



The Skinnie

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upfront

We didn't consider this possibility. Next time, we will.

Last week, we were relaxing on Hydra, the Greek (Saronic) motor-vehicle-free island about an hour and a half from Athens by sea. Waking late, lingering over coffee. Hiking for hours. Eating grilled just-caught fish.

The small port filled each morning with day trippers. It emptied again as the sun faded and evening reset the collective calm. The dark night skies were quiet until midweek, the only interrupting sounds – an occasional footfall on a stone alleyway or the plaintive mew of a lonely cat.

By Wednesday, the persistent whistle of a strengthening breeze served as a lullaby, deepening our sleep. Thursday was uncharacteristically windy; angry water escaped the reliable boundaries of the harbor to the delight of local boys who frolicked in the novel spray. Friday, on top of a remote mountain ridge, our hats blew off our heads. Ferry service throughout the Greek Isles was suspended indefinitely; our only route home was suddenly closed.

I summoned all my travel tricks. Flights rebooked. Hotel cancelled; alternative accommodations secured, just in case we found a miracle conveyance across the bay. We went to bed Friday night with unpacked bags, as the gusts had intensified to those of a tropical storm. Somehow, I woke at 8:10 without the help of an alarm, to see the floating dots of a WhatsApp message being actively typed by Maria, our innkeeper-friend. "A boat is going at 9. Do you want to try it?" Sure.

No time to shower, just stuff everything in our cases, hug Lola and Maria, and race for the boarding ramp. We arrived and waited for an uncertain hour while a crowd began to cluster and build. The "boat," not yet cleared for departure, would be a 40-seater, not the usual high-speed, high-capacity, state-of-the-art craft. More like a tired fisherman's retirement plan. The calculus baffled me: 200 people, 50 tickets, a humanity blob rather than an orderly queue, and one chance at escape. Having accurately anticipated the future line-head, we made it on board and took seats along the starboard wall around midship. The waves were big and irregular, refusing a predictable frequency. Maybe it was an illusion of perspective, but with every broadside pitch and roll, our fellow travelers along the opposite windows seemed to dip down to the deep trough's waterline. We were conspicuously listing to port.

No safety briefing. No chatter. One timid question: "How long?" "Twenty-five minutes," the ununiformed crewman replied, which felt like an interminable prospective span. Eventually, the wave heights began to mercifully shorten, and we pulled up to a utilitarian dock.

We loaded into a van with a gregarious German couple and a young

Norwegian family of five. A happy, round driver who blared "Sweet Caroline" and "I Will Survive" and tutored us in the battles of the ancient Peloponnese took us halfway, where we changed vans and drivers and rode in relative quiet for the remainder of the trip. Thirty minutes by water and five hours by land, as opposed to the typical one-hour-15 on a boat and a short taxi ride, when the ferries run. But the airport hotel was surprisingly lovely; its restaurant and gym both first-rate; and we arrived in Savannah four hours earlier than our original itinerary would have delivered us.

There's no place like home.

Until this morning, when a 5:30 a.m. text from our coffee shop (Cutters Point) announced: "There's an inch of water on the floor. The freezer broke." Our usual repair service is "unavailable" for nine days. The first part of the morning has been dedicated to determining if anyone around here does emergency commercial refrigeration work. (Evidently, Edge does, and they have arrived at the shop).

Amid these fits of chaos, there's tranquility that experience provides. Time has taught me there's always an imminent solution, life will continue to advance with relative disinterest in my personal predicaments, and it's great to have a reliable colleague on our team.

That's Philip. Schweier. Creative director of this magazine. Philip is unflappable. He's been with us for well over a decade. He and I are about the same age, yet he's willing to learn and try new things. Others have come and gone, but Philip has remained steadfast, trustworthy, capable, and deserving of praise, despite his reticence to seek it for himself.

A little about Philip...he's been doing graphic design for over 30 years, a graduate of SCAD. He loves cats – all animals, really – though he takes special daily care of a group of felines whose lives would be lacking without his attention. Philip's married to Heidi. He's a fan of Superman, super-heroes, and other stuff like that, and Philip and Heidi are no strangers to the circuit of 'cons' (conventions focused on pop culture media and grown-up games). Originally from Indiana, and Midwestern humility and kindness come authentically to him. I think he enjoys the relative quiet and solitude of the magazine office, from which he emerges when he and Heidi indulge in an adventurous trip or two each year.

