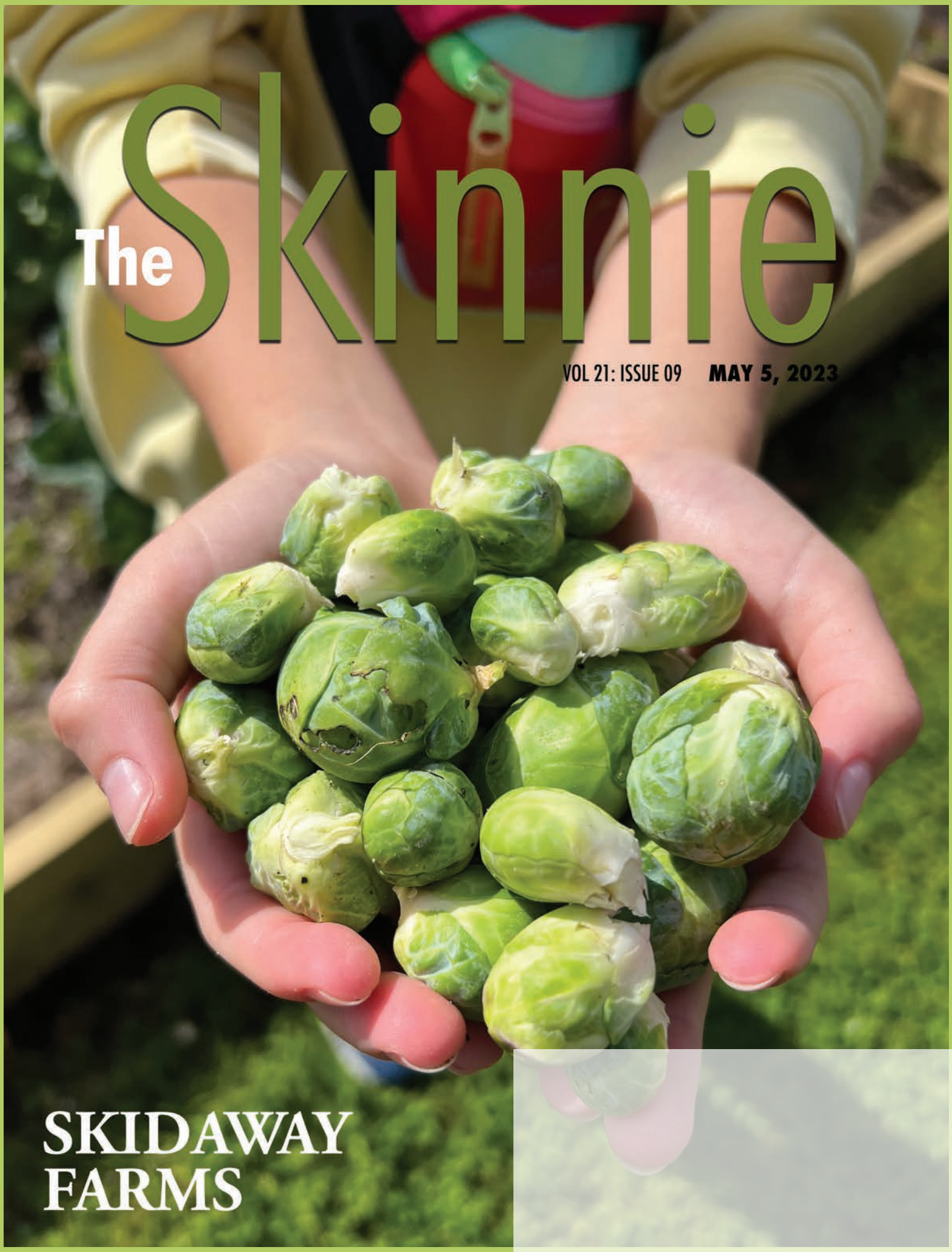




The Skinnie

VOL 21: ISSUE 09 **MAY 5, 2023**



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UP
front

Murphy's Law applied to coffee: The owner walks into his shop, heads straight to the self-serve station, pulls the lever on the coffee dispenser, and....nothing. Empty.

Or he tips the half-and-half thermos, depresses the thumb tab, and a single white drop sheepishly falls into his cup, followed by...nothing.

The owner then says to his staff on duty, "We're a coffee shop. The bare-minimum expectation is that we have coffee."

One of the busy team-members hustles to swap a freshly brewed full urn for its spent sibling; the owner and the staff exchange chuckles; and everyone goes on with his or her day.

Why am I sharing this anecdote with you? Because it's personal for me, like most of the material in this column. I'm the owner in the story...of Cutters Point in Sandfly.

In addition to the we're-a-coffee-shop-so-we'd-better-have-coffee principle, I consistently repeat a mantra to each member of my team, beginning on his or her first day: "We're in the YES business." Sure, we're in the coffee business. And we sell pastries, breakfast foods, and snacks. We make frozen drinks; some are sinfully indulgent. But above all else, we are welcoming guests into our place. These guests have wants and needs. It's our responsibility to say "yes" to them, whatever the question, within measure of reason.

Which accounts for my dismay as I type this essay. Today, and for the past three, we've been in the YES-BUT business. Our espresso machine sprung an irreparable (we tried, so did our plumber, so did an electrician) leak in one of its feeder pipes. Fortunately, we have a backup, just in case, and the guys drove to Claxton and back to retrieve and install it in the broken one's place. But things are never as linear or easy or obvious as we'd like them to be. And the backup, which we paid handsomely to rebuild the last time it failed, doesn't work. Fortunately, we pursued a parallel path to the temporary-replacement strategy. On the day the main machine betrayed us, we ordered the essential parts and paid FedEx a premium to get them here fast. "Fast" was to be yesterday. As the afternoon hours passed, calls to FedEx yielded a troubling truth: Yes, the parts shipped, but no, they aren't coming today; but, don't worry, we'll refund you the expedited shipping charge.

In the meantime, "Yes...but...our espresso machine is down, so I'm happy to make you something like a vanilla latte with regular coffee if you're up for that..."

This morning, I drove my little home espresso machine to the shop. The team will muddle through as best they can. Perhaps FedEx will come through later this morning or early afternoon. If we're fortunate, our customers will not permanently alter their routines to exclude us. At minimum, I'm out a few thousand bucks.

