



The Skinnie

VOL 21: ISSUE 21 **NOVEMBER 3, 2023**

Split: The Difference

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UP
front

At first, the road is packed faded-peach sand, the area's natural dirt. Around the bend, it gives way to asphalt, along a stretch that the county could afford.

Climbing the steady, gradual hill, my strides are relaxed and controlled. My pace is unforced; my breathing is audible but easy. At my 11-o'clock, an explosion of late-day blood-orange sun lingers over a line of pines that stretches outside my periphery range both left and right. It's too pretty to look away or down, so I squint instead, and continue towards the light.

Near the top of the hill, a field opens to the right. Set back from the road: The oval fence of a horse ring. A few rows of bleachers and a collection of sponsor signs. No horses. No riders. No trailers. Just silent, undisturbed, rich, brown dirt.

Over the crest, an eruption of sound. Three dogs of varying sizes rush me. I resist the urge to increase my speed or change course. The smallest of the three comes closest, a quick nip away from my calf. The middle one acts as his shadowy second, disinclined to violate my personal space. The big one stays off the road altogether, following me with his eyes rather than his feet. A man (their owner?), watches from under the roof of a DIY carport jammed full of everything but cars. He says nothing, does nothing. I wave. He doesn't wave back.

Past the house that the carport serves, another structure comes into view. A patchwork lattice of two-by-fours, like a giant TinkerToy set, blue and white plastic barrels lashed across its top. The noise builds. It's unsettling. A collection of urgent yaps and yowls. The two-by-fours support fencing, against which at least four dozen anxious hounds on hind legs lean.

The downhill is as long as the uphill that came before. Hence, it's an easier run and, appropriately, the canine frenzy slowly fades. As the slope bottoms, the asphalt and its recently painted double yellow lines yields back to dirt. The surface is softer than the before; I sink into it with each footfall. No longer an arrow-straight line, the road, lined with pines, begins to slink up another slope. It might turn; it might stop abruptly; it might continue forever. There's no way to know without running on. So I do.

A faint disturbance. More dogs? Maybe. Following gentle twists, the road rises, unconcerned that my

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breathing is labored and my legs seem to have taken on extra weight. Mercifully, the soft, sandy soil is shiny hardpack farther up the grade.

Out. In. Exaggerated. Rhythmic. My breath. Again and again. I notice something other than myself. It's not dogs. A collection of human voices behind the pines. High-pitched, young. The tree line breaks, and a sparse-grass access drive widens to two-acre yard. One boy throws a football to another, while a girl, smaller than both, tries to take it away.

This is far enough, I'm thinking, estimating the distance to have been two miles. Using the homestead's informal entry as a turnaround, I circle from one side of the road to the other and begin to retrace my route. The trees have swallowed what was left of the sun, and all the blue is now gray. I have seen only one car, and that was a while ago. As the dirt road surrenders to pavement again, a truck waits to join it from the right. The driver – a large man. The passenger, a thin, teenage boy. The payload, an open shed. I decide it's something they've recently made. I imagine they are delivering it to someone and will use the proceeds from its sale to survive the coming month. Is this presumptive narrative a form of condescension, I ask myself? Not if it's a story of admiration. And it is, I reckon. So I run on.

Past the barking dogs. To the top of the hill. Nearing the equestrian ring.

More ambitious than a jog, shy of a sprint, I'm properly running now. To the bottom, round the bend, and onto the final stretch of native soil. As fast as I can for the last quarter mile, cutting onto the grass in front of my barn. I'm sweating and almost chilly at the same time. It's five minutes before absolute dark. The amber full moon has risen above the river's bluff, ready to put the grateful country people below it peacefully to bed.

Scott A. Lauretti



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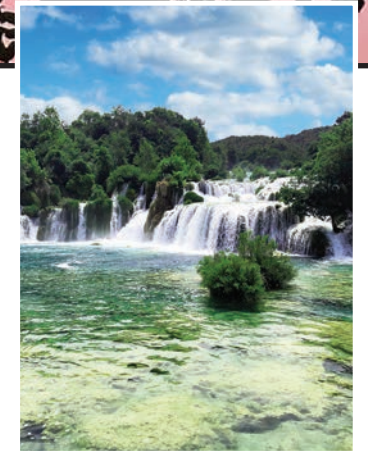
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Background photo by Judi Painter



on the cover:
Krka National Park in Croatia.
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Homes Sweet Homes

COASTAL EMPIRE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

BY ZERIK SAMPLES

Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity (CEHFH) understands the urgent need for secure, affordable housing in the greater Savannah area. Since 1983, the nonprofit organization has helped nearly 200 families in the Savannah area own safe and affordable homes, with more than a quarter of partner families having fully paid off their mortgages.

Last August, CEHFH received four different proclamations to commemorate its 40th anniversary from Savannah, Chatham County, Port Wentworth, and Garden City. To celebrate four decades of serving the community, CEHFH will host its second annual Home for the Holidays gala December 1 at the Desoto Hotel.

CEHFH's builds homes for local families, but the organization does not provide these homes free of charge. Partner families are responsible for the affordable mortgage that is facilitated for them. Families who take ownership of CEHFH homes contribute "sweat equity" to the construction of their home and others. Families understand they have invested in their own success. CEHFH is a resource to help them along the way.

CEHFH envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live the tools to maintain it. The organization is dedicated to transforming lives and creating stability for families by educating and equipping them with the skills and confidence to purchase their first

home. According to the City of Savannah's most recent Housing Savannah Action Plan, housing costs are outpacing incomes by more than double over the last 30 years. As a result, 40 percent of Savannah households are unable to afford quality housing.

CEHFH is currently developing four-bedroom homes on Spivey Avenue. These will soon become the homes of the Wolfolk, Jackson, Campbell, and Houston families. As with all CEHFH families, they are employed within Chatham County and have completed 12 to 18 months of financial literacy classes and more than 350 sweat equity hours, working on their own or their neighbors' homes.

When the Wolfolk family first heard about the partner family program, they were looking for a safe place for their kids to play outside and go to school. During their time in the program, they have learned many useful skills regarding taxes, credit rebuilding, home buying, and more. As they earned their sweat equity hours, they remained motivated by the joy they knew they would feel once they moved into their new home.

When CEHFH works with families and individuals to build homes, the organization is building strong and stable communities. The larger mission has always been to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, community, and hope. The organization consider itself to be "the hands and feet of Jesus, and to caringly aid in the building of the community, built of people from all backgrounds and walks of life."