Philip does a bit of everything for us. He determines what goes into each issue. He plans our production schedule. He interfaces with our advertising clients, content contributors, vendors, and you. He writes features under his own byline, and occasionally an unattributed piece or two. Philip is clever, understatedly funny, and relatively ego-less. One thing Philip almost never does: Say "no" to something I/we ask him to do.

So, we can go to Greece and tend to a broken freezer and write this essay minutes before its absolutely-final-deadline. Because we can count on Philip to handle much of the rest of what needs to get done, and to do it well. Thank you, Philip (and Happy Birthday, this week)...now

Scott A. Lawrence

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NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

I have enjoyed many issues of *The Skinnie* but must admit to having been surprised by the recent letter to the editor regarding Canada. The (post-9/11) comment the writer heard was terrible but history should indeed be preserved, and in this situation the response of the country of Canada is what we should remember.

Let's not forget Canada immediately responded with Operation Yellow Ribbon offering refuge to more than 33,000 passengers aboard over 225 diverted international flights including the small town of Gander with 38 planes and nearly 7,000 stranded passengers. Also consider that more than 40,000 members of the Canadian Armed Forces served in Afghanistan; there were 159 casualties with another 635 soldiers wounded in action.

Indeed, I must also admit to some recent confusion regarding our country's apparent shift in attitude towards another country that in the past has been one of our staunchest allies.

Don Starr

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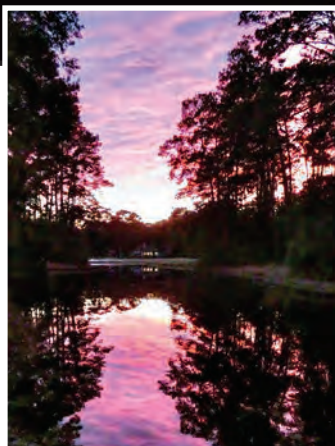
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on the cover:
John Taylor captured this stunning sunset at Lagoon #19.

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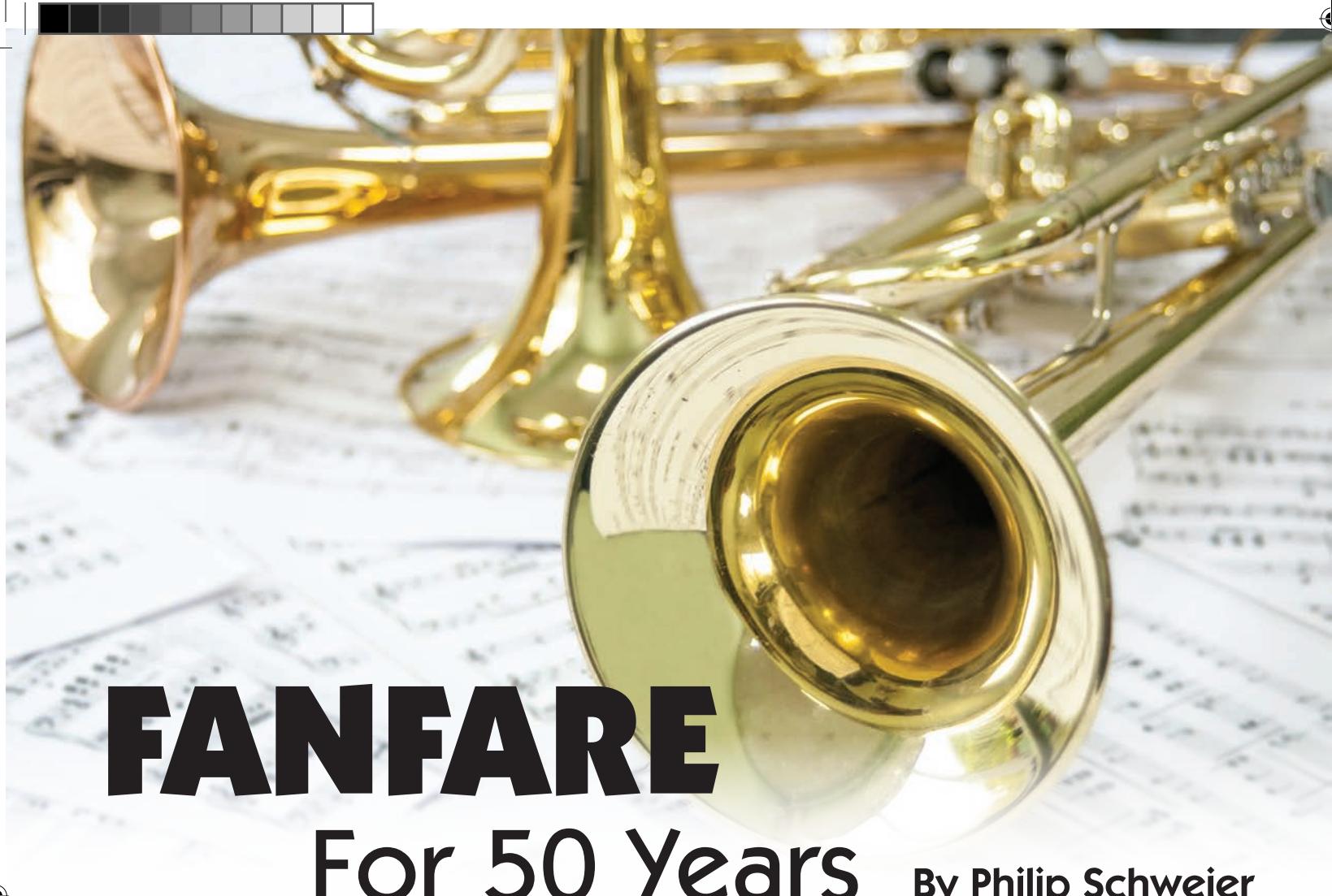