Here's the unexpected punchline: I love it. Not the lost revenues nor the hassle for my staff. Not the diminished guest experience. I vehemently dislike all those things. It's the pure distillation of the theories of capitalism applied in real life that I appreciate. If we do things well and right, we are rewarded by the markets (our guests). If we slip up, it costs us. If we learn from our challenges (we're buying an extra machine identical to our primary one and keeping it on site and maintaining it as if it were in constant service, even though it's a significant investment), we recover quickly and completely (with a little luck). Nothing is guaranteed. Complacency is expensive. Competition is fierce. Pride of ownership is a real thing. So is embarrassment when the thing you own isn't performing as intended. Ultimately, it's on you. Economic theory distilled into a concoction made from water and ground roasted beans. And nobody can persuade me that our model (American capitalism...or, at least, what it has traditionally been) has a close runner-up.

My dad owned businesses. He worried about them a lot. He's a worrier, by nature. I've learned that worry isn't useful for me. I can control only two things: my effort level and my actions. Make decisions, implement them, evaluate results, correct course, repeat, again and again. Capitalism provides the privilege of a tangible feedback loop. When you get things right, you win.

Still, it's no fun when the machine is broken. Nobody is happy. Rather than worry, I cooked and savored a mid-afternoon leisurely lunch. Spaghetti with garlic, red pepper flakes, anchovies, parsley, and olive oil. Topped with a sprinkling of breadcrumbs. Pure, simple Italian comfort food. Good enough to make a man forget about everything else. I'll share the recipe with you in the next issue. It's easy...much easier than fixing an espresso machine that's on the fritz.

Scott A. Laurer

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SLICK PIC

As the (Skidaway) island's "snake lady" (so funny and flattering that people have my number in their phones under that moniker), I was excited to see the cover of the most recent Skinnie. But unfortunately, the details on the photographer's gallery show that were on page 39 were missing, as was page 39.

Hope to see details in the next issue.

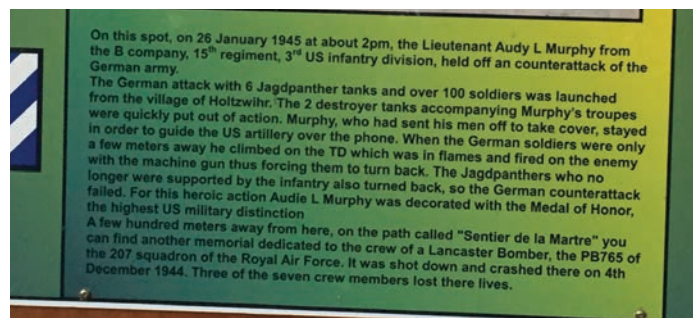
Mary Lynn Seremet

Ed Note: Good catch, Snake Lady (great name). The "39" was a typo. It should have read "29." The talented is Claire Barrett. Barrett's "Southern Belladonna" solo show is currently hanging at LOCATION Gallery at the corner of Bull and Liberty Streets. The exhibition runs through May 15.

IT'S AN HONOR

On a Rhine cruise a few years ago, we visited the scene of Audie Murphy's Medal of Honor heroics during the Colmar Pocket Battle, and I have included a picture of the memorial dedicated to him. We were overwhelmed by our guide's presentation and the thanks we got – just for being Americans - from the French people. Thanks to Ron Lauretti for his articles.

Michael G. Carpenter



Audie Murphy memorial, where he earned his Medal of Honor. (Photos courtesy of Michael G. Carpenter)



on the cover:
Micro-farming at Skidaway Farms offers a bountiful harvest.
See page 13.

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Scott Lauretti
slauretti@theskinnie.com

GENERAL MANAGER

Charles Hendrix
chendrix@theskinnie.com

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Philip Schweier
pschweier@theskinnie.com

OFFICE MANAGER

Teri Grayson
tgrayson@theskinnie.com

ADVERTISING | CONTENT

Jenna Treat
jtreat@theskinnie.com

STAY IN TOUCH

Skinnie Media, LLC
15 Lake Street, Suite 280
Savannah, GA 31411
912-598-9715

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@theskinnie.com
We reserved the right to edit letters for clarity and content. We do not print unsigned letters.

GENERAL INQUIRIES

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

ADVERTISING

sales@theskinnie.com

ART AND STORY SUBMISSIONS

production@theskinnie.com

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Seeing the Light COCKSPUR ISLAND

By Roger Smith

The state of Georgia features only five lighthouses. Throughout the state's maritime history, only 15 lighthouses have been built. Georgia's coastline is relatively small, which explains the scarcity of lighthouses, in contrast to places like Maine and Michigan.

The smallest of Georgia's five extant lighthouses, the Cockspur Island Lighthouse, stands diminutively on an islet just to the southeast of us – only 25 feet above sea level – and not even on Cockspur Island itself. The island proper is home to the much more frequently visited Fort Pulaski National Monument. Both lighthouse and fort are visible off to the left on the way to the beach at Tybee.

Situated precariously on oyster shells that are constantly eroded by the elements, the unstable foundation lends only dubious support to the structure, which is in constant need of conservation. Boaters can get close enough for a decent view. So can walkers who take advantage of the 1.5-mile-long Lighthouse Overlook Trail extending out from Fort Pulaski, though visitors are not supposed to step onto the grounds of the Cockspur Island Lighthouse.

Despite its diminutive size, the history of the lighthouse is lengthy. It has guided ships from the world over into the Savannah River. It has weathered hurricanes – or been destroyed by them – throughout a climactically active 19th Century. U.S. Army cannonballs whizzed through the sky above the lighthouse during the 1862 assault on Fort Pulaski from Tybee Island. And the lighthouse stood demurely through the 20th Century, outliving its own usefulness as shipping practices underwent dramatic changes.

At its start in the 1830s, the Cockspur edifice wasn't a lighthouse at all. Rather, it was a "daymark" – painted white, visible in the daytime, and indicating the entrance to the South Channel of the Savannah River. Upgraded in status in 1848, the state's shortest lighthouse was outfitted with lamps and reflectors to create a beam that could be seen from nine miles away. This upgrade also gave the lighthouse its most significant brush with architectural fame: New York architect John S. Norris oversaw the transformation.

Norris had come to Savannah in 1846, commissioned to build

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the U.S. Custom House. He secured high-profile residential projects that included the Andrew Low House on Lafayette Square, the Charles Green House on Madison Square, and the Hugh Mercer House on Monterey Square. He also designed and built the Massie Common School House, Savannah's first institution of public education for the city's poor children, and the Abrahams Home for Indigent Females.

