japan surrendered on August 15, 1945.

When questioned about his decision, Truman maintained that he saved thousands of Allied and Japanese lives by avoiding an actual invasion. He emphatically stated that as president of the U.S., he – and no one else – had to make every important decision of the highest



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level. Reinforcing his belief was a sign prominently displayed on his desk: "THE BUCK STOPS HERE."

The years following World War II were uneasy for Truman. He became involved in labor union disputes, strikes, and economic issues. His approval rating dropped from 82 percent in January of 1946 to 52 percent the following June. He cooperated closely with the Republican leaders on foreign policy but fought them bitterly on domestic issues. He was a proponent of Democratic "Fair Deal" liberalism, but the Solid South rejected his civil rights proposals. But he enjoyed major successes, too. To further national defense, the World War I veteran signed the National Security Act of 1947 and reorganized military forces by merging the Department of War and the Department of the Navy into what would become the Department of Defense and separated the Army Air Corps into the independent Air Force. He also created the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the National Security Council, later to become the National Security Agency. He supported the creation of the Marshall Plan to help Europe rebuild, and he won bipartisan support of the Truman Doctrine, which formalized a policy of Soviet containment.

In June of 1948, the Soviet Union, rapidly becoming a world power, blocked access to the three Western-held (U.S., England, and France) sectors of Berlin, deep inside Soviet territory. The citizens of Berlin were in danger of starvation and the ravages of a harsh winter. Truman authorized an emergency airlift. For 11 months, U.S. Air Force flights, assisted by the British R.A.F., delivered more than 2,300 tons of cargo, mostly food and fuel. The Soviets relented on May 12, 1949, and reopened access into Berlin. The Berlin Airlift was one of Truman's great foreign policy accomplishments, significantly aiding his election campaign.

Seeking a broader domestic civil rights program, Truman issued two significant executive orders in 1948. The first (#9980) ended discrimination in all federal agencies, and the second (#9981) ended discrimination in the U.S. armed services. Now, all service members who had risked life and limb during World War II were entitled to equal treatment and benefits. Such policies, combined with the successful Berlin Airlift, led to Truman's re-election in 1948, despite a headline in the Chicago Daily Tribune proclaiming otherwise. His second inauguration



President Harry Truman arrives in his hometown of Springfield, Missouri, in 1948

was the first ever to be nationally televised.

In October of 1949, Mao Zedong led Communist forces to victory in the civil war in China. Truman unfairly came under fire from conservatives for "losing" China. The U.S. had a new enemy in Asia, which would soon result in a costly shooting war and the downfall of a major military leader. On June 25, 1950, communist North Korea, backed by the Soviet Union and China, invaded democratic South Korea, rapidly pushing the ill-prepared South Koreans far to the south. Much of the free world took exception to this act of aggression, and Truman was able to quickly assemble a United Nations defense force, led by the U.S. Initially, American forces could offer only token resistance to the aggressive North Korean troops, but as more American servicemen arrived, a stalemate occurred. This was soon broken when Gen. Douglas MacArthur ordered a surprise amphibious invasion at Inchon on the west-central shore of Korea. Pushing eastward into Seoul, the American forces blocked all entry into the south, trapping the North Korean Army.

Urged on by MacArthur, the Americans pushed into North Korea toward China. However, thousands of Chinese troops were secretly sneaking across the border each night and hiding in the woods during the day. In November of 1950, the Chinese attacked, pushing the Americans back to the border between North and South Korea, where a battle line was established near the 38th parallel, leading to a seesaw war.

In 1950, during renovations to the White House, Truman, his family, and residence

staff were relocated to Blair House, across Pennsylvania Avenue. Regarded as "the President's Guest House," it had served as a secure location for visiting dignitaries and heads of state. However, Truman continued to cross the street to the West Wing daily. On November 1, two Puerto Rican nationalists attempted to assassinate the president as he made his way to the Oval Office. One assassin was shot dead, the other, wounded. He was sentenced to death but Truman commuted his sentence to life imprisonment.

