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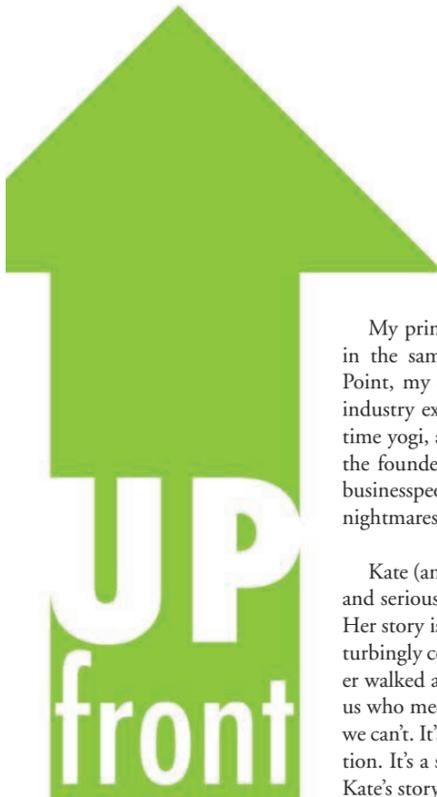
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Yoga is important to me. It has rescued me when I've required saving. It has emboldened me when I have felt weak. In its most sublime moments, yoga transports me to a place adjacent to euphoria's nest...

My primary yoga home is Savannah Power Yoga (SPY), in the same Sandfly shopping center that hosts Cutters Point, my coffee shop. Kate Doran is a former computer industry executive turned entrepreneur. And she is a long-time yogi, a fact which shaped her business dreams. Kate is the founder and owner of SPY. Like those of many small businesspeople, her dreams have morphed into seeming nightmares over the span of the past 12 months.

Kate (and her team) are my teachers. Kate is a thoughtful and serious and determined person. Kate is also my friend. Her story is representative of millions of stories that are disturbingly consolidated by others – many of whom have never walked a step in her bare feet, or in the shoes of those of us who meet payrolls and pay vendor bills and miss sleep if we can't. It's a story of shock, sadness, adaption and redemption. It's a story of constancy and a story of change. This is Kate's story, written in her own words:

Five more breaths. When I ask this of my yoga students during a challenging yoga pose, it's for a purpose. I am asking them to cultivate the power to remain in and, ultimately, overcome discomfort when things get rough. I am asking them to distill a moment into its essence. I am asking them to set aside extraneous noise. I am asking them to...simply...breathe.

For many of us, the year we have endured since March of last is the toughest we have known. As a small business owner, I must ask myself to remain in the challenge every day, to endure the discomfort, to dismiss the doubts, to...breathe.

On March 1, 2020, we opened Savannah Power Yoga's second location on Wilmington Island, after a significant investment of money, effort and time. Sixteen days later, we were told to close our doors. In that moment, we faced a challenge that we had never imagined. Every day since has delivered more hurdles in our path. How have we gotten through it? One breath at a time.

On March 17 of last year, instead of donning green and heading into a reveling crowd, I sat down and began to research online yoga options. YouTube? Facebook Live? Zoom? Thankfully, SPY is part of a network of yoga studios, all facing the same crisis. We shared ideas and started redeveloping our businesses using fast-forming ideas. In the days since, our SPY community – now unlimited by the boundaries of our studios' walls – has shared more than 1,000 online yoga classes on Zoom.

When regulations were revised and we were permitted to reenter our physical spaces, we shifted again. We developed a hybrid offering: We teach a live class and simultaneously stream

it to yogis who prefer to stay at home. We installed a bi-polar (ironic?) ionization HVAC upgrade to scrub the air and make it safe for our student groups. We retrained our staff in the CDC protocols and re-engineered many of our standard operating procedures to make our classes safe.

Sometimes now, we are teaching only a couple of students in a studio designed to hold 60, but we might have 35 people joining us from their homes. Instead of bemoaning the limitations, we are focused on the good. We CAN keep offering classes, even if it's not the way we used to. We CAN keep connecting with our community, even it doesn't include hugs. Thanks to Zoom, we meet pets, children and partners, as they wander through the backgrounds of the boxes on our screens. We practice with yogis who have moved away from the area and can now rejoin us from their new, distant homes. We meet yogis in faraway places who discover us through friends and Facebook ads.

There are still days when I want to do nothing more than stay in bed and feel sorry for myself. Running a small business is never easy, and now it's harder than ever. Filing for PPP and EIDL loans (federal and state pandemic programs), and partial unemployment were not key components of my entrepreneurial dreams. But sharing the healing power of yoga is. And healing ourselves by remaining true to our purpose and principles is, too.

Creating a place for the consistent practice of yoga, in community, is our mission at SPY. We have learned that consistency and connection are still possible, and more important than ever. Our teachers need their work; it provides them a platform for service and purpose. Our students need their practice; it gets them out of their fears and doubts.

Our breath is real. Projecting the future is not; it's imagination and conjecture. Projection eventually leads to uncertainty and, often, dread. Existing actively in the present moment, staying strong when we want to run away: These are lessons yoga gifts us. Gentle poses teach us to nurture our bodies and give ourselves breaks. Conscious breathing teaches us to notice what is happening right now and see what is real: We are OK, we can do this. One breath at a time.

Connect with Kate and her team at savannahpoweryoga.com.

Scott A. Lauretti

To contact us with your ideas, responses, letters and more, email us at mail@theskinnie.com

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August	115	40
September	110	45
October	105	40
November	100	45
December	95	40
January 2021	90	30
February	85	25

Month	Average Sales Price
DECEMBER 2020	\$572,513
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SAVANNAH SKIDAWAY ISLAND POOLER



on the cover:

Chris Geiger captured this beautiful image of one of Skidaway's marshes. If you'd like to help maintain Skidaway's natural beauty, check out our special "green" content in this issue.

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COMPOSTING

Completing the Cycle

Spring is a season of new beginnings. The chatter of winter pruning, seedling starts, farmers markets, and plant swaps fuel each step of the avid gardener's gait. The building sun reminds outdoor enthusiasts to reapproach their space with love and new layers of compost, spoiling plants with fresh nutrients.

Composting is the aerobic decomposition of organic materials by microorganisms. It transforms raw materials – such as leaves, grass clippings, garden trimmings, food scraps, animal manure, and agricultural residues – into valuable, earthy-smelling soil conditioner, teeming with life. But it's not just for the avid gardener. Compost is making

headlines as a tool for fighting ever-growing environmental problems. Composting closes the loop on the lifecycle of your food, and it saves time, money and valuable resources.