CEHFH advocates for affordable housing, supports sustainable



The Wolfolk family celebrated the dedication of their new home last month.

and transformative development, and promotes dignity, stability, and hope to communities. Affordable housing and the creation of generational wealth are community-wide missions, and CEHFH is dedicated to building bridges between all community members. Currently, there are multiple homes under construction in Garden City and Savannah. CEHFH creates volunteer opportunities, partnerships, and community outreach.

Earlier this year, CEHFH welcomed A'lexia Jenkins as its volunteer coordinator. In this position, Jenkins develops and fosters a positive



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WHAT: Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity's Second Annual Home for the Holidays Gala
WHEN: Friday, Dec. 1, 6 p.m.
WHERE: The DeSoto Hotel, 15 E Liberty, Savannah
HOW MUCH: Single tickets are \$175, couple tickets are \$300, and tables of 10 can be purchased for \$1,500
CONTACT: Ava Mattox, HFH Development Manager; amattox@habitatsavannah.org
WHAT ELSE: With a black-tie dinner, cocktails, silent auction and entertainment, this is an evening not to be missed.

and productive volunteer community around the Coastal Empire. Interested community members are encouraged to contact A'lexia at ajenkins@habitatsavannah.org.

There are many ways you can get involved, from committee work like the homeowner selection committee to raising development funds through FUNdraising activities.

"CEHFH is always looking for men and women who enjoy working with their hands and the rewards of giving back to those in need," says Mark Piven, Landings resident and CEHFH volunteer for more than 20 years.



The organization holds construction days at the future home sites from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. No prior experience is required; many volunteers learn on the job.

"There is a range of jobs, and volunteers are encouraged to do whatever they feel comfortable with," Piven explains. "We are grateful for the immense support of our community and know that Habitat's mission to transform lives and create stability for families wouldn't be possible without the time, talents, and treasures of the volunteers and community partners they work with."

CEHFH will continue to expand its work throughout the Coastal Empire. The organization is committed to positive impact. Forty years is a significant milestone, made possible through the collaborative efforts of staff, board members, and volunteers. CEHFH's homes are foundational community assets that benefit generations of neighbors.

Zerik Samples is CEO, Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity. To learn more, visit habitatsavannah.org or follow on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram using the handle @habitatsavannah.



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Split: The Difference

A Croatian Gem

Croatia, with its cerulean waters, coastal mountains, and ancient history, has only recently become a popular destination for Americans traveling abroad. Italy and Greece have long been must-visit southern European countries, but Croatia shares many of the traits that have made the pair immensely popular.

Most Croatia-goers are drawn to Dubrovnik, but Split is a quieter destination and just as vibrant. Centrally located, the city is well connected to the rest of the country and Europe via rail, bus, and air. In the summer, it's a favorite port-of-call for cruise ships, and the tide of tourists in the city ebbs and flows. But in early fall, things have quieted, and it's easy to find a morning or rainy afternoon when you can have the sites to yourself.

ROMAN RUINS

The Roman Empire spanned 1.9 million square miles, stretching across central Europe and extending south along the Adriatic Sea. Split was a favorite port, attracting the attention of Emperor Diocletian. He lived the last six years of his life in the palace he built for himself on the coast. The remains of his palace make up about half of Split's Old Town.

For the most part, the palace is free to explore. After entering through its ancient gates and navigating its maze of narrow marble streets, visitors arrive at the Peristyle Square, with Diocletian's mausoleum on the left.

Up the steps - the vestibule, a circular hall that was once topped with a dome. About once an hour, a group of men enter the rotunda, their tuxedos and red cummerbunds standing out against white stone, to sing traditional Croatian folk music. Their deep voices reverberate, filling the space and capturing the attention of all who pass by.

Down the stairs from the Peristyle are the palace substructures, the layout of which remains a perfect replica of what the palace had been above. Its central passage runs from the square to the water's edge and is packed with souvenir stalls. However, for a fee, tourists can wander through the side halls and chambers of the substructures to view the vast space and learn more about the construction and preservation of the palace.

Split offers many attractions, such as the Temple of Jupiter, the Cathedral of St. Domnius and its bell tower (previously Diocletian's



ABOVE: Visitors can spend hours wandering among the remains of the ancient city of Salona, which dates to the 3rd Century BC.

RIGHT: Diocletian's palace and bell tower

OPPOSITE: A view of Trogir from the cathedral belltower

Mausoleum), Split Ethnographic Museum, and Split City Museum.

If the remains of Diocletian's Palace aren't "ruinous" enough, the archaeological site of the ancient city of Salona is a 20-minute drive north of the city. Salona dates to the 3rd Century BC and, at its height, had a population of more than 60,000 Roman citizens. Due to the efforts of Fr. Frane Bulic, a Croatian priest and archeologist, visitors can spend two to three hours wandering among the remains of early Christian



BY LAURA IUNGHUHN



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A UNESCO PARADISE

Split's Old Town and Diocletian's Palace are on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites; however, Croatia boasts 10 sites in total, and two more are just a short drive up the coast.

Trogir, 35 minutes away and accessible by public bus, is a tiny island full of surprises. The town is 15 square miles, and it takes 10 minutes to walk from one end to the other. The island's street plan has remained relatively unchanged since the Hellenistic period (300s BC) when the city was founded, giving the town its UNESCO status. The permanent exhibition at the Trogir City Museum showcases the city's past, from its pre-history to the beginning of the 20th Century. Special attention is given to the artistic tradition of Trogir's stonemasons, who mined limestone on Croatian islands and transported it to the city to construct roads and houses.

St. Lawrence Cathedral, dating to the 17th Century, is a beautiful place to stop. At the church's portal, carved by a local sculptor, Adam and Eve occupy primary spots on either side of the door. Renderings of palms, wheat, and branches twist up the pillars, blending with and connecting images from the Bible. Admission to the cathedral includes a climb to the top of the bell tower, providing views of the square below, the whole city, and several islands.

In Trogir, one must sample the local street food. A busy open-air market features tables crowded with locally grown fruits and vegeta-

bles, strings of garlic bulbs hanging from tent poles, and honey shot through by the sun's rays. The olive oil is produced on family farms, and essential oils from Croatian lavender and immortelle are tucked among goods carved from olive wood. Grab a jar of octopus salad or order fried sardines to devour like French fries. Better yet, pick the local favorite, cevapi – sausages tucked into flatbread and topped with ajvar, a roasted red pepper sauce.