The Cockspur Island Lighthouse was severely damaged by a hurricane in 1854, requiring virtual reconstruction of the structure's original foundation. According to Joel Cadoff, Visitor Services Program Manager at Fort Pulaski National Monument, the 1850s marked the beginning of a lighthouse "board," a function of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which finally brought professional engineering oversight to the construction, maintenance, and consequent safety and longevity of lighthouses. For the Cockspur Island Lighthouse, this brought to bear the professional engineering skills of Jeremy Gilmer, who was responsible not just for the lighthouse but also for other U.S. Army structures on the Savannah River, Forts Jackson and Pulaski among them.

The Civil War came to the Georgia coast in April of 1862 when U.S. troops occupied Tybee Island and used it to launch heavy artillery fire at the supposedly impenetrable Fort Pulaski, held nominally by the Confederacy. But the fort's seven-foot-thick walls, constructed in the 1820s with approximately 25 million bricks, proved no match to the rifled Parrot guns. As cannon fire pummeled the fort during some 30 hours of fighting, the Cockspur Island Lighthouse – extinguished to make it invisible in the dark – stood directly in the path of fire. Likely due to its short stature, though, the lighthouse suffered almost

The Arts at Messiah presents Chaeyoung Park, pianist Friday, May 12, 2023 • 7:00 pm



The 2023 season of The Arts at Messiah will open with a solo piano concert from the extraordinary pianist Chaeyoung Park. As winner of the 2019 Hilton Head International Piano Competition and winner of the 2022 YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, Chaeyoung Park has been praised as a passionate pianist who "does not play a single note without thought or feeling" (New York Concert Review). Her program will include Schumann's Arabeske, selections from Rachmaninoff's Preludes and Études, Scriabin's Deux Poèmes, and Beethoven's monumental work Hammerklavier Sonata.

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During high tide, the base of Cockspar Lighthouse is awash with the Savannah River.

no damage, standing safely below the high arc of projectiles launched from Tybee to Pulaski.

Hurricanes left their signature of destruction on the Georgia coast throughout the remainder of the century. In August of 1881, the 25-foot-tall lighthouse suffered the effects of a 23-foot storm surge.

Seawater inundated most of the tower and swept away the modest cottage where the lighthouse keeper resided. Only 12 years later, another violent hurricane drove the Cockspar lighthouse keeper, Jeremiah Keane, and three other men to take refuge in Fort Pulaski, as wind and water once again threatened the structure. Following that storm, Keane and subsequent keepers took up residence in a cottage built at the top of the fort where they would enjoy comparative safety.

In the waning decades of the 1800s, the world's shipping traffic and ever-larger vessels began to abandon the South Channel of the Savannah River in favor of the deeper and wider North Channel. Although the Cockspar Island light continued to shine marking the entrance to the South Channel, its relevance came increasingly into doubt. The year 1909 saw the official snuffing of the Cockspar Island light, even though the tower retreated to its former function as a daymark.

As if formalizing the obvious, the U.S. Coast Guard ceded control of the Cockspar Island Lighthouse to the National Park Service in 1958, transforming with one document the lighthouse from valid marker for ships of the present to historic relic for visitors of the future. Historic landmarks require upkeep, of course. Cadoff remembers a preservation campaign in the late 1990s in which the upper portions of the lighthouse were restored. By 2013, extra rocks were brought in to safeguard the oyster-shell foundation against assault by waves and strong currents. That rip-rap continues to protect the base of the lighthouse today.

Cadoff discussed the extensive – and expensive – efforts in more recent years. In 2020 and 2021, the Park Service's facilities team prior-

itized the replacement of the lighthouse's door and windows, a project vital not only the physical appearance of the historic site, but also to the ongoing preservation of its interior. Just last summer, the tons of bricks and mortar comprising the tower itself underwent necessary repointing. In both projects, Cadoff said, energetic fundraising by the Friends of the Cockspar Island Lighthouse made the restorations easier to undertake and complete.

Perhaps the most important factor in the ongoing preservation of this piece of Georgia and American history is the simplest one: Leave the lighthouse alone! It is not only ill advised but also illegal to trespass onto the islet or to visit or touch the lighthouse. Do kayakers sometime lay ashore at the Cockspar Island Lighthouse? Do boaters sometimes steer closer to the shore than they should? Yes, they do. Yet monitoring and reporting functions from concerned boaters and other visitors, and even from good corporate citizens such as kayak and dolphin tour companies, help to ensure that the Cockspar Island Lighthouse, its natural foundations, and its historic presence on Georgia's coast will remain intact for appreciation and understanding long into the future.

Roger Smith is director of *The Learning Center, Savannah* and coastal Georgia's premiere lifelong learning program. A program of Senior Citizens, Inc. in midtown Savannah, *The Learning Center* offers regular programming at Skidaway Island on Mondays throughout significant portions of the year. For more information, visit www.seniorcitizensinc.org/the-learning-center.

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SAVANNAH SKIDAWAY ISLAND POOLER



Farmer Jane Dishes the Dirt

Skidaway Farms sits just off McWhorter Drive, a two-acre tract where island residents can get their hands dirty growing their own vegetables and flowers to share with their neighbors. The farm was established in 2010 by a group of dedicated volunteer gardeners with a helping hand from Skidaway Audubon.

"Skidaway Audubon was our mother when we started to build," explains Jane Kollmann, a.k.a Farmer Jane. "They supported us as we were raising funds to build the farm."

When the farm opened in February of 2011, 200 plots were assigned by drawing a flag with a plot number. Over time, many plots went into disrepair for various reasons. "Our numbers went down, and the farm had a bit of a lull," says Kollmann.

Then COVID happened and new plots were added to meet the growing number of people seeking an outdoor activity. "To date we have 172 plots under till and sold. I now always have a waiting list," Kollmann says.



Farmer Jane Kollman

Kollmann's roots are in Minnesota, where she grew up on a dairy farm. "My grandmother was a great gardener, and I loved going to her home and playing in her garden," Kollmann says. "I have been gardening ever since."

While living in Oklahoma, she learned the nuances of gardening in warmer climates. "Savannah is quite similar with the exception of the humidity. We have different pests and more disease, but I have learned how to manage these details."

The Kollmanns moved to Savannah in 2010, when the farm was being built.

"We were able to assist in the final details of readying the farm for opening day," Kollman recalls. Since then, she has been involved in managing and coordinating the needs of the farm and the Children's Garden.

The farm has a nine-member board that meets monthly to monitor

By Philip Schweier

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the farm's needs, both physical and financial.

"In addition to managing the farm, I mentor new farmers and have tips classes twice a year, one for the spring/summer garden and one for the fall/winter garden," Kollmann says. "I am usually on-site daily to answer questions farmers might have."

"GROWING NEW FARMERS, ONE AT A TIME...."