By taking what was once considered waste and putting it back into the production stream, composting creates a natural fertilizer with many benefits. Compost has the ability to conserve water, drastically decrease harmful gas emissions, reduce the need for potentially harmful chemicals, and replenish degraded and eroded soils. Without composting, growing systems operate in a linear path with no return product, and problems arise with space or dwindling resources.

According to a 2018 article published in the Washington Post, the average American wastes about a pound of food a day, or around 25 percent of all food. The environmental impact of wasted food accounts for 30 million acres of cropland, 4.2 trillion gallons of water, and nearly 2 billion pounds of fertilizer. Much attention is being focused on landfills accepting this waste and the damaging effects it has on the environment. The U.S. generates roughly 300 million tons of waste per year. Fortunately, more than half of it is compostable.

Concerns arise when organically based materials are put in landfills. A 2016 study indicates that approximately 70 percent of

the 87,000 tons of waste going into the Dean Forest landfill is organic waste capable of being composted, producing a natural resource that can be put back into exhausted and depleted agricultural lands. Diverting these materials could drastically extend the life of the landfill.

When organic waste is buried, it loses oxygen and transforms into gases like methane, which are harmful to the environment when openly released. The aerobic decomposition in active composting yields far less emissions. Methane is a natural occurring gas found in the intestines of animals, hydrothermal vents and wetlands, and it's responsible for human flatulence. When methane is burned, it produces vast amounts of heat and releases carbon dioxide and water into the air. As one of the cleanest burning fuels, it could be a great source of natural energy, if managed properly.

Commercial composting methods that handle large volumes of organic waste on a small footprint can control aeration and manage piles to reduce emissions and smells by as much as 98 percent. It comes down to how the waste stream of human consump-

10 REASONS TO COMPOST

- 1) Improves plant growth
- 2) Reduces soil erosion
- 3) Allows soil to retain more water
- 4) Enhances soil fertility
- 5) Reduces waste landfilled & burned
- 6) Benefits soil structure
- 7) Allows soil to retain more nutrients
- 8) Stores carbon in soil to protect the climate
- 9) Builds community resilience & power
- 10) Is something everyone can do!



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By Maria Vaughn

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WHAT CAN YOU COMPOST?

There are a few rules to follow when composting to ensure your pile (bin, heap or bucket) breaks down well. Compostable items are generally broken down into two categories:

Greens are high in nitrogen and moisture. They are quick to break down, which helps your compost pile heat up. And because they are wet, they keep your pile from drying out. Greens also provide protein for microorganisms that help turn scraps to dirt. Common examples of greens include:

- Vegetable and vegetable scraps
- Coffee grounds (Even though they're brown! Coffee beans are green before they're roasted.)
- Eggshells
- Tea leaves
- Grass clippings and weeds
- Shrub and plant prunings

Browns provide structure and support to your compost and are carbon-rich food sources for organisms in the compost. Without slow-decaying browns, all the green items would form a dense, wet clump, prone to mold and anaerobic bacteria. By adding browns, you allow air to permeate the pile and keep it healthy. Common examples of browns include:

- Dry leaves, twigs or pinecones
- Straw
- Sawdust
- Corn stalks
- Newsprint (not glossy) and paper
- Corrugated cardboard (no waxy or glossy coatings)
- Horse, rabbit, cow and chicken droppings

Alternate green and brown, but there's no need to be precise. Compost will happen even if your ratios are a little skewed.

— Source: ILSR.org

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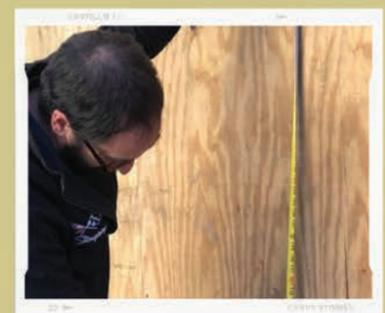
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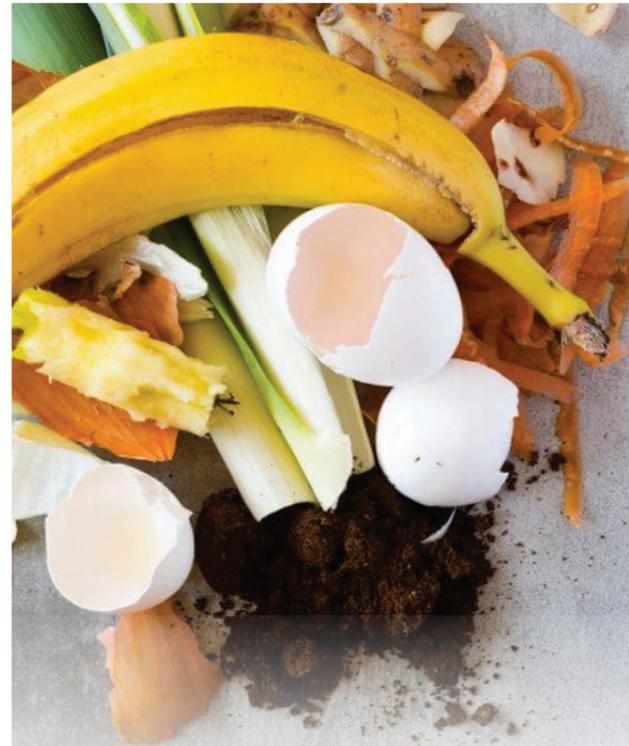


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tion is diverted and processed. By recognizing the value of organic scraps, composting can provide valuable by-products for agriculture.

Current farming practices account for vast soil erosion, soil degradation, emissions, and fertilizer runoff. The U.N.'s food and agricultural organization reports that 25 million acres of arable land is lost to erosion annually. Current chemical and tilling practices in agriculture lead to drastic carbon, water and fertility loss. The U.S., alone, is losing soil 18 times more rapidly than it is forming it. Cornell ecology professor, David Pimemel, asserts that soil erosion is second to population growth as the biggest environmental problem facing the world. However, do not despair. Making small changes in your routines can have tremendous impacts on your community and climate.

With the rise in population and urban density, many educational opportunities and programs that emphasize environmental stewardship are on the rise. However, with life's many obligations, making the commitment to another practice, like composting, may seem daunting. If YouTubing "DIY backyard composting" is not your speed, try other strategies. Perhaps, you have a friend who is composting. Most compost facilitators geek out over some extra banana peels or coffee grounds. Another consideration is your neighborhood community garden, many of which offer a basic compost setup. Growing within your community can yield food and resiliency, truly empowering rewards. A Google search may lead to organizations that specialize in assisting with waste diversion. Resources that support organic recycling, especially in larger cities where the pipes of waste removal are quite clogged, are proliferating.

The next time you're about to toss a banana peel in the trash, remember the potential stored within its return to the cycle of life.