If you're looking for a day trip that's more off the beaten path, head an hour's drive up the coast to Šibenik. It's the only city in Croatia founded by Croats, a point of local pride. Near the coast but tucked among ancient and narrow stone-paved streets is the Cathedral of St. James. Built entirely from limestone and marble over 100 years, the locally famous building is also a UNESCO site. Meant to be a modest church, the townspeople encouraged architect Giorgio da Sebenico to redesign the structure to be cross-shaped, have three naves, and topped with a central dome.

However, before stepping into this architectural wonder, walk 200 meters up the street, past several shops selling handmade souvenirs, to Civitas Sacra. This interpretive museum walks visitors through the cathedral's construction, provides a brief overview of the town's history, and explains how the cathedral and its objects are important elements of the Catholic faith, the country's dominant religion.

In the afternoon, after a bite at one of the many street cafés, head up the hillside to the town's three fortresses. St. Michael's Fortress, the first and most impressive, has protected Šibenik for centuries. With some planning, you may catch a live show in addition to the histor-



St. Lawrence Cathedral in Trogir dates to the 17th Century.

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ical tour (it's now a popular concert venue). Barone Fortress was built in the 17th Century to repel the Ottoman invasion. With an augmented reality experience, this fortress is the best for learning the city's war history. St. John's Fortress is the largest and sits on the highest point, affording visitors spectacular views of the city and the sea beyond.

Other sites include St. Nicholas' Fortress, Šibenik City Museum, and Dalmatian Ethno Village.

BOAT RIDES AND WATERFALLS

If you stroll the Riva, Split's waterfront pedestrian walkway, an overwhelming number of tour companies advertise island-hopping excursions. Though it might seem a bit touristy, a visit to Split isn't complete if you haven't looked through the glass-like surface of the Adriatic or set foot on a remote island town. Many tours are designed for partiers, with free beer and wine all afternoon, but private or small group tours can also be arranged for a quieter experience that moves at your preferred pace. Most island tours are 8 to 12 hours, depending on how many of Croatia's 1,000 islands the tour visits, and feature at least one swim in the sea. Many include lunch cooked onboard.

If you don't have sea legs, schedule a day trip to Krka National Park. Without a rental car, the best way to visit is by bus tour, which includes the 90-minute drive to the park, entry tickets, and a ferry ride on the Krka River. Krka National Park is a Croatian gem – quiet, idyllic, and picture-perfect. It has seven travertine waterfalls that stair-step down the hillside. Though these are the main attraction, boardwalks wind over the surface of a lake, and a visit to the ethno-village is a must. Here, you can find historic watermills, fuller mills, and laundries. Along the main path, at the base of the falls, is the first Croatian hydroelectric power plant, designed by Nikola Tesla.

The trip back to Split includes a stop in Plastovo, a small wine-making village, where you can sample Dalmatian wine, homemade olive oil, cheese, and bread.

In Split, Croatia, the sun shines gently, fresh winds blow down from the mountain, and the sea glimmers on the horizon. Evening skies are painted orange and the forests smell of sweet pine. Peace, relaxation, and idleness are a guarantee – a true vacation.

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Steps you can take to prevent the spread of the flu include:

- **Avoid close contact.** Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick, too.
- **Stay home.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others.
- **Cover your mouth and nose.** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Doing so may prevent those around you from getting sick. Flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze, or talk.
- **Clean your hands.** Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.** Germs can spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- **Practice other good health habits.** Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, or school, especially when someone is sick. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious foods.

Go Non-Viral. Get Your Flu Shot



You can prevent the flu this season by taking one simple step. Get a flu shot. And now is the time.

“You should get a flu vaccine because it’s going to build your immunity,” says Erica Merritt, clinical pharmacy specialist of emergency medicine in the Candler Hospital emergency department. “Prevention is the best method to help yourself and your family and the other people around you because the flu can spread very easily.”



The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend everyone six months old and older get the flu shot as soon as possible. Flu season starts in October and runs until March, but cases have been seen in the St. Joseph’s/Candler emergency departments well into April.

ABOUT THE FLU VIRUS

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. Some people, especially those 65 and older, young children, and people with certain health conditions are at elevated risk of serious flu complications. The flu can cause mild to severe illness and even lead to death. Symptoms can come on suddenly. People who get the flu often feel some or all these symptoms:

- A fever or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue

The flu virus can spread easily, mainly by tiny droplets from infected people when they cough, sneeze, or talk.

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Postpartum Depression: Prevention and Treatment

For your first visit with your OB/GYN after learning that you’re pregnant, be prepared to give – and receive – a lot of information. Your doctor will need to review your medical history along with a physical exam. You’ll also be asked to fill out a questionnaire about depression. This screening is standard practice for doctors like Michelle Gainty, DO, of St. Joseph’s/Candler’s Physician Network – OB/GYN.

“Typically, we screen women at the first prenatal visit, then again during their pregnancy, and finally any or all postpartum follow-up visits,” Dr. Gainty says. “A woman can be at risk for depression throughout this time and up to 12 months postpartum.”

Postpartum depression can happen to anyone. It can also develop after the birth of any child, even if it didn’t with previous births.

“I remind patients that about one in five women are affected by this,” Dr. Gainty says. “And that I am here to help without judgement.”

Signs of postpartum depression can feel like typical “baby blues,” but they are more severe and last longer. These include:

- Feeling sad, hopeless, or helpless
- Having little interest in your child

These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. A person also might get the flu by touching surfaces or objects that have the flu virus on it and then touching his or her own mouth, nose, or eyes.

An estimated 28 million illnesses, including 420,000 hospitalizations and more than 35,000 deaths, occur each year due to seasonal flu. A 2021 study showed that among adults, flu vaccination was associated with 26

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- Having thoughts of doing harm to your child or yourself

Just as Dr. Gainty guides patients through the physical steps of pregnancy, she will address these mental and emotional aspects as well.

“Counseling helps decrease risk, so I make sure patients who need counseling are able to receive it,” she says. “Following up with patients, seeing how treatment is going, and providing all the options available are all part of the process.”

There are medications for depression that are safe to take during pregnancy and, in some cases, can be taken while a mom is breastfeeding as well. For moms who may have thoughts of harming themselves or their baby, the potential risks associated with medication are outweighed by the benefits.