Also in 1950, an incident involving Truman happened which some thought was reason for criticism, while others thought it more comical. Harry and Bess Truman's daughter, Margaret, was a serious music student. In December of 1950, she gave a concert, and her performance was strongly criticized by Washington Post music critic Paul Hume. When Truman read it, the loyal father wrote a scathing response, threatening Hume with physical violence, should they ever meet. Truman received much criticism for his letter but justified it as being written by a loving father. Years later, when Hume visited the Truman Presidential Library, the former president gave him a personal tour, which Hume recalled as a "wonderful visit."

However, Truman never reconciled with MacArthur. From the beginning of the Korean War, the President and the general frequently disagreed. Truman rejected the general's plan to attack Chinese supply bases north of the Yalu River. After the incursion of Chinese troops into North Korea, MacArthur began to publicly threaten to "nuke" the Chinese troops or to invade China. Neither of these proposals was acceptable to Truman,

so on April 11, 1951, the president fired the legendary general, saying MacArthur would not respect the authority of his commander-in-chief.

MacArthur's dismissal was very unpopular, leading to harsh criticism toward Truman. When MacArthur returned to the U.S., it was to a hero's welcome. He addressed a joint session of Congress, which Truman called "a bunch of damn bullshit," guaranteeing the two would never be on friendly terms.

In July of 1953, an armistice was signed, ending the Korean War. However, the Cold War against Communism began to escalate. Truman tripled the defense budget and secured a strengthened agreement between the U.S. and its NATO allies for mutual defense against potential Soviet aggression. Despite his electoral victory in 1948, Truman received little political support leading up to the 1952 presidential election. He withdrew from the race and supported Illinois governor Adlai Stevenson's bid for the White House. Following Dwight D. Eisenhower's inaugu-



Truman placed this sign on the desk in the Oval Office

ration, Harry and Bess Truman retired to Independence, Missouri. In 1953, a payment of \$670,000 for his memoirs guaranteed a comfortable retirement for years to come.

In 1964, at the age of 80, the retired politician's physical condition declined following a bad fall at his home. In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Medicare bill at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum in Independence. Afterward, he presented the first two Medicare cards to Harry and Bess Truman to honor the former president's fight for government healthcare.

When he left office in 1953, Truman had a low job approval rating. But in the decades since, his approval rating slowly but surely increased. He eventually emerged as a political folk hero – an occasionally vulgar, often partisan, usually nationalistic leader. As an officer in World War I, he was respected by his men and feared by his enemies. He saved countless Allied lives at the end of World War II.

On December 5, 1972, Truman was admitted to Kansas City's Research Hospital and Medical Center with pneumonia. As his condition worsened, he fell into a coma, and died at 7:50 a.m. on December 26, at the age of 88. Bess chose a simple private service at the Truman Library rather than a state funeral with military honors in Washington. A week after the private funeral, a memorial service was held at Washington National Cathedral. He was laid to rest at the Truman Library. When Bess died in 1982, she was buried next to him.

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WHO NEW?

WHAT: New Neighbors
WHEN: Visit www.landingsnewneighbors.com to see our calendar
CONTACT: Visit our website or contact Sandy Hodge 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.

GOTTA LOVE IT

WHAT: Landlovers membership / open to all Skidaway Islanders
HOW MUCH: Each \$30 membership fee covers one household of one or two adults.
CONTACT: Vicki Knapp at landloversmembership@gmail.com or visit www.landingslandlovers.com for more information.
WHAT ELSE: The membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. Landlovers is a philanthropic and social organization dedicated to enriching the Landings community and Skidaway Island at large. Landlovers sponsors year-round social activities and fundraising events to support student scholarships and multiple non-profit service organizations.

STUDY HALL

WHAT: The Paintings of Stephen Hall
WHEN: Now through 31; artist's reception
WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
CONTACT: Vicky Lunick, 912.355.8111
WHAT ELSE: Inspired by the work of renowned artists Thomas Hart Benton, Edward Hopper and Takanori Oguiss, Hall's choice of subject matter ranges from buildings and streetscapes to still-lives and agave plants. He looks for form, color, and light, to render in oil paint on canvas.