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FANFARE

For 50 Years

By Philip Schweier

For 50 years, the Savannah Wind Symphony (SWS) has brought musicians and audiences together through performances that enrich the cultural life of the Coastal Empire. On November 8, the SWS will be joined by the internationally renowned brass quintet Boston Brass for “The Sound of Celebration,” as well as guest artist and Grammy® nominee Sammy K on drums.

What has evolved into the Savannah Wind Symphony began in 1977, when Stephen Brandon, band director of then-Armstrong State College, invited high school students and community musicians to help grow the college band. According to current SWS artistic director and conductor John Madden, “Every American town near a college or university probably had, at some point, a town-and-gown type band. Town – the volunteer non-college student members, and Gown – college students that will wear the graduation gown someday.”

Trombonist Bob Slagel was an early volunteer, joining with his son and daughter. “Brandon did not have enough students to fill out a full ensemble,” Slagle explains, “and consequently invited interested and capable community members to try out. Both of my children and I were accepted.”

Clarinetist Kevin Vogelsang first joined the Armstrong Community Band in 1988 but later stepped away when his role as music director at the Isle of Hope United Methodist Church became too demanding. “Back then, it was a very different ensemble,” Vogelsang recalls. “It was filled with Armstrong students, and it attracted members of the larger

Savannah community, including current and retired band directors.”

For 25 years, Mark Johnson conducted the Savannah Winds, increasing the band’s reputation in the community and beyond. Musicians who performed under his baton say he was a teacher, mentor, and friend, and he created a legacy of inspiration for musicians, present and future.

Armstrong – the band’s sponsor – merged with Georgia Southern University in 2017, transferring the bulk of the school’s music program to Statesboro. Additional changes in the university’s support led to the symphony evolving into an independent 501c3. This reorganization, combined with health issues facing Johnson and the COVID pandemic, led to a hiatus.

Despite Johnson’s passing, the symphony reunited in 2022, joined by a new trumpet player, John Madden. He’d spent almost 30 years as an educator and conductor at his alma mater, Michigan State University. After retirement, he and his wife Shelly moved to Skidaway Island to be closer to her parents. He later became one of three candidates to succeed Johnson and was named artistic director and conductor of the SWS in 2023 (*The Skinnie*, vol. 21, #3 - February 10, 2023).



Mark Johnson



John Madden

According to Madden, under the band’s new independent 501c3 configuration, all new members are required to complete an audition to be adjudicated by the SWS conductor and personnel manager. This has led to an increasingly higher caliber of performer, resulting in greater proficiency within the band – a pleasant surprise for Vogelsang when he rejoined in 2022. “One of the highlights of my retirement is that I have the pleasure of making music under John (Madden)’s direction,” he says. “The first thing I remember about his leadership is that I couldn’t wait to practice the music for our next rehearsal.”

When he took the baton, Madden immediately began planning for the symphony’s 50th anniversary, even though it was a few years away. He intended to recruit guest performers and commission composers in recognition of and in tribute to musicians within the group. “I am an advocate of new music, playing music of living composers, in addition to the great repertoire that already exists for band and wind ensemble,” he says.