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The Circle Remains UNBROKEN

The One Hundred Children's Foundation

By Phyllis Read

The unbroken circle as a metaphor – sometimes meaning good, sometimes bad – has a long history in myth, religion, science...even country music. The One Hundred Children's Foundation (OHCF), with the Landings as its home base, is a metaphor for the positive force of an unbroken circle. Now in its 27th year, The OHCF is keeping its unbroken circle of promise: "Together we will make tomorrow better by working for healthy and

happy children today."

Undaunted by the restrictions created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the 141 members of The OHCF have maintained the organization's mission: "To promote the health, education and well-being of children through financial support of child-focused outreach programs in the Coastal Empire of Georgia and South Carolina."

Last October, The OHCF awarded

eight nonprofit organizations \$100,000 in grants for their initiatives for children:

- Camp Kudzu, for children with diabetes
- Camp New Hope, for tuitions for children with Sickle Cell disease
- Wesley Community Centers, for outdoor classrooms for preschoolers
- St. Joseph's/Candler Foundation, for glider rockers in a special-care nursery
- Loop It Up Savannah, for literacy and arts programs for children
- Jack Kolbush Foundation, for milestone celebrations for children being treated for cancer
- Ronald McDonald House, for a touch table for children being treated for cancer
- Savannah Philharmonic, for musical performances for patients at the Dwaine and Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital

Carri Stoltz, president of The OHCF, says, "I've never been so proud of being a part of an organization as I have been this past year of The OHCF. The creativity and determination of the members never ceases to amaze me as they sew, knit, cut out art projects, create amazing decorations, and think outside the box when it comes to fundraising ideas."

During the pandemic, The OHCF volunteers created safe-sleep baby bundles, and supplied comfort pillows (recently, up to 275) for mothers and their new babies, at the Dwaine and Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital. Two cribs for toddlers with illnesses recently arrived at Candler Pediatrics, purchased by funds awarded by The OHCF in 2019. The foundation continues to supply hundreds of

In February, The OHCF held its first indoor meeting of the board in almost a year, at Skidaway Community Church, where members have met for years, thanks to its graciousness. Observing CDC safety guidelines, board members formed an unbroken circle on the lawn of the church, almost holding hands, genuinely happy to express their individual links in The OHCF's unbroken circle.



"My sweet 98-year-old mom felt grateful and blessed to have SCI caregivers in her home helping with her daily needs. It gave us complete comfort and reassurance."
— Pam O'Donnell

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WHAT: The One Hundred Children's Foundation Annual Great Golf Ball Drop and Elegant Picnic on the Green
WHEN: Monday, April 26 at 6 p.m.
WHERE: The Green (practice range) at Deer Creek Golf Club, the Landings
HOW MUCH: \$100 per person; Includes one elegant picnic dinner basket per couple; member or cash bar
CONTACT: Co-chairs Margy Hatch, margymhatch@gmail.com, and Kerry Ufford, kerryufford@gmail.com, or visit www.TheOneHundredChildrensFoundation.org
WHAT ELSE: All proceeds go to the OHCF Grants Fund. Numbered golf balls to be dropped from 40 feet may be purchased for \$100 each. The ball falling closest to the designated hole wins 1st place. Prizes: 1st - \$2,500; 2nd - \$1,500; 3rd - \$500. Maximum Of 500 balls to be sold. You do not have to be present to win prizes.

books to educate and entertain children in our area, recently assisted by Barnes & Noble's 2020 Holiday Book Drive. The OHCF has aided in making a time of stress a time of assurance and renewal for children in the Savannah area.

Visit www.theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org to learn more, to join, or to donate. New members are always welcome, and donations are gratefully accepted.



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MLS Data accurate as of March 13, 2021



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Holy Week

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PALM SUNDAY
March 28th
8:30 am - Chapel Steps
10:00 am - Sanctuary

We begin Holy Week with Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Children will process with palms before the 10:00 am service.

GOOD FRIDAY
April 2nd
7:00 pm
Sanctuary

We remember the suffering of our Lord through a presentation of the Stations of the Cross with scripture, reflective narrative and contemplative music.

EASTER SUNDAY
April 4th
9:00 am - Sanctuary
11:00 am - Sanctuary

RSVP:
siumc.org/holyweek
On this festive day, we celebrate Christ's resurrection. Both services will feature a Brass Quintet.

MAUNDY THURSDAY
April 1st
7:00 pm
Sanctuary Steps

Outdoor Service
On the night that Jesus celebrated the Last Supper, we will observe the sacrament of Holy Communion.

EASTER EVENING
April 4th - 7:00 pm
Sanctuary Steps

Outdoor Service
As the day comes to an end, we take time to reflect on the empty tomb and look toward the future.

All are welcome to worship at our church.



St. Joseph's/Candler Breaks Ground In Richmond Hill

*Phase One: Urgent Care;
Phase Two: Specialty Services*

On March 4, St. Joseph's/Candler broke ground on a new urgent care facility that will provide needed medical services for the growing communities of Richmond Hill and Bryan County. Urgent care improves access to affordable medical services that are unpredicted and unscheduled. The new urgent care will open in early September. Phase II of the project will add primary care of specialty offices, whichever is of greater need for the community.

The initiative is part of a three-year strategic plan St. Joseph's/Candler launched in 2019 to expand urgent care and healthcare access throughout the region. The expansion began with a location in the new St. Joseph's/Candler Pooler campus; Richmond Hill is next on the list.

"St. Joseph's/Candler has been in Richmond Hill for almost 30 years. As the community grows, we are growing with them to meet their healthcare needs," explains Paul P. Hinchey, president and CEO of St. Joseph's/Candler. "Urgent care practices are important because they can handle most medical surprises and are far more affordable than emergency departments."

The Richmond Hill location represents the eighth St. Joseph's/Candler urgent care facility. The entire list of St. Joseph's/Candler urgent care locations is available at sjurgentcare.com.

ABOUT URGENT CARE:

Walk-in urgent care practices are able to handle 80 percent of all medical surprises. The cost is far less than an emergency department visit, usually around the price a patient would pay at a primary care doctor. A hospital emergency room is typically 10 to 20 times higher.

BY THE NUMBERS

- \$4 million investment in the community
- \$500,000 annual payroll
- 10,000 square-foot building
- Located at 12800 Hwy 144, in front of Publix



Top: Architectural rendering of new facility, located at 12800 Hwy 144, Richmond Hill

Above: Paul P. Hinchey leads the groundbreaking on the new Richmond Hill Urgent Care facility.