SCHOOL'S IN

WHAT: Skidaway Island Republican Club (SIRC) March "True Perspectives"
WHEN: Wednesday, March 8, 5:30 to 7 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club Ballroom, The Landings
HOW MUCH: No cost to attend
CONTACT: www.skidawayislandrepublicanclub.wildapricot.org
WHAT ELSE: Cocktails and cash bar - 5:30 p.m.; Program - 6 p.m. Join newly elected SCCPSS board president, Roger Moss, and Shawn Kachmar, SCCPSS board member, as they address critical issues for the public school system

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and their plans to address these issues. Please register in advance to allow for proper planning.

FILMS OF FAITH

WHAT: A Lenten Series of four movies dealing with themes of shepherding, salvation, judgment, forgiveness, and redemption
WHEN: Wednesdays, March 8, 22 and 29, at 6 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Community Church
HOW MUCH: No charge; a free-will offering is gratefully accepted
CONTACT: Skidcc.org or call 912.598.0151
WHAT ELSE: The evening begins with a meal prepared by church members, followed by the film at 6:30, with discussion afterward.

UPCYCLE

WHAT: Landlovers Flea Market
WHEN: Saturday, March 11, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church lot
CONTACT: vplandlovers@gmail.com; To volunteer, contact michelesimari@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Come shop for bargains in art, jewelry, collectibles, furniture, sporting goods, hardware, home decor, electronics and more! Sales are cash only. All proceeds go to support Landlovers scholarships and grants.

DANCE FEVER

WHAT: Landlovers "Shall We Dance?"
WHEN: Monday, March 13, 7 - 8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Island United Methodist Church
CONTACT: Jane Golz, 704.641.4467
HOW MUCH: Tickets - \$15/person
WHAT ELSE: On the second Monday of each month, learn a difference style of dance. Professional instructors will lead the group through the moves! March's class, we will learn the spicy Salsa just in time for spring! Tickets at landingslandlovers.com.

AUCTION ACTION

WHAT: Landlovers Auctionmania
WHEN: Tuesday, March 14, 5-7 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: Cindy Altman at cynthia.altman@gmail.com or Beverley Cox at bcox0610@yahoo.com
WHAT ELSE: Auction closes at 7 p.m. sharp, and all tables close at that time. You must pick up your items the night of the auction before 8 p.m. Hundreds of unique and high-value items will be sold at Landlovers silent auction. Proceeds



HOWLING WITH PLEASURE

WHAT: Coyote project overview
WHEN: Thursday, March 16, 4 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 W Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: Free for FOSA members, \$5 for guests
CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Dr. Chris Mowry, associate professor of biology at Berry College, is the founder of the Atlanta Coyote Project. He will highlight the research being done on St. Catherine's Island. Dr. Mowry served on the Science Advisory Council of the Yellowstone Ecological Research Center and was a lead investigator on the 20-year Canid Ecology Project in Yellowstone National Park.

A WHALE OF A TALE

WHAT: UGA and right whales
WHEN: Thursday, April 20, 4 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 W Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: Free for FOSA members, \$5 for guests
CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Karen Dreger of UGA's Skidaway Institute of Oceanography will speak on the use of underwater gliders to detect the presence of the endangered right whales off the Georgia coast. Gliders are outfitted with sound sensors and can collect other types of scientific data as well.

FOR THE BIRDS

WHAT: Shorebirds at risk
WHEN: Thursday, May 11, 4 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 W Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: Free for FOSA members, \$5 for guests
CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Allie Hayser of the Georgia Bight Shorebird Conservation Initiative will provide an overview of coastal issues including the status of the American oystercatcher and other at-risk shorebirds. Hayser previously worked with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources on related projects.

benefit Landlovers Foundation. Bid online using your smartphone. Registration information can be found at www.landingslandlovers.com/Happenings/Fundraisers. Credit card, cash or check accepted. More information will be available soon regarding the registration process. Open to all Landings residents. If you have unique, valuable items that you'd like to donate, please bring them to the Flea Market Intake March 4 or 5. If you have items you'd like to donate before, contact Mark Witbeck at fleamarketintake@gmail.com or 574.286.9491.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

WHAT: Savannah Council on World Affairs
WHEN: Thursday, March 16
WHERE: Skidaway Community Church, 50 Diamond Causeway
CONTACT: For more details, visit www.savannahcwa.org
WHAT ELSE: Dr. Jeff McCausland, colonel – U.S. Army (retired), former dean of academics at the U.S. Army War College and currently a visiting professor of national security at Dickinson College, presents “Recent Past and Near Future of Ukraine.”