The SWS is currently rehearsing the first of four original commissions. Debuting at the November 8 concert will be composer Scott Boerma’s “Savannah Celebration,” dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the SWS.

Later in the season, the SWS will premier three more commissions,

one in memory of Maestro Johnson. Julie Giroux, a prolific composer from Louisiana who studied under film composer Bill Conti, previously wrote a piece in 2017 for SWS titled “Shine.” “Julie is a global composer who dedicates a great deal of her craft to the world of college, university, military, community, and high school bands,” Madden notes.

Johnson and Giroux both spent time at LSU, so they shared a personal connection. Madden says, “I explained, ‘This would be a memorial piece, a celebration piece for Mark Johnson, who conducted this ensemble for 25 years.’ She says, ‘I’m in.’”

Madden then offered to connect Giroux with Johnson’s wife and family to provide background, but there was no need. Giroux knew Johnson well and immediately had an image in her mind for the kind of piece she would write for the occasion.

The February concert, entitled “Historical Reflections,” will also include an original piece by Andrew David Perkins. “Andy accepted our commission and is currently mapping out his composition,” says Madden. Additionally, Robin Beauchamp, a local composer who is very well known in Savannah’s music community, will share an original composition for the SWS pops concert on April 25.

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While at Michigan State as band director, Madden knew of the Boston Brass. Two of the quintet's original members were his close friends. Since moving to Savannah, Madden has written arrangements for Boston Brass and the University of Southern Mississippi Marching Band. It was during this collaboration that he and Jeff Connor, one of the Boston Brass leaders, began discussing the idea of the quintet coming to Savannah. Aware the Boston Brass has carved a niche of supporting educational and community ensembles, Madden and Connor inked the deal. "We connected the dots and already had some repertoire that I had done for them," Madden continues. "The concert will include my previous arrangements for the quintet and band, as well as well-known Boston Brass favorites that they will perform without the SWS. Of course, there will be some large-scale works that have been written specifically for the Boston Brass and a wind ensemble/concert band. This is going to be a great show!"

Also performing will be drummer Sam Kestenholz – known professionally as Sammy K – who was a student of Madden's at Michigan State in the late 1980s and early '90s. "He can play anything, any style," explains Madden. "We have very fine percussionists in the band, but much of this first concert, especially with the Boston Brass, is drum-set centric, and creates a solo spotlight for the drummer. I was excited that Sam was available to come to town to play with us. He is playing on four of the five Boston Brass features, along with our fantastic SWS percussion section."

Madden values the cultural opportunities a city the size of Savannah offers, not only to audiences but the musicians in SWS. "Our ensemble enjoys the wonderful reputation and tradition of presenting

professional caliber concerts," he says. "We have musicians, both professional and amateur, who play purely for the joy of music making and the fellowship of human connection. Perhaps there is the misperception that volunteer musicians are not professional quality, but I disagree. They come to each rehearsal prepared, focused, and eager to realize the composer's intentions. This idea of adult learning is alive and well in the SWS. In my view, our members want to be better musicians and participate in the best ensemble experience possible."

Bob Slagle has retired from playing but remains actively involved with SWS as a member of its board of directors. "Music has always been an important part of my life," he says. "I love listening to most forms, but making good music is special. Savannah Winds has been a wonderful experience, both educationally and emotionally."

The Sound of Celebration will offer an afternoon of great music and boisterous fun, with energetic selections, familiar favorites, and vibrant musical moments crafted for audiences of all ages. Details are being finalized for a holiday concert on Skidaway Island in December.

Support from the community makes commissioned works, distinguished guest artists, student scholarships, private lesson opportunities, special events, and the joy of live music experiences possible. With the help of patrons, donors, and partners, the SWS can continue creating meaningful musical experiences and welcoming new audiences for another 50 years and beyond.

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4 NEW LISTINGS	6 CLOSINGS	10 FAMILIES SERVED
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**The Rise, Fall, and
Resurrection of**

Polyester

Tapley Tales by Ed Tapley

In 1967, during Mrs. Robinson's attempt to seduce a young Graduate, a family friend offered him career advice: "Just one word – plastics. There's a great future in plastics." Indeed, there was.

Polyester was starting to come into its own. It was new, and a preference for newness was the era's zeitgeist. Elvis was wearing heavy canvas or stretch gabardine on stage; but, in private, polyester was his choice. The Beatles donned polyester Nehru jackets for their show at Shea Stadium.