Monarch Bronchoscopy Means Earlier, Accurate Lung Cancer Diagnosis

The thoracic lung cancer multidisciplinary team at the Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion (LCRP) just got a new teammate: the Monarch Robot. This advanced technology leads to earlier and more accurate diagnosis, compared to previous methods, of small and hard-to-reach lung cancer nodules. The robot's use is non-invasive for patients and limits false positives, false negatives and potential side effects.

The Monarch Platform, powered by Auris Health, integrates the latest advancements in robotics, software, data science and endoscopy – the use of small cameras and tools to enter the body through its natural openings. Using a familiar controller-like interface (think of your child's Xbox controller), physicians are able to navigate the flexible robotic endoscope to the edge of the lung with improved reach, vision and control compared to traditional endoscopy. The computer-assisted navigation is based on 3D models of the patient's particular lung anatomy, and provides physicians with continuous bronchoscope vision throughout the procedure.

BENEFITS OF THE MONARCH ROBOT:

- Early diagnosis, increasing the chance of survival
- Improved patient outcomes
- Enhanced physician capabilities

Urgent care accessibility represents St. Joseph's/Candler's commitment to bring healthcare to people where they live and work. The health system is creating a medical beltway around the Savannah region.

In the past two years, St. Joseph's/Candler has opened medical campuses in Pooler and Bluffton, expanded primary care services in the region, opened cancer satellite programs in Jesup and Hinesville, and placed medical specialty offices across southeast Georgia. And there is more to come.

ABOUT ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER

St. Joseph's/Candler is a 714-bed, Magnet-designated health system for nursing excellence, with a focus on the latest technologies and



M. Douglas Mullins, MD

- Less frequent false positives and false negatives
- Fewer side effects

At the LCRP, a team of pulmonologists, surgeons, radiation oncologists, medical oncologists and others meet as a multidisciplinary group to discuss each individual lung cancer patient or suspicious case. If a patient has suspicious findings on a lung CT scan, pulmonologist, Dr. M. Douglas Mullins, can use Monarch to quickly and accurately perform a biopsy to determine if the finding is lung cancer. Those findings, along with imaging results, can help the multidisciplinary

team determine the next appropriate course of action, whether it's surgery, radiation or another treatment option.

The Monarch Robot is housed in the Bronchoscopy Suite at Candler Hospital. Currently, it is used for diagnosing lung cancers with patients who seek treatment through the Rapid Access Lung Treatment Clinic at the LCRP. In the future, the robot will be used for treatment and therapeutic purposes.

For information about cancer surgical and comprehensive services and physician specialists at the LCRP, call 912.819.5704.

research. It is anchored by St. Joseph's and Candler Hospitals in Savannah. Its comprehensive network includes centers of excellence for oncology, cardiovascular care, neurosciences, women's and children's services, orthopedics, pulmonary medicine and a variety of other disease specialties. The Nancy N. and J.C. Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion has been selected to be part of the National Cancer Institute's Community Oncology Research Program. The not-for-profit health system serves 33 counties in southeast Georgia and three in the South Carolina Lowcountry. St. Joseph's/Candler is the largest and only faith-based healthcare institution in the region.

For more information, visit www.sjchs.org.

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by Ron Lauretti

The history of the U.S. Air Force begins in September of 1908, when the Aeronautical Division of the Army Signal Corps obtained a dirigible and its first Wright aircraft. Each was designed to carry two people. At a cost of \$6,750, the Army mandated that the dirigible handle a load of 450 pounds and reach a speed of 20 miles per hour. The airplane, priced at \$25,000, was had a 350-pound capacity and needed a top speed of 40 miles per hour, with a range of, at least, 125 miles.

In July of 1908, the dirigible's developer, Scott Baldwin, and an associate, flew test trials over Ft. Meyer, Virginia, meeting all requirements except for speed. The Wright Brothers delivered their airplane to Ft. Meyer on September 1, 1908, for trials. Two days later, Orville Wright made the first test flight. Just two weeks later, Orville kept his airplane aloft for an amazing 70 minutes.

Aviation was on its way, but early manned flight was dangerous. Of the 53 Army personnel who trained as pilots at the onset of the program, 13 died in air crashes. The first fatality was 1st Lt. Thomas Selfridge, killed September 17, 1908, during a test flight at Ft. Meyer. While airborne at 150 feet, his propeller split, severing a cable to the rudder and causing the plane to crash.

Undaunted, the Wright Brothers returned to Ft. Meyer in June of 1909 with a smaller, faster airplane. On July 30, with President Wil-

liam H. Taft among the spectators, Orville Wright made an overland flight from Ft. Meyer to Alexandria, Virginia. This flight established new records for speed, duration and altitude, with passenger, 1st Lt. Benjamin Foulois, onboard. Pleased with the performance of the aircraft, the Army purchased it with plans for more.

Interest in dirigible service was short-lived, as the corrosive effects of weather caused the gasbags to leak with increasing severity, and the hydrogen gas used to lift the ship proved dangerous.

In early 1911, the U.S. gathered much of the Army in South Texas as a show of force to Mexican revolutionaries. In March of the same year, Foulois and Wright instructor Philip Orin Parmelee demonstrated the use of airplanes in support of ground maneuvers for the first time. George Squier, chief signal officer of the Maneuver Division, formed the first aeronautical unit in American history on April 5, 1911. Five new airplanes were purchased, equipped with more powerful engines (8-cylinder, 60 horsepower) and wheels instead of skids.

Congress got serious about appropriations for the Aeronautical Division and allotted \$125,000 for the purchase of five additional airplanes. Training pilot candidates for the new, advanced airplanes was challenging. Internal bickering and several fatal crashes marred the success of the school until two no-nonsense Army lieutenants – Henry H. Arnold and Thomas D. Milling – completed basic pilot training.

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Captain Eddie Rickenbacker of the Hat in the Ring squadron was one of the most famous aces of World War I.

They became the Army's first flight instructors at College Park, Maryland, with a class of 10 students using two advanced Wright airplanes.

Milling became a skilled aviator and won a race to six destinations in New England totaling 175 miles, which included a nighttime landing in a field marked by bonfires. Arnold continually set new records for altitude. In November of 1911, the school was moved to Augusta, Georgia, for better winter weather flying conditions. The following year, the first successful firing of a machine gun from an airplane was accomplished from a Wright Model B Flyer aircraft. In October of 1912, Arnold and Milling were sent to Ft. Riley, Kansas, to experiment with spotting by air for field artillery.

On February 28, 1913, in anticipation of a possible war with Mexico, eight pilots and nine airplanes trained with the 2nd Army Division on the Gulf Coast and at San Antonio. They were organized as a provisional unit on March 5, and the 1st Aero Squadron became the first permanent unit of the air force on December 8, 1913.

When American forces attacked Veracruz, Mexico, on April 21, 1914, five Navy seaplanes provided reconnaissance support.