RIGHT ON!

WHAT: Ladies On The Right (LOTR) luncheon meeting
WHEN: March 16; 12:00-2:30 p.m. Social hour 12:00-1:00 p.m.; Lunch/program 1:00-2:30 p.m.
WHERE: The Landings Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: LOTR members, \$30; guests, \$35
CONTACT: For more info on speakers or to register/pay, visit www.ladiesontheright.org
WHAT ELSE: LOTR is a greater-Savannah community leadership organization whose mission is to inform, educate and inspire members to take action roles on issues that impact our country, community and lives. LOTR hosts its luncheon meetings on the third Thursday of each month.

TRAFFIC STOP

WHAT: Savannah Repertory Theater's “Once”
WHEN: Thursday, March 16, 8 p.m.
WHERE: Trustees Theater, 216 E. Broughton St.
HOW MUCH: Tickets are \$50 each and include VIP seating at the event, a pre-show beverage, and a special token that denotes you as a Tharros Place supporter
WHAT ELSE: “Once” tells the enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician about to give up on his dream, when a beautiful young woman takes a sudden interest in his haunting love songs. It remains the only show to have won an Academy Award, a Grammy Award, an Olivier Award, and a Tony Award. The performance benefits Tharros Place, a nonprofit that assists victims of human trafficking. To purchase tickets, visit give-usa.keela.co/once-march-16th1 or tharrosplace.com.

PLANT MANAGEMENT

WHAT: Audubon plant sale
WHEN: order online at SkidawayAudubon.org
WHERE: Begins mid-March; Pickup April 15 at Methodist church pavilion
HOW MUCH: prices vary
CONTACT: Email friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com to learn more
WHAT ELSE: Help save Monarch butterflies by purchasing pollinator plants. In addition, this year's sale includes environmentally friendly bushes, trees and groundcover options that help increase biodiversity. Proceeds help support Audubon projects and programs on Skidaway.

BALLS OF FUN

WHAT: Landlovers Bocce Social
WHEN: Sunday, March 19, 1 to 4 p.m.
WHERE: Bocce Courts
COST: Free
CONTACT: Judy Faraklas, jfaraklas@comcast.net
WHAT ELSE: Join Landlovers for an afternoon of Bocce and meeting with friends. Landlovers members only. Club membership (golf/athletic) required. No need to sign up. There are four courts reserved. Bring an appetizer to share and BYOB.

STITCHIN' TIME

WHAT: Landlovers Stitch and Bead
WHEN: Tuesday, March 21, 2 to 4 p.m.
WHERE: Members' homes
CONTACT: Leslie Mathews at lmathews50@gmail.com to be added to email list
WHAT ELSE: We welcome crafters working on any type of needle projects – knitting, needlepoint, beading, felting, crewel and cross-stitch. Location announced by email. Landlovers membership is required.

LENS CRAFTERS

WHAT: Landlovers Digital Photo Club
WHEN: March 21 at 3:45 p.m.
WHERE: Bailey Hall, Skidaway Island United Methodist Church
HOW MUCH: There are no photo club dues this year, but you must be a member of Landlovers
CONTACT: Amy Collings, landloversphoto-club@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Whether you are a novice photographer, an expert shutterbug, or anything in between, come join the Landlovers Digital Photo Club. Come enjoy being part of our great group of supportive people.

FLOWER POWER

WHAT: “Gloriosa: If These Walls Could Talk,” a Garden Club of America flower show
WHEN: Thursday, March 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHERE: The Green-Meldrim House, 14 W. Macon St.

HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: Corinne Brown, corinnebrown@gmail.com or 404.606.0477, or visit www.trusteesgardenclub.com
WHAT ELSE: The show consists of five divisions, including floral design, horticulture, photography, botanical arts, and education. The goal is to inspire thoughtful stewardship to protect and promote our environment for future generations.

POSTAL PEOPLE

WHAT: Landings Stamp Club
WHEN: March 24, 10:00 a.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church conference room
COST: Free
CONTACT: Carl Luecke, cluecke@comcast.net or 912.349.0340 for meeting details.
WHAT ELSE: Beginner, advanced, or anyone in between is welcome to join our monthly meeting. Learn about buying, selling or preserving your collections, and discover different types of stamps from all over the world.

BOATING AND BBQ

WHAT: The Coffee Bluff Marine Rescue Squadron annual barbeque fundraiser
WHEN: Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
WHERE: Coffee Bluff facility at the end of White Bluff Rd. on the Forrest River
HOW MUCH: Dinners – \$12 each
WHAT ELSE: The Coffee Bluff Marine Rescue Squadron is a nonprofit marine search-and-rescue operation serving the Coastal Empire and surrounding areas. This popular event sells more than 2,500 dinners to support the squadron. Coffee Bluff Marine Rescue Squadron activities are executed by experienced volunteers at no charge to boaters.

SUNDAY IN THE PARK

WHAT: Skidaway Island State Park Spring Festival
WHEN: Sunday, April 2, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Island State Park, 52 Diamond Causeway
HOW MUCH: \$5 parking fee
CONTACT: Event phone - 912.598.2300
WHAT ELSE: Skidaway Island State Park is bringing back its annual Spring Festival to welcome spring. Shop local vendors and food trucks while enjoying spring weather and the park's beautiful scenery. Bring your friends, families, and pups, too.

EPIC CURE

WHAT: LWGA's Together for a Cure (TFAC)
WHEN: April 12 and 15; Registration now open at togetherforacure.net
WHERE: The Landings
CONTACT: Vicki Marino, TFAC Chairperson at vmpmpha1@aol.com. Visit togetherforacure.net to register

WHAT ELSE: Includes golf tournament, tennis, pickleball, croquet, bocce, 5K Run, 2-mile fun 'r walk, and silent auction. All residents of the Landings can participate in the runs/walk and the silent auction.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

WHAT: 47th Annual NOGS Tour of Hidden Gardens
WHEN: April 14 and 15; Garden tour times, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
WHERE: North of Gaston Street (NOGS) to the Savannah River
HOW MUCH: Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @GardenClubSAV to be the first to know.
CONTACT: Please direct all inquiries to nogs-gardentour@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: This special tour unlocks the gates of select private and historic gardens located in Savannah's Landmark Historic District for self-guided exploration. As part of the tour, ticket holders are invited to a Southern tea at the Green-Meldrim House. Proceeds from the tour are donated to organizations throughout the Savannah area.

HOUSE PARTIES

WHAT: Landlovers Cocktails with Friends
WHEN: Saturday, April 22, 6 to 8 p.m.
WHERE: Landlovers hosts' homes
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: Becky Dominguez, beckydom61@aol.com, or Connie Rice, csrice1948@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: We are looking for people to host this evening at their homes. Please contact Becky Dominguez if you would be interested in hosting some of your neighbors for the evening. Guests will be assigned to various homes, and bring an appetizer to share and their own libation.

TENNIS, ANYONE?

WHAT: Savannah Challenger player housing
WHEN: April 24-30
WHERE: host homes
CONTACT: Kevin Schneider 912.547.0705, flyingheads1@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Looking for tennis-loving, fun-loving homes for some of the best tennis players in the world. Only requirements are a bed, a bathroom, and access to your washer/dryer.

SPRING FLING

WHAT: Spring Sisters Soirée
WHEN: Monday, May 1, 7 to 9 p.m.; Please RSVP by April 24

WHERE: Sunset Pavilion
HOW MUCH: \$38
CONTACT: Email panhellenicsavannah@gmail.com for a registration form
WHAT ELSE: Come join your sisters for a fun and delicious evening featuring decadent desserts, cheeses, wines, and our signature cocktail. This event is open to all sorority women in the greater Savannah area.