“It can be a challenging time, especially when women are also dealing with hormonal changes and natural discomforts from pregnancy, the extra appointments and preparation, and the regular stressors of daily life,” Dr. Gainty adds.

There are some risk factors for depression that can be biological (a previous mental



Michelle Gainty, DO, of St. Joseph’s/Candler’s Physician Network – OB/GYN.

health disorder, a history of smoking, or substance abuse) or environmental (childhood neglect, intimate partner violence). However, in many cases, the exact cause isn’t known.

“Postpartum depression is common,” Dr. Gainty says. “That’s why screening for it at the first visit has become standard. Not because there is something wrong with you, but because we want to help you every step of the way.”

percent lower risk of ICU admission and a 31 percent lower risk of death from flu compared to those who were unvaccinated.

The CDC, as well as St. Joseph’s/Candler health professionals, recommend a yearly flu vaccine as the best way to prevent flu and its potential serious complications. Even when flu vaccination does not prevent illness entirely it has been shown in several studies to reduce severity of illness in people who get

vaccinated but still get sick.

“I would encourage people to do everything they possibly can to protect themselves from getting the flu, and your best chance of doing that is to get the vaccine,” Merritt says.

The flu vaccine is the best way to lower your risk of getting the flu or experiencing the nasty and sometimes serious symptoms that can come with it.

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Tales From the Deep Rough by Peter Sizer

A century or two ago, when golf was a gentleman's game and chiefly a pursuit of the idle wealthy, caddies were employed to stoop, clean, and tote, because the upper crust deemed themselves too exalted to indulge in such menial tasks. Heavens forbend that Sir Reginald deign to rake sand, touch a dirty divot, or lift anything heftier than a glass of claret.

When professional golf became a viable commercial reality, the practitioners struggled against the prevailing attitude that the amateur was the epitome of pure athletic endeavor. Pros were seen as strictly "working-class," and employing a caddie gave them a semblance of gentlemanly ways. But the caddie was only expected to "show up, keep up, and shut up," as the old saw goes. However, once serious money became available, the caddie became a valuable partner who provided vital information, crowd control, psychological counselling, advice, and encouragement, as well as tending to the humble duties.

At its basic level, the game of golf pits the player against the course. I suggest that the rules of golf be changed to ban the use of a caddie at professional and elite amateur levels. While we're at it, let's get those college coaches off the course during play. The "student-athletes" should take their exams without any help, and have their abilities tested while not relying on someone else to choose clubs, judge conditions, read greens, and devise strategies. Golf is a game of skill, and the

foregoing are essential parts of that skill set. The overseers of the rules have prohibited caddies from standing behind their players to ensure that they are correctly aligned to target. The PGA Tour has banned the use of laser-scanned contour maps of green surfaces, something that could never have been imagined or imaged by royal and ancient souls. The argument for these proscriptions is that golfers should depend on their own resources, without undue assistance from others or from technology. If walking is an integral part of the game, as the USGA asserts, then so, too, is carrying or manually propelling your own equipment. Yes, this would mean that Steve Williams would have to earn his next \$20,000,000 doing something that civilization values less highly.

One sunny afternoon, I had a rather dark conversation bemoaning the existence of those who are guilty of slow play and neglect to rake sand traps, fix ball marks, or fill divots. (They need a caddie!) It began with a sighting of a rather large alligator sunning itself at the edge of a lagoon. I remarked, "It's a shame that a gator's natural prey is the egret rather than those who make golf less enjoyable for the rest of us."

Realizing what a horrific fate I had just wished upon my fellow humans I quickly amended it. "No, no, I don't really want those golfers to die for their sins. It would be sufficient if they just lost a hand or a foot and simply ended their playing days."

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Knowing before I finished that I wasn't making matters any less gruesome, I quickly veered off and went in search of my ball, contemplating how six decades of golf had so twisted my soul.

The producers of golf telecasts seem to believe that golf fans find interesting the conversation between caddie and player as conditions are assessed and a club is selected. Equally interesting are the sounds of poa annua growing and earthworms tunneling beneath the turf. The only exchange of any interest would be the one when a caddie knows he's being fired after the round.

Caddie: "Here, hit the 6 with a little cut. Oh, wait, you don't have that shot, so bail left like the untalented hack you are."

Player: "Hope you'll enjoy flipping burgers."

Caddie: "Miss another cut and you can't afford a burger."

Their coming to blows would create the media buzz that the new PGA Tour reward programs are eager to engender. What the sport needs is more YouTube-worthy hooliganism.

Those same producers have come up with a devious way to increase their revenue by splitting the TV screen, muting the golf audio, and running pop-up ads in a highly obnoxious practice called "playing through" or "eye on golf." This scheme effectively reduces

my 65-inch screen to a paltry 24 inches, which is essentially useless when trying to follow a golf ball. It was bad enough when golf telecasts were 50 percent advertisements and excruciating to watch without a DVR. Now it's worse. Also maddening is the news crawl along the bottom of the screen that often conceals the hole when a golfer is putting, while simultaneously giving away the results of a tournament that will be shown later. At least during "playing through" they kill the mics of the banal commentators who tell you what you've just seen for yourself. Come on, golf fans, it's time to march en masse on Golf Channel headquarters with divot forks and torches!

Before a recent round, my brother was on the practice tee, bemoaning his poor ball-striking.

Bro: "This is so bad."

Me: "Has it ever been good?"

Bro: "Fleetingly."

Me: "Well, let's hope that the fleet's in today."

Bro: "Anchors aweigh, my boys."

Me: "By the way, when are you going to buy a boat?"

Bro: "There are just two happy days in the life of a boat owner. The day he buys it, and the day he sells it."

Me: "Well, that's two days of guaranteed happiness, which is two more than you've ever had playing golf."





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Thomas Eve accepts a commendation during basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

THOMAS EVE

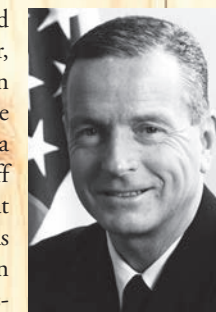
HE SERVED by RON LAURETTI

It was among the worst of times – Vietnam, 1968. And Thomas Eve was right there, on the admiral's bridge. The young petty officer was one of the few enlisted sailors in direct service and proximity to Adm. Ralph Cousins, a responsibility the young sailor did not take lightly. Eve's primary duty was to keep the admiral informed of the exact location of their carrier squadron as it cruised the Tonkin Gulf of the South China Sea, ready for combat.