When America entered World War I, an Air Service was formed as part of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), creating the first major U.S. military aviation unit. The Air Service provided tactical support for the Army, especially during the Meuse-Argonne offensive. Among the aces of the AEF was Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker. With the end of World War I, the AEF's Air Service was dissolved, and the Army Air Service in the U.S. was largely demobilized.

The Aeronautical Division remained the primary aviation component of the Signal Corps until April of 1918. Despite a Congressional allocation of \$430,000, the Signal Corps was unable to develop better planes, prompting the War Department to separate one from the other. The Air Service became a branch of the Army in 1920, and six years later was renamed the Army Air Corps.

During this period, the Air Corps began experimenting with new techniques such as air-to-air refueling, the development of all-metal monoplane bombers, and new fighter planes. Gen. Billy Mitchell radically proclaimed that air power alone would win the next war, entering a public relations war with the U.S. Navy over national defense. He was court martialed, convicted, and resigned his commission. To counter Mitchell's endless tirade for an independent aviation service, the Air Corps managed a few publicity stunts but were always overshadowed by aviation celebrities like Charles Lindbergh, Howard Hughes and Amelia Earhart.

The Air Force came of age in World War II. President Franklin D. Roosevelt became a firm believer in air power. When mobilization began in 1940, he expanded the Air Corps, calling for 50,000 planes a year, and sending the latest models, including B-17 Flying Fortresses, to Britain for its war against the Luftwaffe. Effective March 9, 1942, the newly created Army Air Force (AAF) gained equal voice with the Army and Navy on the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serving as a separate service in all but name.

With long-range strategic bombing as its primary weapon, the AAF sent growing numbers of bombers from England and southern Italy against Axis targets. However, AAF bomber losses over Europe were heavy as German fighter plane attacks overwhelmed U.S. bomber formations. The North American P-51 Mustang fighter was an immediate answer. It offered greater range and superior performance compared to the P-47 and P-38 fighters initially used for escort service. In addition to winning many air battles against the Luftwaffe, while returning to home base the Mustangs often attacked German airfields, reducing Hitler's inventory of available aircraft.

In the Pacific, the AAF provided major tactical support to Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Air support became more effective when it switched from high-level bombing against

moving ships to skip-bombing – low-level aircraft releasing bombs on the surface toward a target.

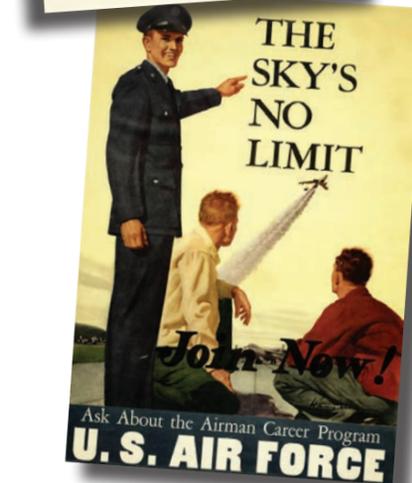
From May of 1942 to November of 1945, hundreds of American transport aircraft flew more than a half million tons of supplies from India to China over the Himalayas to anti-Japanese Chinese forces. It was the first sustained airlift by an American air force.

After the capture of Tinian in the summer of 1945, American Seabees quickly converted the island into the world's biggest air base. Tinian was essential to Allied strategy because it was close enough to Japan (1,500 miles to Tokyo) for the B-29s of the 21st Bomber Command to make the 12-hour round trip flight. More than 50 combat missions were launched against Japan, dropping devastating incendiary bombs. Still, Japan would not surrender until after atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August of 1945.

Following World War II, relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union deteriorated, and the arms race of the Cold War began. Consequently, the United States expanded its military presence throughout the world. President Harry Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947, creating the U.S. Air Force (USAF) as an independent service, equal to the Army and Navy. The official birthday of the U.S. Air Force is September 18, 1947.

The USAF quickly reacted to Soviet expansion by establishing air bases throughout Europe, Japan, South Korea and Ascension Island in the South Atlantic. The first test for the USAF during the Cold War came in 1948, when communist authorities in East Germany closed West Berlin to outside access. The 2.5 million West Berliners were in danger of starvation and freezing during the coming winter. Beginning June 24, 1948, the U.S. began flying in supplies – mainly food and coal – to mitigate the crisis. Cargo-laden C-47 and C-54 aircraft from Rhein-Main and Wiesbaden Air Bases achieved daily delivery of nearly 13,000 tons of supplies to the three available airports inside the zone – landing and taking off every 30 seconds, as expedient German ground crews unloaded the supplies with maximum haste. The USAF ultimately provided 76 percent of the supplies delivered to West Berlin.

With such a hectic flight pattern, an occa-



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sional crash was inevitable, and 31 U.S. airmen lost their lives in defiance of Soviet Cold War action. Surprised at the success of the Berlin Air Lift and realizing their blockade was a strategic and psychological failure, the Soviets lifted the siege on May 12, 1949, and the first railroad supply train rolled into West Berlin within a few hours. However, as a precaution against possible Soviet intervention, the airlift did not completely shut down until September 30, allowing time to build up emergency reserves of essentials. The fledgling USAF passed its first big test with flying colors, and honors went to Gen. Lucius D. Clay and other leaders of the airlift.

Another milestone for the USAF came in 1948, when the Women's Armed Services Integration Act gave women permanent status in the regular and reserve forces of the Air Force. Esther M. Blake wasted no time, enlisting the first minute of the first day that regular Air Force duty was authorized for women.

The Far East Air Forces (FEAF) was among the first forces to respond militarily when North Korea invaded South Korea in June of 1950. Following Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Inchon Landing, the Air Force returned from Japan to its air bases in South Korea to support American and U.N. forces in the battle against communist forces. The



USAF countered Soviet MiG-15 jet fighters with new F-86 Sabre jet fighters, achieving air superiority. When attempts to interrupt communist supply lines by air proved unsuccessful, U.N. forces launched a systematic campaign of inflicting as much economic cost as possible to North Korean and Chinese forces by air, including attacks on the capital city of Pyongyang and the North Korean hydroelectric system.

Vietnam came next. From 1965 to 1968, the Air Force dropped more bombs against the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese Army than it did during all of World War II. The heavy use of aerial gunships and a dedicated combat search-and-rescue-mission strategy were perfected during the war. During a major enemy offensive in the spring and summer of 1972, rapid redeployment of American fighters, bombers and attack aircraft helped the South Vietnamese Army and American forces repel the heavy invasion.

In December of 1972, American B-52 Fortresses launched a 12-day operation, known as Linebacker II, against Hanoi. North Vietnam's heavy losses renewed the peace conference in Paris, enabling the U.S. to withdraw from the war in 1973.