By the beginning of the '70s, it was everywhere. Leisure suits of every shade. Women's outfits covered in bold designs on fields of synthetic fibers. Studio 54 was replete with disco balls and dancers sporting the look. John Travolta made himself famous strutting around the dance floor in a white polyester suit. Young and old were impressed by "permanent press."

Then, like the sudden demise of the dinosaurs from a comet strike, it was gone in a flash of chemical combustion. Relegated to a punch line. Fashionable people – teens, movie stars, hipsters, and other "influencers" of the time spread the word – better dead than synthetic thread.





The era of “natural” materials had arrived. Cotton, denim, wool, silk. Fancy and farm wear, alike.

Like a B-movie vampire exposed to daylight, polyester melted away, figuratively if not literally. It was suddenly seemingly gone for good. But one thing you can't deny about polyester is its durability. Like a horror mov-

ie villain, it returned. First slowly raising its head to test public reaction in the late 20th Century, it snuck into closets as micro fleece in newly fashionable quarter-zips. The trend took off and everybody and his brother began to brand these soft, sturdy jackets.

Still, some holdouts shuddered at the thought of this “new” miracle fabric, recognizing its true provenance. Micro fleece, Dacron, Kodel, Terylene, and Poly-Cotton Blends obscured, by name only, the truth.

Polyester was in everything. Sports cars, yachts, even coolers to hold your beer were manufactured using the sinister material. Nothing and nobody were safe, not even children. 1988 saw the birth of Beanie Babies, little cuddly toys made almost entirely from polyester fleece.

Newer synthetics joined the cabal. Modal, Rayon, Spandex, and Viscose – albeit made from wood pulp, are basically plastic. Doubt me? Take anything out of your closet and read the label. Your exercise clothing claims it wicks away perspiration, magically cools your body, is quick drying, and odor resistant. Daily wear – “colorfast.” All this and manufactured in exotic countries many of your

peers have spent small fortunes to visit.

When you purchased the item, it was touted as made from the latest and greatest new miracle fiber. But the tags tell the true story. Just like one might have carefully checked wanted posters in the Old West against the latest drifter in town, you will probably find a synthetic trickster identified in the fine print. Athleisure as a vessel for gateway fabrics.

Polyester got the last word. While you're enjoying cruising the Intracoastal on your yacht or traveling the highway in your new Corvette, sheep are being left unshorn and cotton sits lonely in the field while evil chemists stir vats to make potions that will wrap your body or carry you on your way.

The original fully synthetic fiber has mostly been abandoned in this new generation of plastics. Remember the aforementioned Graduate? Mrs. Robinson was never pictured without nylons, at least when she was clothed. Poor nylon: The original synthetic was tossed aside when women rebelled and shed their hose. But who knows? It may be rediscovered as the “new” magic fiber for the next decade.



THE LANDINGS REAL ESTATE COMPANY

All MLS Data accurate as of October 2, 2026

This Week's Featured Listings



2 MCEACHERN COURT

The lagoon view is the standout here. This one-level 3BR/2BA patio home offers a central location near the Marshwood Clubhouse, an open kitchen and breakfast area, and a private deck overlooking a truly beautiful lagoon setting. \$500,000.

David Helmreich



NEW LISTING

111 SALTWATER WAY

Courtyard charm sets the tone for this one-level Marshview Landings townhome, featuring a bright great room, fireplace, hardwood floors, split-bedroom plan, office/den, private patio, and the appeal of low-maintenance living. \$628,000.

Linda Novack



1 TREUTLEN LANE

Tucked into a private lagoon setting, this 3BR/2.5BA home offers cathedral ceilings, an updated kitchen, expansive sunroom, two outdoor living areas, and mature landscaping framed by trees and azaleas. \$650,000.

William Boyd, Danny Quinn



NEW LISTING

1 WESLEY CROSSING

Garden views and inviting outdoor spaces set this home apart, with a main-level primary suite, 3 bedrooms plus an office or 4th bedroom, a spacious great room, sunroom, paver patio, and pergola surrounded by lush landscaping. \$724,000.

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Wine Tasting

Monday, November 9th 2026

Join us at Thrive on Skidaway to taste the best wines from around the world and develop your palate. Join us for an afternoon of wine tasting and education.