VISION QUEST

WHAT: 8th Annual JIT “FORE Vision” Charity Golf Tournament
WHEN: Monday, April 24, 10 a.m. shotgun start
WHERE: The Landing's Magnolia and Marshwood Courses
HOW MUCH: \$150 individual; \$600 team of 4
CONTACT: For more information or to reserve your team's spot, contact Kaleena at kcoyle@savannahcblv.org.
WHAT ELSE: Since 1963, the Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision is Southeast Georgia's fully AER accredited, community facility providing vision rehabilitation services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. To learn more, visit www.SavannahCBLV.org.

WHERE ART THOU?

WHAT: The 34th annual Landings Art Association Spring Art Show and Silent Auction
WHEN: Tuesday, May 2, 5 to 8 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom
HOW MUCH: \$5 at the door
CONTACT: Visit landingsartassociation.com for more details
WHAT ELSE: The Spring Art Show is accepting applications beginning March 6. Please visit www.landingsartassociation.com for details. The evening includes live music, member bar and a silent auction. Attendees will view more than 100 works of art in nine media vying for top honors. All work is available for purchase at the event.

TAXATION REPRESENTATION

WHAT: Opportunities for volunteer income tax assistance with Neighborhood Improvement Association
WHEN: starting in January, flexible hours from 9 a.m. to 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/screener and tax preparers

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.

BRIDGING THE GAP

WHAT: Landlovers Modern Bridge
WHEN: every Wednesday from 11-2
WHERE: Marshwood
CONTACT: Marianne Claysmith, claysmith2@aol.com
WHAT ELSE: The Modern Bridge group is designed to use the following basic conventions: Stayman, Jacoby Transfer, Weak 2's, Ace asking. Joining this group assumes you either currently use these conventions or are open to learning them. A 15-minute brush up will start at 1:00 p.m. game to follow. All participants must be members of Landlovers and a Landings Club member, in accordance with Landings Club policy. Due to limited space, sign up is required.

BUNCO SQUAD

WHAT: Landlovers Bunco
WHEN: 2nd Wednesday each month - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Landings Association building on Landings Way South
HOW MUCH: \$6 to cover room cost and prizes
CONTACT: Dianne Bloom, thewinelady2005@yahoo.com; or Barbara Capes, b_capes@comcast.net
WHAT ELSE: A dice game requiring no skill but enjoying a fun night out with friends. Any Landlovers member. Club membership is not required.

SHALOM

WHAT: JWOL Membership
HOW MUCH: Annual membership is \$20
CONTACT: Sherri Brecker
WHAT ELSE: Mail or tube check to Sherri at 18 Cricket Court. Membership entitles each member to share in the many wonderful programs and social events JWOL offers.

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

ACROSS

- 1. Little terror
- 5. Wet bar?
- 9. Knife wound
- 13. ____ of thumb
- 14. Church V.I.P.
- 16. Bounce back
- 17. Soon, to a bard
- 18. Throw for a loop
- 19. Garbage hauler
- 20. Complex unit
- 22. Deadly mushroom
- 24. Schongauer work
- 26. Toni Morrison's "Baby"
- 27. Tabloid twosome
- 28. Noble position
- 32. Retro phone feature
- 35. Established
- 37. Indigenous
- 38. Not quite right
- 39. Full of bounce
- 41. Fishing equipment
- 42. Like cows and sows
- 44. Campaign pro
- 45. Shrek, for one
- 46. Bomb
- 48. Certain tide
- 50. Computer capacity
- 51. Emphatic
- 56. New Year's Eve staple
- 59. X, in math
- 60. Tim Conway film, "The Billion Dollar ____"
- 61. Factory
- 63. Quitter's word
- 64. Word sung on 12/31
- 65. Concise
- 66. Flu symptom
- 67. Arborist's concern
- 68. Numerical suffix
- 69. Give the eye

DOWN

- 1. Hold steady
- 2. Talk at length
- 3. Follow follower
- 4. Plant stem extension