In 2012, Farmer Jane took over the farm's children's program, which helps cultivate new generations of gardeners. Young people from 5 to 14 are included in the program. Kollmann instructs the kids on importance of good soil, planting, weeding, harvesting, pollinators, and being a good neighboring gardener. The group meets each Saturday morning to work in their shared garden. The children's program also offers committed young farmers individual plots to manage with supervision from Farmer Jane and a parent. Young farmers may remain in the program for three years. This limit maximized the number of children who can participate over time. The cost is \$25 for each garden season. The spring/summer garden runs from March through July, and the fall/winter garden extends from early October through March.

"The children's program is so fun," Kollmann says effusively. "It's like an Easter egg hunt in the soil. Picking things and bringing them home to eat."

Kollmann notes that parents have told her their kids wouldn't eat certain vegetables until they grew them. "They rinse veggies off in the garden and eat them. Not only are we learning how to grow things,



This Children's Garden consists of six shared plots, easily manageable for young hands.

but to also eat better!"

Kollmann treasures the reward of growing fresh vegetables. "There's nothing like taking fresh lettuce home and enjoying a salad or picking your own tomatoes," she exclaims. "I still get a kick out of picking things!"

Some of the farm's produce is shared with friends and neighbors, but extra produce is placed in the farm refrigerator throughout the weekend. On Tuesday afternoon, it is picked up by a farmer who takes it to Social Apostolate for Wednesday's hot meal.

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HAPPY Mother's Day

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The farm has pollinator beds along both fence lines at the front and back of the farm, as well as a new pollinator bed in the middle of the farm across from the Children's Garden. "These beds support bees as well as other pollinators," Kollmann explains. "We have two hives in the back corner of the farm."

The garden has a community tool shed that has everything necessary to work in the garden. Skidaway Farms offers social outlets, such as community work parties a few times a year as needed – for "farm fluffing" – to keep the farm looking good. The farm hosts a cocktail hour from 4 to 7 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, weather permitting. A dinner in the garden has been held each spring; however, this year it will be held in the fall.

Plot rental is available to any island resident. "Some of us have been here since the farm opening in 2011, which is helpful for our new farmers," says Kollmann. The cost for an in-ground, 10-by-20-foot plot is \$135 per year plus a \$100 weed deposit, refundable if you quit farming and leave your plot in good condition. Raised beds rent for \$185 per year with a \$75 weed deposit, also refundable if left in good condition.

Kollmann advises farmers to come out once a week to check on the health of their plants, the need for harvest, and to monitor for pests and disease. Equally, important, she says, is diligent weed control. "Diligence is the key word for gardening here!" she says emphatically.

The farm has a specific organic section, and all members are encouraged to garden organically to protect the bees. Kollmann has learned a lot about organic gardening, and she shares this information with all farmers.

There are pests around any garden. An electric fence keeps raccoons out and the double deer fence discourages deer. Unfortunately, squirrels and crows can enter anytime to help themselves to the farm's tomatoes. Kollmann suggests picking the tomatoes as they start to turn color and finish ripening them on your kitchen counter. The two most common damaging pests in the garden are snails – found year-round – and army worms, who arrive around tomato time. These "munching" creatures can annihilate your crops lickity-split. "I have organic medicine for both!" Kollmann says.

"Gardening is – well, it's work, you either love it or you don't," Kollmann explains. "For me, it's a passion, you must be willing to fight the fight. Like I tell my kids in the children's garden: we are bigger and we always win!"

To learn more about Skidaway Farms, visit www.SkidawayFarms.net. To join the the waiting list for plots, contact Jane Kollman at gardenher52@aol.com. Registrations are closed for the spring/summer season, but will re-open for fall.

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- Too much LDL? Can enhance risk for heart disease, heart attack, or stroke.
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- In addition, you can
- Increase your intake of vegetables, fruits, and whole grains.
 - Get regular physical activity.

tuna, mackerel, and anchovy, are great sources of heart-friendly omega-3. Omega-3 fatty acids are healthy fats that your body doesn't make but needs to function properly. They can decrease the risk of arrhythmias, decrease triglyceride levels, and lower blood pressure. Walnuts, flaxseed, and canola and soybean oils are good sources of omega-3.

5. Lean meats. Choose lean meats, such as turkey and skinless chicken. They have less saturated fat than fatty meats like bacon, sausage, and ground beef. Fat is a significant heart irritant and can be a major factor in atrial fibrillation.

6. Whole grains. Whole grains are high in soluble and insoluble fiber. Opt for whole grain rice and bread over white rice and bread. Other examples include quinoa, millet, farro, barley, lentils, and other grains.



- Lose weight or prevent weight gain.
- Quit smoking.

For some patients, diet and exercise may not be enough. Your doctor may prescribe a medication called a statin.

HOW STATINS WORK

Statins block an enzyme that participates in the liver's production of cholesterol. With that production limited, there is less cholesterol in the bloodstream. This lowers the risk of plaques forming and blocking the blood flow to the heart.

Your primary care physician can help you keep track of your cholesterol numbers with a simple blood test. Your doctor can determine whether you need a statin in addition to exercise and a more balanced diet.

Six Nutritious Ways To Improve Your Heart Health

There are many factors that contribute to your heart's health. Some you can't control – age, gender, family history, and ethnicity. Some you can.

“Some of the best things people can do to help with heart health in general are lose weight, stop smoking, and exercise regularly,” advises Dr. Michael Chisner, cardiologist and electrophysiologist with Cardiology Associates of Savannah and the Advanced Heart Rhythm Center at St. Joseph's/Candler.

A healthy diet is vital in the fight against heart disease. Sure, you eat fruits and vegetables, but here are six foods to add to your diet to improve your heart health:

1. Oatmeal. Full of both soluble and insoluble fiber, oatmeal is a great way to start your day. Soluble fiber has been proven to

lower your cholesterol because it helps clear your arteries of excess cholesterol. Insoluble fiber keeps your GI tract healthy, allowing healthy bacteria to thrive, which can help your heart.

2. Avocado, olive oil, and other unsaturated fats. There are some fats that are good for you – unsaturated fats. Examples include avocado, olive oil, olives, nuts, blueberries, and tomatoes.

3. Almonds and walnuts. Not all nuts are created equal. Almonds and walnuts are recommended over peanuts because of the ratio of unsaturated to saturated fat. Try almond or cashew milk over cow's milk, and nut butters rather than dairy butters.