Thrive on Skidaway

5 Lake St, Savannah, GA 31411

To RSVP call 912-295-4220 or email carol.elkins@ThriveOnSkidaway.com



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NCAA

Memphis at Tulane
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Alabama at Tennessee
Missouri at Mississippi
Mississippi St. at LSU
Nebraska at Oregon
Oklahoma St. at Houston
Kentucky at Oklahoma
Arkansas at Vanderbilt
TCU at Baylor
North Carolina at Duke
Georgia Tech at Virginia Tech
Penn St. at Michigan
UNLV at Air Force
Washington St. at Oregon St.

NFL

Baltimore at Cleveland
Houston at Jacksonville
Chicago at Atlanta
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay
LA Chargers at Kansas City

As a tiebreaker this week,
pick the total points in the
Ohio St./Indiana game.

Email picks to editor@theskinnie.com
(please note the new email address). Or
send your entry the old-fashioned way
to: **The Skinnie, 15 Lake Street, Suite
280, Savannah, GA 3141.** Alternatively,
just drop it by our offices in the Lake Side
Center across from Publix.

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

We're Giving It Away!

The Skinnie Football Pick 'Em Pool

A close race again, but David "Double D" Denhard prevailed by a one-game margin over a few runners up. Double D was 18 for 25, barely besting a trio of 17s.

It's your turn. What are you waiting for?! Enter this contest and win bragging rights and real prizes. It's easy. Pick the winning team for each game. Guess more winners correctly than the other prognosticators. For the tiebreaker game, forecast the total points that the two teams will score (combined).

Twenty college games and five NFL contests, to be played between Friday, October 16, and Sunday, October 18. **Entries are due by 5 p.m., Friday, October 16.**



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32 HASLEITERS RETREAT

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7 WESTFERRY COURT

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BETSY KINGSTON MYERS



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3 LITTLE COMFORT ROAD
EZELLE STRONG TEAM

3 SPRINGPINE LANE
ANN NASH & TOMMY REESE
24 MAGNOLIA CROSSING
ANN NASH & TOMMY REESE
3 TOP GALLANT CIRCLE
ANN NASH & TOMMY REESE
262 WILEY BOTTOM ROAD
DREW JOHNSON

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TOP: The Nancy N. and J.C. Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion annually displays a giant pink ribbon in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

ABOVE: St. Joseph's/Candler President and CEO Paul P. Hinchey is joined by the St. Vincent's Academy volleyball team to launch the annual Paint the Town Pink campaign.

St. Joseph's/Candler Marks 19th Year of Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign

In Savannah and the surrounding region, October means it's time to Paint the Town Pink. St. Joseph's/Candler has partnered with the *Savannah Morning News* and WSAV News 3 for a month-long initiative to spread the word regarding early detection of breast cancer and the Telfair Mammography Fund for uninsured or underinsured women. This is the campaign's 19th year.

The Telfair Mammography Fund removes financial barriers for eligible women, ensuring they receive lifesaving mammograms or other breast health services regardless of their ability to pay.

The Paint the Town Pink campaign kicked off in the Nancy N. and J.C. Lewis Cancer and Research Pavilion at the beginning of October with a press conference featuring St. Joseph's/Candler President and CEO Paul P. Hinchey; Jill Nevels-Haun, executive editor of the *Savannah Morning News*; David Hart, vice president and general manager of Nexstar Media Group, the parent company of WSAV; and Tina Tyus-Shaw,

www.theskinnie.com

PAINT THE TOWN PINK PROMOTIONS

Leopold's Ice Cream offers a special dessert called the Telfair, a refreshing sorbet blending crisp cucumber with sweet, juicy watermelon. A portion of the proceeds from every purchase of the Telfair, which is available at all locations, will be donated to the Telfair Mammography Fund.

Livingood's features clearance merchandise throughout the month at all locations. A portion of clearance sales will be donated to the Telfair Mammography Fund. Learn more at www.livingoodson-line.com.

The Olde Pink House donates \$1 for every Pink Lady cocktail sold during the month of October.

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS:
October 17 – Embrace for Good at J.C. Lewis Lincoln - For every guest who participates in a Lincoln Test Drive and Rejuvenate session, J.C. Lewis Lincoln donates \$50 to the Telfair Mammography Fund.

October 20 – Sips at the Station - Join WSAV anchor Tina Tyus-Shaw at Ardsley Station from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. for a social evening to raise money for the Telfair Mammography Fund.