Eve is thankful for and proud of his service in the Navy. He's the lone sailor in a military family. He came to the seaborne service naturally. Eve was exposed to all kinds of recreational watercraft as a youth and learned as much as he could about boats. A Savannah native, he graduated from Lyman Ward Military Academy, Camp Hill, Alabama, where he earned high honors in scholarship and leadership. He then enrolled at South Georgia College in Douglas; but, anxious to earn some spending money, he dropped out in search of full-time employment.

After a year as a newspaper reporter in Wayne County, Eve joined the Navy in 1965. He adapted readily to military life, earning an award as an outstanding recruit while at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Illinois. Following basic training, the young sailor was sent directly to Vietnam, where he was assigned to Adm. Cousins' personal staff.

Cousins was a four-star admiral who had been an aircraft carrier pilot early in his career, earning a Navy Cross for meritorious action in the Battle of the Coral Sea. During the Vietnam era, he commanded Task Force 77, a strike force of five aircraft carriers stationed off the coast of Vietnam. Task Force 77's combat aircraft threw a powerful punch, and Eve was proud to be a part of the team, especially when given the opportunity to be of personal assistance to the admiral.



Adm. Ralph W. Cousins

"I was right there on the admiral's bridge and was aware of anything and everything our attack carrier strike force did," Eve says.

The carrier's aircraft flew to combat day after day in response to the Tonkin Gulf Incident. "Our planes were launching and returning on an increasingly frequent daily basis," says Eve. "With that kind of activity, yes there was an occasional incident (crash)."

MEET MEREDITH



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Once, while on temporary duty on the aircraft carrier *Oriskany* (CVA-34), Eve witnessed a serious fire that took the lives of 50 sailors. "I saw it all – all kinds of crashes and fires. But the rescue work by our damage control sailors was outstanding."

Eve's commitment to his admiral was such that he turned down several promotions so he could retain his aircraft carrier posting. After four years of meritorious duty, he was honorably discharged, and looked forward to a rewarding civilian career. Unfortunately, he was involved in a serious car wreck that took him a year from which to fully recover. During his last stages of recuperation, Eve enrolled at Armstrong Junior College and was appointed sheriff of the small town of Vernonburg and an honorary deputy sheriff of Chatham County.

After graduating from Armstrong, Eve applied a lifetime of nautical knowledge to a new career as a yacht inspector. In coastal Georgia, the sale of used boats is a major industry and it's important for both buyer and



seller to have an accurate and reasonable value of a vessel. "There are many flaws, both mechanical and structural, that can be hidden on a yacht, and they will only be found by a skilled surveyor," Eve explains. "Frankly, not only was I good at finding them, but I was also equally good at fixing them, from engine room to hull."

The demand for Eve's service rapidly grew and he was able to enjoy the hobbies of his youth – maritime racing and boat repair. As his reputation grew, Eve surveyed yachts in Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Europe, South America, and Canada. In addition, he served as a legal witness and a consultant. He estimates that he has surveyed about 8,500 vessels in 55 years and is proud to say he never received a major complaint.

Most good things come to an end, and three months ago Eve surveyed his last vessel. He now enjoys relaxing on the deck of his Isle of Hope residence, watching the boats – some of which he has certified as sea-worthy – cruise by.

island hopping

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

HEAR GREAT SPEAKERS

WHAT: Kiwanis Club of Skidaway
WHEN: Thursday mornings at 7:45 a.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: Free to attend, including refreshments for guests and first time attendees. Slight fee for members having coffee/tea. Occasional pastries are complimentary.
CONTACT: Michael Klavon, 912.306.0474 for gate pass
WHAT ELSE: Membership is open to Savannah/Chatham area residents. Visit www.kiwanisofskidaway.com for more information.

WHO NEW?

WHAT: New Neighbors
WHEN: Visit www.landingsnewneighbors.com to see our calendar
CONTACT: Visit our website or contact Jody at nnewmember@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.

BREAKING THE MOLD

WHAT: The clay sculpture of Justine Ferreri
WHEN: Now through Nov. 30; Artist's reception, Nov. 5, 2 to 4 p.m.
WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
CONTACT: Vicky Lunick, 912.355.8111
WHAT ELSE: Justine Ferreri is a self-taught clay sculptress working in stoneware clay. She recently moved to Savannah and opened a studio in the City Market Art Center. Her works have

evolved from being very tight to a more fluid and expressive form.

GATHERING GROCERIES

WHAT: Packing groceries for Second Harvest
WHEN: 9 - 11 a.m., Nov. 3, Feb. 2, April 5, June 7
WHERE: Second Harvest, 2501 E President St.
CONTACT: Terry Lewis, terrylewis324@gmail.com

WIND CHIMES

WHAT: Savannah Wind Symphony Fall Concert
WHEN: Nov. 5 at 3 p.m.
WHERE: Fine Arts Auditorium, Georgia Southern University – Armstrong Campus
HOW MUCH: General admission – \$20; \$15 for military; \$10 for children (18-under). To purchase tickets, visit www.savannahwindsymphony.com
CONTACT: savwinds@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Featuring conductor John Madden.

FALL, IN LOVE

WHAT: The Learning Center Lecture: "Let's Fall in Love"
WHEN: Nov. 6, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wine and cheese reception at 5 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Island Community Church, 50 Diamond Causeway
HOW MUCH: Members, \$20; Non-members, \$25
CONTACT: www.seniorcitizensinc.org/the-learning-center to register or contact dhornsby@seniorcitizens-inc.org
WHAT ELSE: A musical event. Come celebrate autumn with fabulous songs such as "I Can't Help Falling in Love," "If I Fall," and more, with the remarkable musical talents of Jan Ogle, John Tisbert, and Jared Hall. It will be an evening to "fall" in love.

FOR THE CHILDREN

WHAT: The One Hundred Children's Foundation grants presentation and cocktail reception
WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 8, 5 - 7 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom, The Landings
HOW MUCH: \$65 per person including elegant hors d'oeuvres
WHAT ELSE: Join us as we celebrate the organizations that have been awarded grants from the One Hundred Children's Foundation. This fun evening includes a silent auction. A member and credit card bar will be available. Tickets are avail-

SCREEN GEMS

WHAT: Mountainfilm on Tour Savannah honor veterans
WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 9 - Social hour at 6 p.m., films at 7
WHERE: Service Brewing Co., 574 Indian St.
HOW MUCH: Free admission for veterans
CONTACT: To learn more about this event and the 15th annual festival in January, please visit mountainfilmsav.org.