After Vietnam, the USAF decided to go higher, faster and more

potent with its aircraft, while implementing realistic training scenarios. The F-15 Eagle, A-10 Thunderbolt (Warthog), and F-16 Fighting Falcon all came online during this era, while expanding to 40 fighter wings. The Air Force upgraded both the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve by equipping them with first-line aircraft. The Air Force was directly involved in Granada in 1983 (Operation Urgent Fury), in Libya in 1986 (Operation El Dorado Canyon) and in Panama in 1989 (Operation Just Cause), by providing attack, airlift and combat support for each deployment.

Ever-ready in a complex and dangerous world, the Air Force provided the bulk of coalition air power during the Gulf War in 1991, employing the F-117 Nighthawk stealth fighter. Afterward, American Air Force and Navy aircraft patrolled the skies of northern and southern Iraq for several years to ensure Iraq's air defense capability could not be rebuilt, while bombing chemical targets.

In 1993 and 1995, air strikes against Bosnian Serbs marked the first time that American military aircraft took part in a NATO military action. The same happened in 1999 against Serbia during the Kosovo War.

As a tactical reaction to 9/11, the Air Force was deployed against Taliban forces in Afghanistan, beginning our Global War on Terror. Since then, American forces, including the Air Force, have been militarily involved in both Iraq and Afghanistan, with air bases in both countries plus nearby ally states like Qatar and Saudi Arabia. In recent years, the use of unmanned air drones has been perfected. Currently,



Flying wingtip to wingtip, the USAF Thunderbirds' spectacular aeronautical acrobatics have entertained and inspired spectators over the years.

U.S. combat forces are considerably sizing-down in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

Today, the USAF is the largest, most capable, and most technologically advanced air force in the world, with thousands of highly trained personnel. It leads the world in advanced aircraft like the stealth bomber, strategic bomber capability, electronic warfare, and strategic airlift activity. Since its maiden flight on a Wright airplane 113 years ago, the U.S. Air Force has demonstrated that the sky is no limit.



WE WANT YOU

To Share Your Story!

There's a lot of military service among our readers, active and retired, from all branches of the military, 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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On Skidaway Island

- 1 The Village Station
- 2 Bank of America
- 3 Village Walk Pharmacy
- 4 The Village Bar and Grille
- 5 Four Seasons Travel
- 6 The Village Golf Car Center
- 7 Audiology & Hearing Aid Services
- 8 Boyden Construction
- 9 Considine & Company Real Estate Sales and Appraisers
- 10 Finishing Touches Day Spa
- 11 THA Group
- 12 Village Hair Design
- 13 Village Crossroad Animal Hospital (coming soon)
- 14 The Village Library
- 15 The Skinnie Magazine
- 16 Cay Insurance
- 17 Edward Jones, Rich Miller
- 18 Klein Law Group
- 19 Coastal Dentistry, Matt Grill, DDS
- 20 Stifel Nicolaus
- 21 Synovus Bank
- 22 Wells Fargo Bank
- 23 Publix

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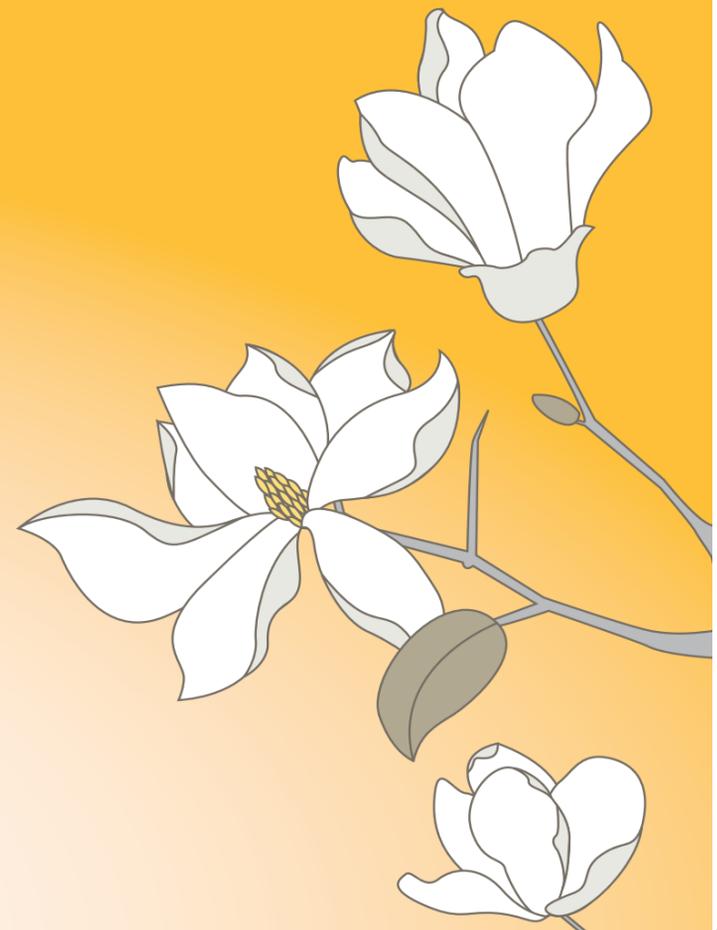
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POWER PLANTS

WHAT: Skidaway Audubon Online Pollinator Plant Sale
WHEN: Now through April 10
WHERE: Order online at skidawayaudubon.org; Pick up at SIUMC April 17
HOW MUCH: \$8 plus tax per plant, in 1-gallon pots
CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: More than 25 kinds of colorful, native, perennial plants for sale. All attract pollinators – butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, etc. The objective is to create havens for pollinators in residential yards and restore pollinator populations. Bring beautiful blossoms and butterflies to your yard and help restore essential habitats.

COAST WITH THE MOST

WHAT: CCA of Skidaway April Meeting – “The Secret Underground Water System of the Landings”
WHERE: Via Zoom
WHEN: Monday, April 12, 4 p.m.
CONTACT: Dave Devore, 330.329.6457
WHAT ELSE: Landings Association Director of Public Work Sean Burgess talks about the Landings’ underground water and lagoon systems and how all the components tie together to create the great Landings environment. Registration is required through ccaskidaway.org and “Click Here to Register.” A link to Zoom will be sent prior to the meeting. Each meeting attendee will receive a free raffle ticket for a fishing excursion led by Capt. Matt Starling. Additional tickets can be purchased through the website.