4. Fatty fish. Certain fish, such as salmon,



While adding items to your diet, you can cut cholesterol-unfriendly habits, too. Avoid these six foods to also increase your heart's health:

- Fried and fast foods
- Some beef, pork, and other fatty proteins
- Cheese and other high-fat dairy products
- Sugar and high-fructose corn syrup
- Salt
- Alcohol

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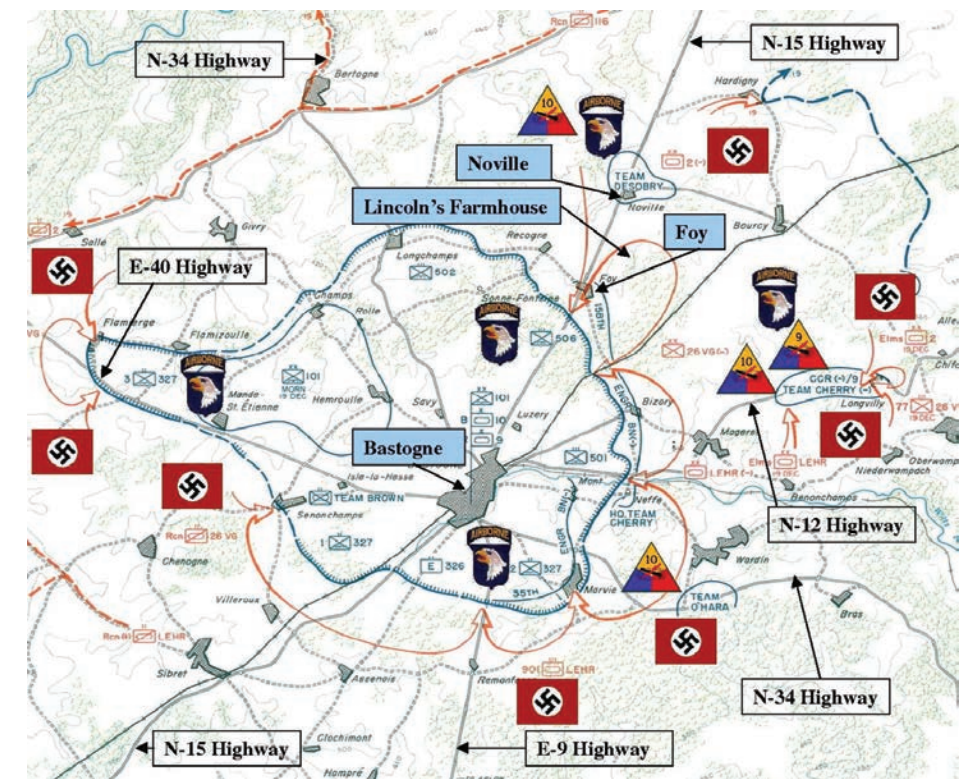
The Siege of Bastogne

He Served By Ron Laretti

In December of 1944, Adolf Hitler ordered a concentrated attack against Allied positions in southeastern Belgium near the German border. The plan was to push hard to the Belgian port city of Antwerp before the Allies could regroup and bring in superior air power. Recapturing the port city would enable the Third Reich to sever a vital Allied supply line and cut the rapidly expanding Allied offensive in half.

American commanders in the area believed the densely wooded terrain in the Ardennes region was not suitable for a large-scale armored attack, and were erroneously informed by Army Intelligence that the opposing German troops were weary and "tired of battle." Meanwhile, the Germans had secretly assembled 25 divisions for an assault.

The mobility of German mechanized divisions was critical to the success of the campaign. It was imperative that Germany seize control of the few roads in the Ardennes that were capable of handling heavy motorized vehicles. Seven roads led directly into the hub of Bastogne, a remote community that became known as "the straw that broke the German's back."



Before dawn on December 16, 1944, three reinforced Panzer tank divisions launched a surprise attack against vastly outnumbered American defenders, comprised of only two

battalions of the American 110th Infantry Regiment, 28th Division. In play was a nine-mile wide front. The blitz enabled elements of German Army Group B, which originally



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bypassed the Bastogne area, to penetrate 50 miles deep and 70 miles wide into Allied territory. The ensuing struggle became known as the "Battle of the Bulge."

The German high command realized the strategic importance of Bastogne, deploying an entire Panzer corps, accompanied by infantry, to capture the small city. Americans were spread too thin to maintain an even battle line. Instead, they focused their defense on the one good road that led to a crossing point on the nearby River Our and on to Bastogne.

By the end of the second day of battle, the 28th ID was near collapse. All units of Combat Command B (CCB) were dispatched to the defense of Bastogne, including the American 101st Airborne Division. By the time the various American reserve units of CCB had engaged and slowed the advance of German units towards Bastogne, the 101st had formed a complete perimeter surrounding the city. The defensive configuration included three artillery battalions with 12 155mm howitzers. The only limit to this firepower was a finite store of ammunition. Most of the heavy guns would be used against enemy armor. The division's anti-aircraft batteries were also moved to the front lines, augmenting the

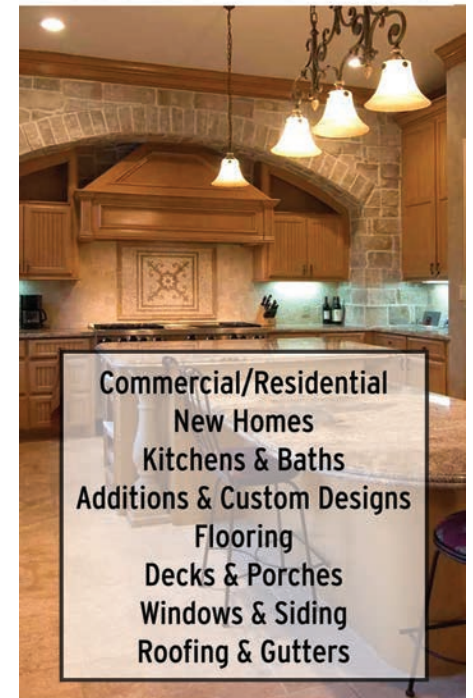
101st 57mm anti-tank guns. Additionally, 600 weary soldiers from the depleted 28th ID were temporarily attached to the 101st for additional support.

This may seem like a lot of combat power, but the defenders of Bastogne were surrounded and outnumbered by five to one. American soldiers were lacking adequate cold-weather gear, ammunition, food, and medical supplies, and severe weather prevented resupply by air.

Due to the size and strength of the initial German attack, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower asked Black troops, at the time limited to service and support function, to volunteer for deployment to the front as combat troops – and volunteer they did, approximately 2,000 strong. Despite very little training, the impromptu reinforcements made great impact in battle.