SEMPER FI

WHAT: U.S. Marine Corps 248th Anniversary Ball
WHEN: Friday, Nov. 10, 6 - 11 p.m.
WHERE: The Landings Palmetto Club Ballroom
HOW MUCH: \$95 per person (includes two bottles of wine per table for toasting)
CONTACT: Reservations, checks, and table groupings must be delivered by October 31 to Hal Evans, 686 Landings Way South
WHAT ELSE: Black tie, evening dress uniform, or business suit. Table grouping – 8 to 10 per table. Reservations and checks must be by October 31; no refunds after that date.

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.

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able at theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org.

DEAR ABBIES

WHAT: Skidaway Abigails November meeting
WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 9, 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 West Ridge Rd.
CONTACT: chair@skidawayabigails.org
HOW MUCH: \$10 guest fee (must be accompanied by an Abigails member)
WHAT ELSE: Featured speakers Julie Wade, executive director, and Kate Templeton, outreach coordinator, from Tharros Place will discuss human trafficking awareness. To learn more about Skidaway Abigails, a nonpartisan organization of progressive women, go to skidawayabigails.org.

SHOT CALLERS

WHAT: Community health advocates (CHA) opportunities
WHEN: Information session - Thursday, Nov. 9, 6 p.m.; online training - 6 p.m., Nov. 30.
WHERE: online
CONTACT: To register for the Nov. 9 listening session or apply for the Nov. 30 Community Health Advocate training program, or to learn more, email CHAadmin@healthysavannah.org
HOW MUCH: There is no cost to attend the listening or CHA training sessions
WHAT ELSE: Space is limited for training, which offers a \$500 stipend to participants who complete community outreach activities afterward. The program will promote access, awareness, and acceptance of COVID-19, flu, and other adult vaccine-preventable diseases.

DNC IN THE SAV

WHAT: Defending Democracy for All
WHEN: Nov. 9, 7 p.m.
WHERE: Thrive, 5 Lake St.
CONTACT: Rosemary W. Mackey, rwmackey1@gmail.com, or 917.685.5649
WHAT ELSE: Featured speaker is the Hon. Van Johnson, Mayor of Savannah, regarding the work and strategic focus of the Democratic National Committee, of which Mayor Johnson is a member, in preparation for the 2024 election.

VITAL ORGAN

WHAT: Organ recital, featuring Julia Tucker, St. Peter's associate director of music
WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 11, at 6:30 p.m.; wine-and-cheese reception at 5:45
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 West Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: Donations greatly appreciated
CONTACT: ktturner@saintpeterssav.org or 912.598.7242
WHAT ELSE: Originally from Alabama, Tucker has been an active professional church musician for more than a decade. A graduate of Auburn University, she holds a doctorate of musical arts in

organ performance from Arizona State University.

ON THE HOUSE

WHAT: Casual gatherings at members' homes
WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 11, Dec. 16, 6-8 p.m.
WHERE: At LL host homes
COST: Free
CONTACT: Becky Dominguez, beckydom61@aol.com, or Connie Rice, csrice1948@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: We are looking for people to host at their homes. Please reach out to 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.

GIVING THANKSGIVING

WHAT: Community Thanksgiving drive-by food collection
WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 12, 3-4:30 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church
CONTACT: Kathryn McLearn 912.598.4520
WHAT ELSE: Benefits local families and the homeless who are food insecure. Individual and family-sized cans and packages greatly appreciated. No industrial size cans or glass jars. Most-needed items include instant potatoes, canned green beans, cranberry sauce, small bags of rice, canned fruit, canned yams, gravy mix, cake or brownie mixes for dessert, canned corn, 2-pound canned ham.

SHALL WE DANCE?

WHAT: Ballroom dance instruction
WHEN: Nov. 13, 7-8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway United Methodist Church
HOW MUCH: \$15 per person for each session
CONTACT: Marilee Dalbey, 334.797.9952 or marileedalbey@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Register at Landlovers.com. Get your dancing shoes out and join us to learn the Rumba. Professional ballroom instructors teach one new partner-style dance per month. Please wear comfortable clothing and hard-sole shoes. Must be a member of Landlovers to attend.

A WALK IN THE PARK

WHAT: A stroll through Ardsley Park/Chatham Crescent neighborhood followed by optional lunch at Ardsley Station
WHEN: Tuesday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
WHERE: Begin at the corner of Bull St. and Washington Ave.
HOW MUCH: The tour is free, lunch is optional
CONTACT: Kate Kastner, katekastner@icloud.com
WHAT ELSE: Most have seen some of the large houses along Abercorn St., but otherwise are not aware of the variety of architectural styles. The popularity of the area has varied, but it is currently very desirable real estate. You can get a brief preview and history on www.apccna.org.

THE RIGHT STUFF

WHAT: "Patriots" luncheon meeting
WHEN: Nov. 16: social hour - 12 noon to 1 p.m.; lunch/program 1 - 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: The Landings Palmetto Club ballroom
HOW MUCH: LOTR members, \$30; non-members, \$35
CONTACT: To register (by Nov. 11) or to join LOTR, visit ladiesontheright.org
WHAT ELSE: Keynote speaker: Steve Friend, former Landings resident; former FBI special agent; current FBI whistleblower; and author of "True Blue," which covers his journey from Savannah beat-cop to his FBI suspension. Local veterans of America's military will also be honored. 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.

ART MART

WHAT: Landings Art Association holiday market
WHEN: Friday, Nov. 17, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club Ballroom
HOW MUCH: Free to attend
WHAT ELSE: Just in time for the holidays! Find unique and creative gifts for everyone on your list.

PAWS AND PLAY

WHAT: Meeples for Cats game day fundraiser
WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 18, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
WHERE: Roll the Bones, 7400 Abercorn St., suite 704
HOW MUCH: \$10 door donation
CONTACT: Follow Meeples4Cats on Facebook
WHAT ELSE: A game day fundraiser for Red Clay Animal Rescue, featuring board games, game demos, raffles, an escape room, and pet photo contest. Donate early for extra raffle tickets.