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14				15		16		
17					18					19			
20				21		22				23			
24					25					26			
			27					28	29			30	31
32	33	34			35		36		37				
38				39				40			41		
42			43				44				45		
46						47		48		49			
			50			51	52				53	54	55
56	57				58					59			
60					61				62		63		
64					65						66		
67						68					69		

- 5. Mermaid's milieu
- 6. Veteran
- 7. Annex
- 8. Animal fur
- 9. Type of psychology
- 10. Word in a 1978 John Irving book title
- 11. "Get lost!"
- 12. Kennel cry
- 15. Primary color
- 21. Cereal grass
- 23. Dogcatcher's catch
- 25. Evening bell
- 29. "Brokeback Mountain" director
- 30. CBer's term
- 31. Dole (out)
- 32. Tip, as a hat
- 33. Brainchild

- 34. Deserving of respect
- 36. Word of advice
- 39. Dry spell
- 40. Mumbo-jumbo
- 43. Pie preference
- 45. Type of illusion
- 47. Young raptor
- 49. It may be framed
- 52. Capture
- 53. Likeness
- 54. Locale
- 55. Aromatic compound
- 56. Chew the fat
- 57. Rush follower
- 58. Envelope abbr.
- 62. Half a score

Puzzle answers, page 31

\$20 each, with a maximum of 50 words • \$5 for each additional 10 words • Contact Teri Grayson at 598.9715 or email classifieds@theskinnie.com

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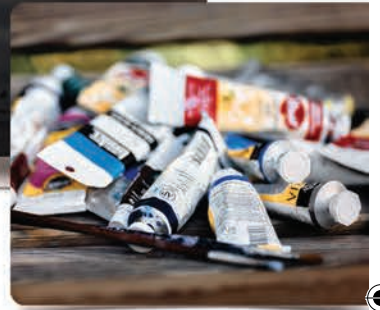
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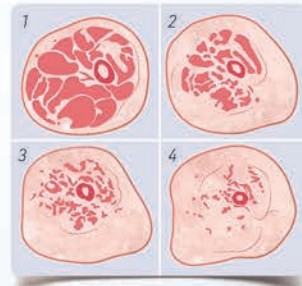
A sudden onset of weakness in her limbs and hands began interfering with two of Elaine's biggest joys: painting and bike riding. Additional symptoms, including slurred speech and severe trouble swallowing, led to electromyography (EMG) and muscle biopsy testing, which revealed necrotizing autoimmune myopathy - a rare autoimmune condition attacking the muscles.

Under the care of Dr. Poston, a neurologist, Elaine was treated with intravenous immunoglobulin and other lifesaving drugs. Immunosuppression and regular follow-ups with Dr. Poston and multiple St. Joseph's/Candler specialists helped Elaine regain her strength and return to the pursuits she loves.

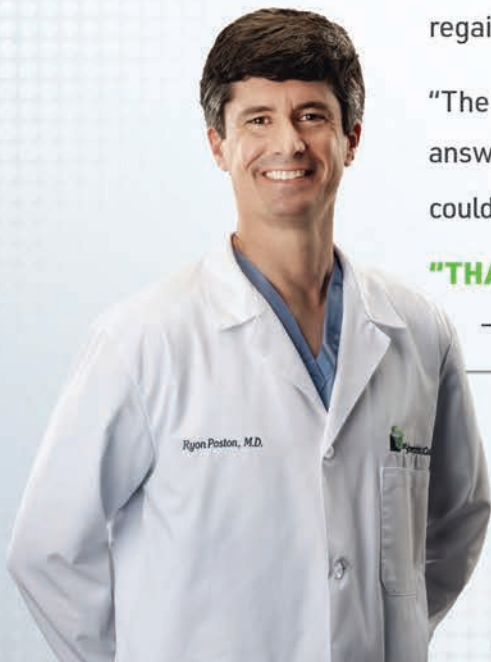
"The team of specialists at St. Joseph's/Candler found answers and solutions to help me regain my strength so I could get back to doing the things I love to do." - Elaine Lee

"THAT'S WHY I CHOOSE ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER"

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stages of myopathy



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