Six days after the attack began, Gen. Smilo Freiherr von Lüttwitz, the German commander on site, made a strategic mistake. Two of his Panzer divisions left Bastogne and continued west toward the Meuse River. That left only a single regiment to assist the German Volksgrenadier division attempt-

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TheSkinnie VOL. 21 ISSUE 09 – 23

ing to capture the crossroads of Bastogne. Though strong, it was not powerful enough to achieve the objective against the Americans' grit and determination. Allied defenders shifted artillery fire, moving their limited armored forces to meet each assault.

On December 22, Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, commander of the Bastogne defenders, received a message from von Lüttwitz demanding that the Americans surrender. The German commander asked for an answer within two hours. Instead, he received a quick, concise response: "NUTS!"

A hundred miles away, elements of Gen. George Patton's 3rd Army were pushing all night to reach Bastogne. Informed of McAuliffe's answer to von Lüttwitz, Patton let out a robust laugh and said that someone who spoke so eloquently deserved to be rescued.

The next day, bad weather began to dissipate, allowing supply drops by air to the Bastogne defenders. Tanks, armored vehicles, artillery, and aircraft on both sides had been destroyed in great numbers, but the Germans lacked the ability to resupply. They could make no headway – suffering more than 63,000 men killed, wounded, or missing – and failed to take Bastogne.

The Battle of the Bulge marked the last major offensive attempted by the Axis Powers on the Western Front. By the end of January, Hitler realized that his penetrate-divide-and-conquer scheme had reached its limit, and he very reluctantly allowed his crippled forces to withdraw to German territory.



Gen. George S. Patton awarding Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe a Distinguished Service Cross for his heroism and leadership during the Battle of the Bulge, January 14, 1945.

American casualties amounted to 89,000 men killed, wounded, or missing, with another 17,000 hospitalized for frostbite. For their defensive action at Bastogne, the 101st Airborne Division became known as "The Battered Bastards of Bastogne," and was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation from the U.S. and a Croix de Guerre from Belgium.



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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; Coffee/Tea: \$2.50 (Occasionally free pastries)
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.

DANCE FEVER

WHAT: Landlovers "Shall We Dance" year-end BBQ and dance lessons
WHEN: Monday, May 8, 7 to 8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Island State Park Pavilion
HOW MUCH: Dance instruction tickets are \$15 (dinner TBA) available at landingslandlovers.com
CONTACT: Marilee Dalbey, 334.797.9952
WHAT ELSE: Our last dance instruction is the country-western two-step and line dancing. Join us for a catered BBQ dinner at 5:30, or the dance instruction at 7 p.m. Sign up now for the dance lessons and you will receive further information about the dinner.

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SILVER CELEBRATION

WHAT: JWOL's 25th anniversary celebration
WHEN: Sunday, May 7, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom
HOW MUCH: \$25 per person; Send payment to Marcia Berens, 5 Benedictine Retreat
CONTACT: RSVP to Carla Blumenthal at Crsblumenthal@gmail.com by April 28; Please include the date that you moved to the Landings
WHAT ELSE: JWOL members are invited to join us for a celebratory champagne brunch!

THE COAST WITH THE MOST

WHAT: Coastal Conservation Association seminar: The Dolphin Project
WHEN: Monday, May 8, 7 to 9 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 Ridge Road
HOW MUCH: Open to the Public
CONTACT: Paulette Hamilton sushi1103@mac.com

SEAS THE MOMENT

WHAT: SKiO Evening @ Skidaway program
WHEN: Tuesday, May 9; reception - 6:30 p.m., talk - 7 p.m.
WHERE: McGowan Library, UGA Skidaway Marine Science Campus, 10 Ocean Science Circle
HOW MUCH: Open to the public free of charge
CONTACT: Michael Sullivan, 912.598.2325 or mike.sullivan@skio.uga.edu
WHAT ELSE: UGA Skidaway Institute of Oceanography scientist Clifton Buck will present "Exploring Ocean Fertilization: Iron and the Carbon Cycle." Learn about the global carbon cycle and the idea of encouraging the ocean to absorb more carbon dioxide. The program is also available via the UGA Skidaway Institute YouTube channel.

STITCHIN' TIME

WHAT: Landlovers Stitch and Bead
WHEN: Tuesdays, May 9 and May 23, 2 to 4 p.m.
WHERE: Members' homes
CONTACT: Leslie Mathews at lmathews50@gmail.com to be added to email list
WHAT ELSE: We welcome crafters working on any type of needle projects - knitting, needle-point, beading, felting, crewel and cross-stitch. Location announced by email. Landlovers membership is required.

FOR THE BIRDS

WHAT: Shorebirds at risk



BRIDGING THE GAP

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

BUNCO SQUAD

WHAT: Landlovers Bunco
WHEN: 2nd Wednesday each month - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Landings Association building on Landings Way South
HOW MUCH: \$6 to cover room cost and prizes
CONTACT: Dianne Bloom, thewineldy2005@yahoo.com; or Barbara Capes, b_capes@comcast.net
WHAT ELSE: A dice game requiring no skill but enjoying a fun night out with friends. Any Landlovers member. Club membership is not required.

ALL ABOARD!

WHAT: Landlovers Mexican Train Dominoes, open to all Skidaway Island residents, not just the Landings
WHEN: Tuesdays, 3:00-5:30 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Clubhouse's Byrd Room. Because we play in a clubhouse, Landings Club membership is required.
HOW MUCH: Free but Landlovers membership is required
CONTACT: Laurie Milano, lamilano@aol.com
WHAT ELSE: Because we play in the Palmetto Clubhouse, you must be a member of The Landings Club and Landlovers. The Byrd Room can have a maximum of 24 players. If you plan to join us, please bring a set of dominoes if you have one.

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

TICKLED IVORIES

WHAT: The Arts at Messiah – Pianist Chaeyoung Park in Recital
WHEN: Friday, May 12, 7 p.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 West Ridge Road
HOW MUCH: No admission charge, donations are welcome
CONTACT: MLC at 912.598.1188, Mon-Fri mornings
WHAT ELSE: The extraordinary pianist Chaeyoung Park will open the 2023 Arts at Messiah series with a solo piano recital. Winner of the 2019 Hilton Head International Piano Competition and the 2022 YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, her program will include selections by Schumann, Rachmaninoff, Scriabin, and Beethoven.