AW, SHUCKS

WHAT: Oyster Roast for a Reason
WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 18, 1 - 4 p.m.
WHERE: The bluff at the UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium
HOW MUCH: \$150/person
CONTACT: Kathryn Reeves McHugh, 706.542.8883 or kathryn.reeves25@uga.edu
WHAT ELSE: The seventh annual Oyster Roast for a Reason, hosted on our gorgeous bluff, will help the University of Georgia improve the oyster farming industry and preserve Georgia's coastal resources. Enjoy oysters harvested from Georgia waters, delicious food and beverages, and live music.

DINNER AND A SHOW

WHAT: Trolley to the Arts: "A Motown Christmas"
WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 29; Trolley departs at 5 p.m.
WHERE: The Johnny Mercer Theater; trolley from

Skidaway

HOW MUCH: \$80/person includes trolley and seated show ticket
CONTACT: Jane Golz, 704.641.4467
WHAT ELSE: "A Motown Christmas" features former members of the Temptations, Miracles, and Contours. Attendees will have time to have dinner downtown on your own before the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale Oct. 20 on the LL website; first come, first served.

POSTAL PEOPLE

WHAT: Landings Stamp Club
WHEN: Friday, Friday Dec. 1, 10 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.

HOLIDAY PARADE

WHAT: Landlovers Toys for Tots Holiday Golf Cart Parade
WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 10, 3 p.m.

WHERE: Carts line up at the TLA building; Parade weaves through the Landings ending at the harbor marina by 4:30 p.m.
CONTACT: Visit www.landingslandlovers.com for updated information and parade route
WHAT ELSE: Join the after-parade party at the Harbor Marina with food trucks, musical entertainment, Santa, and the Landings tree lighting. All are welcome!

HELP AROUND THE HOUSE

WHAT: Habitat for Humanity volunteers wanted
WHEN: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, possibly Thursdays
WHERE: locations vary
CONTACT: Mark Piven, 912.598.0323
WHAT ELSE: Prior experience is not necessary. Many volunteers learn on the job and only do whatever they feel comfortable with. Tools are provided.

BOW REGARDS

WHAT: Landings Garden Club Holiday Bow Sales
WHEN: every Monday and Saturday through early December, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
WHERE: in front of the Village Pharmacy Fountain

HOW MUCH: Prices start at \$15 each
CONTACT: Joni Brownstein, jonibro2022@outlook.com or 925.787.9800
WHAT ELSE: The Garden Club's annual fundraiser to fund Skidaway Island beautification and conservation. Shop early for best selection among the nine designs to choose from.

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.

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ACROSS

- 1. Ballroom move
- 5. Skirt feature, sometimes
- 9. M, to Einstein
- 13. Study aide
- 15. Garden walkway
- 16. Death notice, briefly
- 17. Addams Family's Fester, e.g.
- 18. Law firm newbie
- 20. Something huge
- 22. Seller of Alaska in 1867
- 23. UPC part
- 24. Foreshadow
- 25. In the direction of
- 28. Big bully
- 29. SNL segments
- 30. Refinery residue
- 31. Scruff of the neck
- 35. Biblical boat
- 36. Understanding
- 39. Greyhound, e.g.
- 40. Commuter line
- 42. Right on the map?
- 43. Seize illegally
- 45. Abstract style of the '60s
- 47. In a monotonous way
- 48. Merlot, for one
- 51. "___ here long?"
- 52. Embroidered hole
- 53. Success at the expense of others
- 57. Anteater's cousin
- 59. "The Audacity of Hope" author
- 60. Big cat
- 61. Palindromic term of address
- 62. Xbox enthusiast
- 63. Repair, as clothing
- 64. Nose out
- 65. Tear apart

DOWN

- 1. Concert memento
- 2. It can be hard to carry, for some
- 3. Cut into glass
- 4. Skunk
- 5. Sudden gush

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13			14		15					16			
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20					21			22					
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48	49	50						51					
52						53					54	55	56
57						58				59			
60					61					62			
63					64					65			

- 6. Whip's blow
- 7. "___ a deal!"
- 8. Leaving no stone unturned
- 9. Wet
- 10. Put down
- 11. Peaceful protest
- 12. Place of another
- 14. Penitent's emotion 19. Rudely terse
- 21. Neil Simon's couple
- 24. Chris of "Jurassic World"
- 25. Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
- 26. Creole veggie
- 27. Online prefix with -pedia
- 28. Great time
- 30. Flat replacement
- 32. Go up against
- 33. Knitting stitch
- 34. Perceive
- 37. In the ___... (for now)
- 38. Christmas crackler
- 41. Area prone to flooding
- 44. Marine hazard
- 46. ___ Piper
- 47. Attorney's charge
- 48. Bailiwick
- 49. Eagle's home (var.)
- 50. Exorcist's target
- 51. Ecological community
- 53. Stars and Stripes, e.g.
- 54. British title
- 55. Word said before opening the eyes
- 56. Fabric quantity
- 58. Little fella

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

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NFL

San Francisco at Jacksonville
Cleveland at Baltimore
Detroit at LA Chargers
Green Bay at Pittsburgh
Indianapolis at New England

As a tiebreaker this week,
pick the total points in the
Michigan/Penn St. game.

Please, limit one entry per contestant.
Good luck and enjoy the games!

The Skinnie Football Pick 'Em Pool

Our Pick 'Em Pool produced another trio of triumphant contestants this time out. Longtime players Pat "Dutch" Holland, John "Do-Right" DuRant, and "Sweet" Sue Jones all correctly predicted the winners of 17 of 25 games. The tiebreaker was the total points in the Colorado/UCLA game. "Dutch" and "Do-Right" were both expecting a shootout and guessed 64 and 63, respectively. "Sweet" Sue anticipated stingier defenses and almost hit it right on the money. She chose 43. The actual combined total was 44.

Congratulations to "Sweet" Sue Jones! And thank you to our faithful football fan followers.