FORE THE BIRDS

WHAT: Skidaway Audubon Golf FUND-raiser
WHEN: May 23; registration deadline – May 17
WHERE: Terrapin Point and Palmetto Courses
HOW MUCH: \$150 registration fee; To register, pick up entry cards at the pro shop
CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com, or visit skidawayaudubon.org
WHAT ELSE: Entry fee includes raffle tickets. Proceeds help bring monarch butterflies back from the brink of extinction and support other projects to protect the island environment. Hole sponsorships available.

island hopping

*Please email content to mail@theskinnie.com.
 Deadline is the Friday prior to publication.*

WHO NEW?

WHAT: New Neighbors
WHEN: Visit www.landingsnewneighbors.com to see our calendar
CONTACT: Visit our website or contact Milli 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
HOW MUCH: Each \$30 membership fee covers one household of one or two adults.
CONTACT: Cindy Altman, Landlovers Membership Director, at Landloversmembership@gmail.com.
WHAT ELSE: Landlovers is a philanthropic and social organization. More information and details can be found at www.landlovers.com. Membership year runs from Sep. 1, 2020 through Aug. 31, 2021.

‘TEAR DOWN THIS WALL’

WHAT: “Germany and the Berlin Wall,” first in a series of lectures about Germany, presented by Kessi Kuhn
WHEN: March 23, 6 p.m.
WHERE: GSU Armstrong Campus Student Union, Ballroom A, 11935 Abercorn St.; Zoom broadcast available
CONTACT: Jim Anderson, jnanderson@georgia-southern.edu, or TeutonicCouncilSavannah.org
WHAT ELSE: Teutonic Council is committed to fostering German culture in the Savannah area and building Savannah’s relationship with Halle, Germany.

FROZEN

WHAT: “Four Months in the Ice: Arctic Science During a Pandemic”
WHEN: March 23, 7 p.m.
WHERE: presented virtually via YouTube by the UGA Institute of Oceanography
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public; No advance registration or RSVP required
CONTACT: Michael Sullivan, 912.598.2325
WHAT ELSE: UGA Skidaway Institute researcher Chris Marsay will present a virtual program describing his experiences conducting climate change research on an icebreaker frozen into the

Arctic ice cap in the winter of 2020.

LET’S FACE IT

WHAT: “Let’s Face It,” an art exhibit of faces and figures by Daryl Nicholson
WHEN: Now through April 6
WHERE: The Palmetto Club, the Landings
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: darylnicholson.com
WHAT ELSE: Millions of Americans are out of work and face hunger due to the pandemic. Nicholson will donate 50 percent of all sales to Feeding America. If you are looking to fill an empty space on a wall at your home or office, please consider the work, knowing that a purchase will also fill an empty stomach.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY

WHAT: “We Remember,” photographic exhibit
WHEN: April 8 through April 30
WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St. Savannah
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
CONTACT: Vicky Lunick, 912.355.8111
WHAT ELSE: Photos document death camps preserved throughout Poland, as well as images capturing the vibrant display of life in Israel. Marlene Seidman-Robinowich is an assistant professor of fine arts at Savannah State University and has exhibited her photographs and artist books nationally and internationally. Images also contributed by Savannah March of the Living delegates Morgan McGee, Shellie Jensen, Paige Lorberbaum, Jamie Richman, and Tova Tolman.

PLAY TO WIN

WHAT: “Together for a Cure,” to benefit Mercer University School of Medicine
WHEN: April 12 – 20; Registration opens Feb. 14
CONTACT: Shirley Newhart, snewhart@comcast.net or Lynda Stockslager, lyndastockslager@yahoo.com
WHAT ELSE: Expansion of Golf for a Cure fundraiser to include all court sports – tennis, pickleball, bocce and lawn croquet – and the Wellness Center. Sponsorships available, purchase of raffle tickets or tributes. Funds cancer research, the purchase of medical equipment, and the Summer Scholars Program.

VISION QUEST

WHAT: 6th annual “Fore” Vision golf tournament

WHEN: Monday, April 12; Registration begins March 26
WHERE: The Landings Club on Skidaway Island
HOW MUCH: \$500, team of 4
CONTACT: Jerry Haggerty, jerryhaggerty4@gmail.com, 912.665.4115; or Leslie Eatherly, leatherly@savannahcblv.org, 912.236.4473
WHAT ELSE: Benefits the Savannah Center for the Blind and Low Vision.

AMERICAN ENGINE-UIY

WHAT: Skidaway Island Corvette Club
WHEN: Third Thursday of each month
WHERE: A visit to a superb custom car display in a showroom off Mall Blvd, followed by lunch at the Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: No dues at this time, however an \$8 name tag fee may be forthcoming
CONTACT: Clayton Scott, 912.658.3116.
WHAT ELSE: Skidaway Island now has a club for owners of Corvettes, already 25 members strong. Its goals are camaraderie and to share the enthusiasm for this classic American auto.

FERAL FRIENDSHIP

WHAT: Skidaway Cat Alliance Team
WHEN: Ongoing
WHERE: Skidaway Island and surrounding
CONTACT: skidawaycats@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/skidaway-catlallianceteam
WHAT ELSE: The Skidaway Cat Alliance Team is a group of dedicated animal lovers who provide food, population control (spay/neuter), medical care, and shelter for free-roaming cats in the Skidaway area. We have cats and kittens currently being fostered that are available to new, loving homes.

BODY AND SOUL

WHAT: Skidaway Island United Methodist Church (SIUMC) Exercise Classes
WHEN: Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays, times are below
CONTACT: For more information or to register for January session, visit siumc.org/exercise or call 912.598.8460
WHAT ELSE: Mat Pilates from 9:15-10:15 a.m.; and Sit-Fit from 10:15-11:15 a.m. Classes are led by Elena Bennett, an ACSM-certified exercise instructor. SIUMC has added Friday classes to its offerings for church- and non-church members alike.

KEEP ‘EM FLYING

WHAT: The National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force
WHEN: Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m.
CONTACT: For more information call 912.748.8888 or visit www.mightyeighth.org

WHAT ELSE: New guidelines are in place to protect staff and visitors. Visitors are strongly recommended to wear facemasks. Hand-sanitizing stations have been established throughout the museum. Some areas will be capacity-controlled.

HOCUS POCUS!

WHAT: Landings Magic Society
WHEN: 7 p.m., second Thursday of the month, Oct. through May
WHERE: Plantation Club card room
CONTACT: Jim Ruhl, 912.856.3948, jsruhl@gmail.com or Bill Sickels, 912.598.9123 or whsickels@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Anyone with an interest in magic is welcome. Every meeting is instructional, entertaining and enlightening.

NOW HEAR THIS

WHAT: Music Academy Online Free Instruction
WHEN: 7 days a week
WHERE: Via Zoom
HOW MUCH: Free, courtesy of St. Peter’s Church
CONTACT: Dr. Timothy McKee, tmckee@saintpeterssav.org
WHAT ELSE: Learn and cultivate music skills.