FLOWER POWER

WHAT: Spring Plant Sale
WHEN: Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
WHERE: Savannah Botanical Gardens at the historic Reinhard Farmhouse, 1388 Eisenhower Drive
HOW MUCH: Free admission and free parking
CONTACT: Savannah Botanical Gardens, 912.355.3883 or sacgc1388@botanical.comcast-biz.net.
WHAT ELSE: The Savannah Area Council of Garden Clubs and the Savannah Botanical Gardens host this fundraiser to benefit the Savannah Botanical Gardens. Plant containers for sale and lots of plants to go in them – wonderful local nursery plants, plants from the Botanical Gardens, and pass-along plants donated by garden club members. Master gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions.

ONE-DAY SAIL

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

WHEN: Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., plus a 4-hour day on the water
WHERE: TLA Meeting Room, 600 Landings Way South
HOW MUCH: \$100; \$25 rebate if you join TLSC within 30 days
CONTACT: Angela Margolit, 973.296.8011 or amargolit@hotmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Open to all Landings residents 21 or older who are either new to sailing or want a refresher course.

THE RIGHT STUFF

WHAT: Ladies on The Right (LOTR) luncheon meeting
WHEN: May 18 – Optional social hour: 12 noon -1 p.m.; lunch/program – 1-2:30
WHERE: The Landings Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: LOTR members – \$30; guests – \$35
CONTACT: For more info or to register/pay (deadline is 5/15), visit www.ladiesontheright.org
WHAT ELSE: Keynote speaker is Ginger Howard, Georgia delegate to the National Republican Committee. 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.

DEAR ABBIES

WHAT: Skidaway Abigails May Meeting
WHEN: Thursday, May 18, 3 - 5 p.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 West Ridge Road
CONTACT: chair@skidawayabigails.org.
WHAT ELSE: "Moving Forward! What Matters to You?" Whether you're a founding member or a new Abigail, we want this group to be what you hope it could be. At our May meeting, we will work in small and large groups to receive input on what matters to you, what you value from the Abigails, and what you wish for the Abigails in the future.

HOUSE PARTIES

WHAT: Landlovers Cocktails with Friends
WHEN: Saturday, May 20, 6-8 p.m.
WHERE: Landlovers members' homes
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: RSVP by Mat 10 to Becky Dominguez, beckydom61@aol.com, or Connie Rice, csrice1948@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: We are looking for people to host this evening at their homes. Please contact Becky Dominguez at beckydom61@aol.com 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. Must be a Landlovers member.

SPRING FORE-WARD

WHAT: Landlovers Spring Golf Scramble
WHEN: Sunday, May 21, 1:30 p.m.
WHERE: Terrapin Point
CONTACT: Eileen Yost, eileenyrn@gmail.com.
WHAT ELSE: An 18-hole scramble with some surprises. A wonderful dinner with steak and salmon to follow with a cash bar. To register, visit www.landingslandlovers.com/Happenings/Activities. Your club account will be charged, so no money upfront. Registration ends on May 16.

FRENCH CONNECTION

WHAT: Landlovers Closing Celebration
WHEN: Tuesday, May 23, 6:30 to 9:45 p.m.
WHERE: To add intrigue, the location is secret until a few days before May 23
HOW MUCH: \$85 per person includes all food and entertainment; cash bar
CONTACT: Milli Sample or Kathy Collura at landloversocials@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Say "au revoir" to the Landlovers year and "bonjour" to next year's board at our French-themed gourmet picnic featuring a live cabaret show during dessert. White attire strongly encouraged. Register at www.landingslandlovers.com/Happenings/Socials before May 15.

FOR THE KIDS

WHAT: The One Hundred Children's Foundation Brunch
WHEN: May 24, 10 a.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: \$40 per person
CONTACT: Email theonehundredfoundation@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Tickets available at theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org. To learn more about the OHCF, all are welcome to attend our membership brunch. Guest speaker is Billy Sorochak, executive director of the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Coastal Empire.

REEL FUN

WHAT: Coastal Conservation Association's Kids' Fishing Derby
WHEN: Saturday, May 27, 9 a.m.
WHERE: Kids Fishing Lagoon
HOW MUCH: Free to all Skidaway Island kids
CONTACT: Tom Rood @ 912.598.9753
WHAT ELSE: Please visit www.ccaskidaway.org to register

CARING WITH CASSEROLES

WHAT: Safe Shelter Casseroles
WHEN: June 6
WHERE: Your home
CONTACT: LLCommService@gmail.com.
WHAT ELSE: If you enjoy cooking and want to help those in need as well, we need your help providing casseroles to SAFE Shelter. On your assigned day, you make any casserole you want at your home, and we'll deliver it to SAFE Shelter. To learn more, email LLcommService@gmail.com to get on our distribution list for more information. Must be a Landlovers member to participate.

WORSHIP WEEK

WHAT: Skidaway Community Church Vacation Bible School
WHEN: Monday, June 26 through Friday, June 30, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: \$50
CONTACT: To register, please call 912.598.0151 or visit www.skidccc.org
WHAT ELSE: Campers will engage in Bible study, games, activities, athletic activities, and learn from guest speakers as well as Pastor Jon Hauerwas and Dr. Joe Crotty. Please bring lunch and a water bottle.

TAXATION REPRESENTATION

WHAT: Opportunities for volunteer income tax assistance with Neighborhood Improvement Association
WHEN: starting in January, flexible hours from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
WHERE: several sites in Savannah, Pembroke, Rincon, Richmond Hill and Hinesville
CONTACT: Tiffany Carter, tcarter@niacdc.org or 912.447.5577
WHAT ELSE: This program helps underserved communities by offering free tax preparation. No experience necessary. Volunteers include greeters/screener and tax preparers

FINANCIAL AID

WHAT: AARP Tax-Aide Program needs volunteers
WHEN: Training in Dec. and Jan.; Tax preparation starts Feb. 1 for 10 weeks; hours and days are flexible
WHERE: Chatham SW and Bull Street Libraries
CONTACT: Volunteer coordinator John Gerardi, 912.661.8705 or johngerardi@hotmail.com
WHAT ELSE: This program provides free tax preparation for low- to moderate-income families, as well as the elderly and people with disabilities. AARP Tax-Aide saves underserved individuals/families millions in preparation fees and helps taxpayers claim millions in refunds, which can be used to reduce poverty. Tax preparers will be

trained to become IRS-certified. Volunteers are also needed to help with intake/front desk.

HOUSE CALL

WHAT: Volunteer Opportunities
WHEN: We ask that you commit 1-2 days/month
WHERE: Green-Meldrim House, downtown on Madison Square
CONTACT: Jane Pressly: 912.667.1584 or jane-pressly@aol.com
WHAT ELSE: If you love history, architecture, art and storytelling, we need you! Volunteer as a docent or doorkeeper at the historic Green-Meldrim House. Training begins soon!