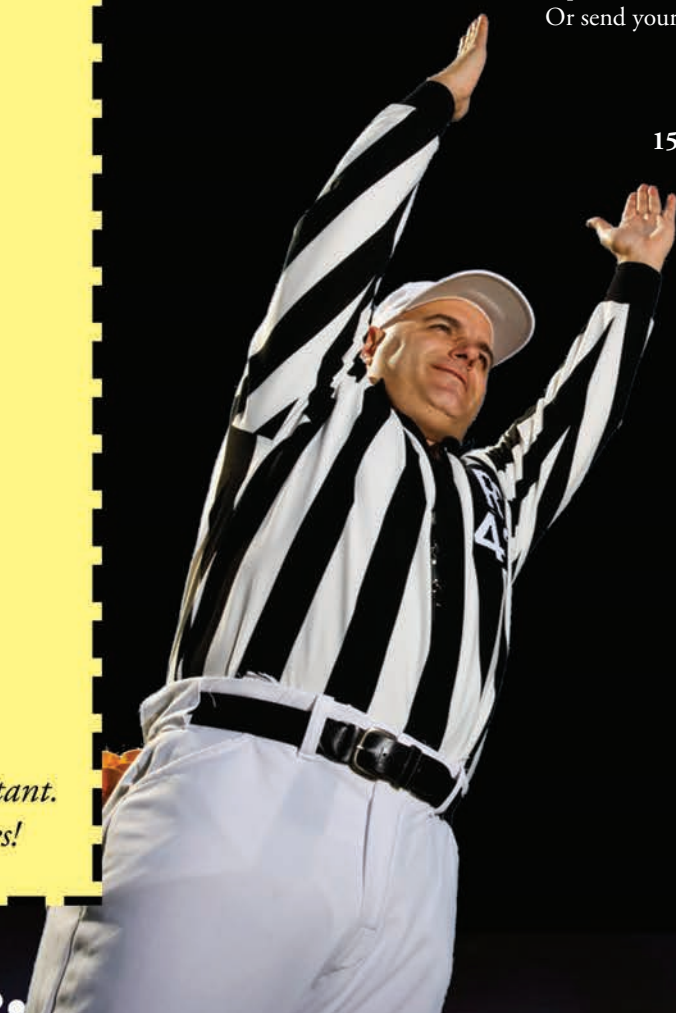
If you haven't participated in our contest yet, now is the time. Everyone is welcome. It's easy. Predict the winning team for each game. And get more winners right than the rest of your friends. For the tiebreaker game, predict the total points that the two teams will score (combined). The winner gets a real prize.

Twenty college games and five from the NFL. Games will be played between Friday, November 10, and Sunday, November 12. Entries are due by 5 p.m., Friday, November 10.

Email picks to chendrix@theskinnie.com.
Or send your entry the old-fashioned way to:

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Alternatively, just drop it by our offices in the Lake Side Center across from Publix.



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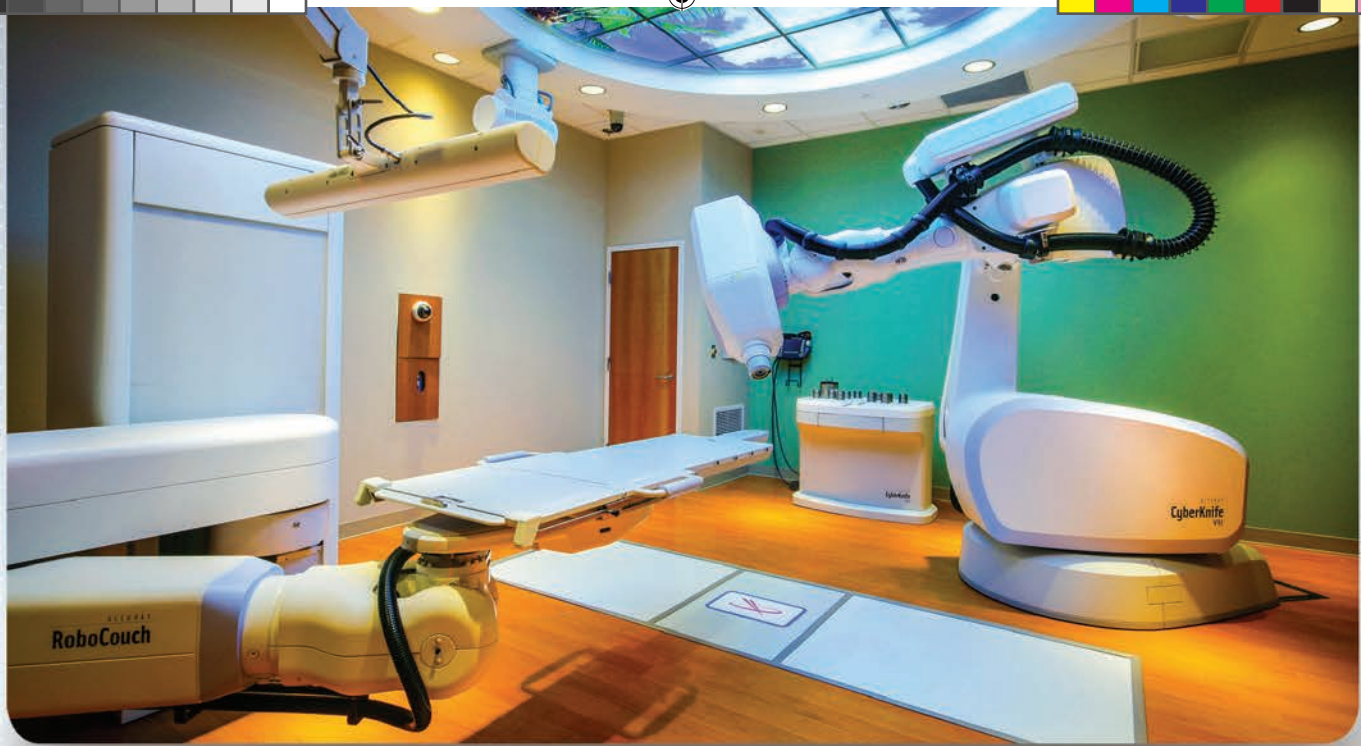


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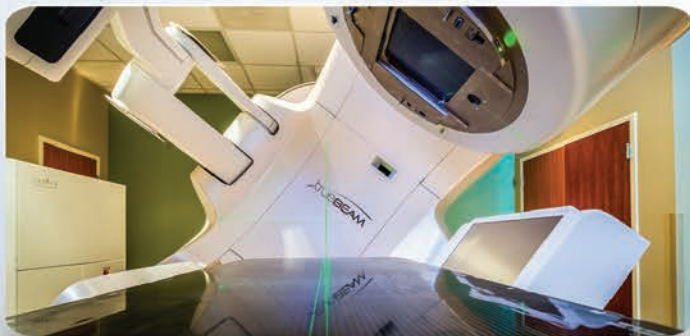


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