STUCK IN BETWEEN

WHAT: Middle Aged Tweens of Skidaway (MATS).
WHERE: Usually in private homes.
CONTACT: matskidaway@gmail.com or call Ann Nash at 203.856.8927, or visit www.matskidaway.com
WHAT ELSE: MATS was formed to create social activities for people in their tween years. There are monthly socials, book club groups, business group, Ladies Night Out, Men’s Poker Night and more! Many of us are empty nesters or semi-empty nesters. We may find ourselves in the later stages of our careers, working part-time or navigating issues of early retirement. Some of us are still responsible for raising children.

WE HAVE A WIENER

WHAT: Landings Longdogs Get-togethers
WHEN: 4th Tuesday of each month, 4 p.m.
WHERE: Landings Harbor Marina
HOW MUCH: No charge
CONTACT: Sandy Haeger, sandyhaeger@gmail.com, or Sandy Haeger, sandyhaeger@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: A fun play date for you and your dachshund(s). Meet other owners and their special friends.

HEAR GREAT SPEAKERS

WHAT: Kiwanis Club of Skidaway Island
WHEN: Thursdays at 7:45 a.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club in the Landings

HOW MUCH: Free to attend.
CONTACT: Michael Klavon, 912.306.0474, before attending
WHAT ELSE: This club donates more than \$60,000+ for at-risk children yearly.

CAUSEWAY CLEAN-UP

WHAT: “Shine Bright like a Diamond (Causeway),” litter pickup along Diamond Causeway
WHEN: 1 or 2 times per month, as trash amount deems necessary
WHERE: Meet in the parking lot of Butterbean Beach
CONTACT: Courtney Fowler, causewaycleanup@gmail.com or 912.313.6040
WHAT ELSE: Please bring work gloves and a safety vest if you have one; a trash-picker works wonders as well. We will provide trash bags. Water is recommended to avoid dehydration.

IT’S AN HONOR

WHAT: Honor Flight Savannah seeks war veterans and volunteers
CONTACT: honorflightsavannah.org or 912.367.9020
WHAT ELSE: Honor Flight Savannah is offering WW II, Korea and Vietnam War era veterans living in southeast Georgia and southeastern South Carolina an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit their war memorials. Funding for trips is dependent on contributions from community citizens and businesses.

HORSE SENSE

WHAT: Pegasus Riding Academy volunteers needed
WHERE: Old Roberds Dairy, 2500 Tennessee Ave., Savannah
CONTACT: For information and directions, visit www.prasav.org or call 912.547.6482
WHAT ELSE: Pegasus Riding Academy is a therapeutic riding program providing safe, professional and ethical equine-assisted activities for individuals with physical, mental and emotional disabilities. Volunteers are needed to assist these special children. Horse experience not necessary.

MEETING OF THE MINDS

WHAT: Stroke Survivors
WHEN: Third Thursday of every month, 4 to 5 p.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 West Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: Shirley Nack, 598.7047
WHAT ELSE: Share your experiences with stroke survivors. At our meetings we listen and learn what other survivors have accomplished in order to return to an active lifestyle.

Complete Island Hopping listings are now online! Just visit www.theskinnie.com and click “Read.”

STANDARD CLUES*

Ladies, when Gene Kelly asks - say Yes!

ACROSS

- 1. ___ Carlton Luxury Hotels
- 5. Like pastel hues
- 10. Bruin hockey great, Gordie ___
- 14. Welles "Time Machine" future race
- 15. Common opening bid in bridge
- 16. The 'E' in Q.E.D.
- 17. **Debbie Reynolds said "Yes" in 1952**
- 20. Start of a golf hole
- 21. State above Conn.
- 22. Big name in faucets
- 23. ___ Bell (fast food)
- 24. Saliva, informally
- 26. Comb. form for 'height' (anagram for ORCA)
- 29. **Ann Miller and Vera-ellen said "Yes" in 1949**
- 33. Capital of Egypt
- 35. Comb. form meaning 'all'
- 36. President Reagan's son
- 38. Passion
- 39. Alphabetic trio
- 40. Drab green hue
- 42. Female deer
- 43. "___ Rhythm" (Gershwin)
- 45. Potassium nitrate, for short
- 46. **Cyd Charisse said "Yes" in 1954**
- 50. The first 'S' in SASE
- 51. Slugger, ___ Ruth
- 52. Truth
- 54. Monster of Jewish folklore (anagram for LOG ME)
- 57. Big frizzy do
- 58. Recipe abbrev.
- 61. **Leslie Caron said "Yes" in 1951**
- 65. Rigatoni relative
- 66. Caesar's pals (anagram for MAC II)
- 67. Euro predecessor in Italy
- 68. Jazz singer, ___ James
- 69. On the briny
- 70. Egress

DOWN

- 1. Take five
- 2. "Would ___ to you?" (two words)
- 3. Apt anagram for NOTE
- 4. Opposite of 'zag'
- 5. City-state on the French Riviera
- 6. Harmony, concordance

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- 7. Change for a twenty
- 8. Otolaryngologist, for short
- 9. Play-___ (modeling compound for kids)
- 10. "Regarding this", to a lawyer (anagram for THE ORE)
- 11. Spoken
- 12. Stand in line
- 13. Europe's largest volcano
- 18. "___ Little Teapot..."
- 19. Version, as of a book or periodical
- 23. Matador's target
- 24. Clumsy dimwit (anagram for MOSH)
- 25. Female swan
- 26. The 'A' in U.S.N.A.
- 27. Chocolate substitute
- 28. Passenger
- 30. The Lone Ranger's companion
- 31. Use a quill and ink
- 32. Charles Dickens' product
- 34. Japanese paper-folding art
- 37. Hasbro foam rubber ball
- 39. Apple pie à la ___
- 41. Mail one to Santa
- 44. Chatter
- 47. Peninsula of Spain and Portugal
- 48. POTUS has an oval one
- 49. C.S. Lewis fictional country (anagram for AN IRAN)
- 53. Policeman, informally
- 54. Stare at
- 55. Leave out
- 56. Citizen of Riga
- 57. Black cocoos
- 58. "___ are for kids!" (cereal slogan)
- 59. Amazon : Alexa / Apple : ___
- 60. Tough exam for H.S. students
- 62. NCAA conf. with HQ in Richmond, VA
- 63. Abbrev. on an invoice
- 64. Brit's beer

Puzzle answers, page 33

\$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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*For each puzzle a relatively difficult set of clues (Challenger) will accompany the first printing. In the subsequent issue, the same puzzle will appear with an easier set of clues (Standard) Email questions/comments to puzzler@theskinnie.com

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