FORE LADIES ONLY

WHAT: Landlover Ladies 9-Hole Golf Group
WHEN: Tuesdays (Tee times from Chelsea system)
WHERE: Varies each week
HOW MUCH: Yearly membership fee (\$20) is required beginning January 1, 2023.
CONTACT: Jan Rosenbaum at LandloverLadies9@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Landlover Ladies 9-hole Golf welcomes those who have a basic understanding of the rules, pace of play and have a GHIN number. Our focus is on having fun with a casual get together afterwards. Throughout January, LLL9 will collect large jars (48 ounce size preferred) of peanut butter to donate to the Food Pantry. Our goal is to exceed the 144 pounds donated last year. The Landing Club golf and Landlovers memberships are required.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

WHAT: Boy Scout Troop 57, for boys 10-18
WHEN: Weekly meeting Tuesday 7-8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Community Church
CONTACT: BSA office, 927.7272
WHAT ELSE: Chartered in 1989, the troop has sponsored 80 Eagle Scouts to date. Weekly meetings, monthly outings (canoeing, canoeing, hiking, kayaking, rafting, backpacking), yearly summer camp and high adventure trips. New Scouts and transfers are welcome.

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.

SHALOM

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

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-catlanceteam
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.

PET PROJECT

WHAT: Kitten food drive for the Humane Society of Greater Savannah
WHEN: Ongoing
WHERE: Humane Society Adoption Center, 7215 Sallie Mood Dr.
CONTACT: Call Rosemary Longueira at 598.2875 or drop donations at 22 Long Island Road, Oakridge
WHAT ELSE: With so many kittens in foster care, the Humane Society is in need of Fancy Feast canned kitten food, Purina dry kitten chow, and kitten replacement milk (such as KMR) for the neonatal bottle fed kittens. Soft fuzzy blankets would also be appreciated. Donations can be dropped off during normal business hours (Tuesday-Saturday, 1:00-6:00 p.m.) or off-hours in the donation bins outside the Adoption Center on Sallie Mood Drive.

WALK AND TALK

WHAT: Landlovers "Let's Walk"
WHEN: One hour every Wednesday and Saturday at 8 a.m.
WHERE: May, Franklin Creek; June, Delegal; July, Oakridge
CONTACT: Email Bev Dalrymple at bevda100@gmail.com to sign up
WHAT ELSE: Looking for walking buddies? Join our morning walking group. Walking pace is brisk but "talkable." This is a great way to get some exercise, see the island and chat with friends. You must be a Landlovers member to participate.

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

ACROSS

- 1. Oscar Madison, e.g.
- 5. D.C. office
- 9. Astrological transition point
- 13. Biblical outcast
- 15. Meditative exercise
- 16. Part of A.M.
- 17. Tequila plant
- 18. Zorro, for one
- 20. Skunk
- 22. Keep in custody
- 23. Of direct descent
- 26. Give and take
- 27. Circle segment
- 30. Biased, in a way
- 32. Water cannon target
- 34. Curtail expenses
- 38. Burrowing animal
- 39. Witchy woman
- 41. Damaged, as a ligament
- 42. Kirk's command
- 44. List of people
- 46. Like drumbeats
- 48. Flock member
- 49. Up and about
- 52. Embroidered hole
- 54. Step-in shoe
- 56. Pleasant-sounding
- 60. Employee-abetted crime
- 63. Ready for use
- 64. Dentist's request
- 65. Computer command
- 66. Mortise's mate
- 67. Like some tea
- 68. Two-at-a-time tow
- 69. Monopoly payment

DOWN

- 1. High-five sound
- 2. Popular building toy
- 3. Birthstone after sapphire
- 4. Cut at an angle
- 5. Tasty mollusk
- 6. "I do," for one
- 7. Bygone days

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
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64						65					66				
67						68						69			

- 8. Frying medium
- 9. Clickers
- 10. Emasculate
- 11. Composed
- 12. Minimal change
- 14. Cooking directions
- 19. Legally prohibit
- 21. Charlie Hunnam series, "Sons of ____"
- 24. Waste away
- 25. Hold on property
- 27. Kind of race
- 28. Knee-slapper
- 29. Fountain drink
- 31. Like OR instruments
- 33. Scared stiff
- 35. Musical sound
- 36. Ship's staff
- 37. Where Kilroy was?
- 40. Baptism, e.g.
- 43. Cut up
- 45. Spotted animal
- 47. Card carrier
- 49. Accused's need
- 50. ____boom
- 51. Sample
- 53. Laser printer powder
- 55. Doctor's order
- 57. Wine's partner
- 58. Screen symbol
- 59. Small price to pay
- 61. Boxer's punch
- 62. In vitro items

Puzzle answers, page 35

\$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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WILD THINGS

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Frequent contributor Jorge Gojman shared these photos. This very colorful and interesting design "Polka-dot Wasp Moth" is more common in the Caribbean and Florida, but is not so common in our area. "Since it is a moth," Jorge says, "the caterpillars pictured are a required step in its metamorphosis."

"Wild Things" is a regular feature in The Skinnie, featuring your photographs of our beloved island. Email your high-resolution photos to production@theskinnie.com. Please include your name and a little info about where the photo was taken.

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"I knew I would receive the absolute best care from the St. Joseph's/Candler heart team. I'm grateful to be here for my children, my grandchildren and myself." – Minnie Wingster



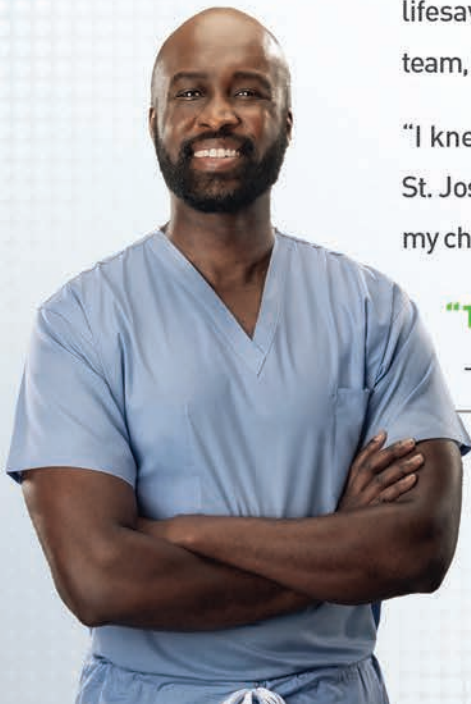
healthy artery



clogged artery

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

– Akinniran Abisogun, M.D. – Cardiologist



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