October 21 – Mobile Mammography at WSAV - The St. Joseph's/Candler Mobile Mammography Unit will be in the parking lot at WSAV's office on Victory Drive

from 1 - 6:30 p.m. WSAV on-air talent will be stopping by to visit with patients and broadcast live. For more information or to sign up for a mammogram, call 912.819.PINK.

October 22 – Pinking of City Hall – Come to Johnson Square in downtown Savannah at 7 p.m. for the Pinking of City Hall with Mayor Van Johnson, St. Joseph's/Candler, WSAV, and the *Savannah Morning News*.

October 24 – Pink-in-Bloom Day at Clary's - Clary's Cafe will donate 20 percent of total sales from the breakfast and lunch menu from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. to the Telfair Mammography Fund.

WSAV's longtime news anchor. The St. Vincent's Academy volleyball team, one of Paint the Town Pink's biggest fundraisers over the years, also joined the kickoff.

The St. Vincent's team's annual Pink Night volleyball tournament against the Benedictine Cadets raises thousands of dollars every year. The volleyball team at The Habersham School also donates money from its annual Pink Night to the Telfair Mammography Fund. The two schools are part of a community effort to support Paint the Town Pink, which has grown to include many businesses and organizations

MAMMOGRAPHY DAY

The culmination of the Paint the Town Pink campaign is St. Joseph's/Candler's Mammography Day. Each year, the campaign encourages all eligible women in the Coastal Empire and Lowcountry to have a screening mammogram, with a special day set aside to screen as many women as possible. If you or your loved ones are due for a mammogram in October, take advantage of Mammography Day. Six imaging locations throughout the area will be available on Monday, October 26. Locations include:

- St. Joseph's Hospital
- the Telfair Pavilion at Candler Hospital
- the Telfair Breast Imaging Center, Eisenhower Drive

www.theskinnie.com



- the St. Joseph's/Candler Imaging Center, Bluffton Campus
- the St. Joseph's/Candler Imaging Center, Pooler Campus
- the St. Joseph's/Candler Mobile Mammography Unit at the Chatham County Health Department on Drayton Street.

To schedule a screening, call 912.819.PINK. This is a screening mammogram only. Those who have had a mammogram within the previous year will not qualify. Most insurance plans are accepted, while financial assistance is available to those who qualify for it. If Mammography Day is inconvenient, please call 912.819.6800 to find a date and location that is best for you.

If you can't participate in events or promotions, you can still help Paint the Town Pink from your phone. Donate anytime between now and October 31 by texting the word "mammo" to 50155, and follow the prompts to make your donation.

The need for the Telfair Mammography Fund is as strong as ever. Luckily, the commitment of the Savannah community is just as strong, and the fund remains a powerful force for women in need, breaking barriers and opening doors to lifesaving mammography.

TheSkinnie VOL. 24 ISSUE 19 - 23



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SCAN FOR TICKETS



ABOVE: David Jones, c. 1981

BELOW: USS *Midway* in Yokosuka Port, 1984. The longest serving aircraft carrier in the 20th Century is now moored permanently at Navy Pier in San Diego as the largest museum devoted to carriers and naval aviation.



DAVID JONES

HE SERVED BY RON LAURETTI

In 1977, 17-year-old David Jones continued his family's patriotic tradition of service to country. His father and uncle had both served during World War II – in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the Navy aboard the USS *Hornet*, respectively. David's brothers, Bill and Dan, served in the Navy and Air Force.

Perhaps it was the family legacy that led the then-recent high school graduate to enlist in the Navy, with a promise from the recruiter that Jones could eventually qualify as a Naval aviation trainee. Boot camp at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois included the usual trials and tribulations for the young recruit as he endured intense physical conditioning, simulated hostile attacks and close-order drill; and training in first aid, chemical warfare survival, ship firefighting technique, swimming, and weapons proficiency. Jones scored well on his preliminary aptitude test. Following boot camp, he was assigned the rating of aviation fire

AUTHOR'S NOTE: *The previous installment of this column incorrectly identified its featured subject. Ronald Weller is the protagonist's correct name (which was miswritten as Heller). We apologize for the error.*



control technician (AQ), his first choice.

At Naval Support Activity Naval Air Station in Memphis, Tennessee, Jones learned all aspects of aircraft weaponry and detection systems. After completing his training, the young AQ sailor reported for duty at Naval Air Station Miramar, outside San Diego. "I learned this was the location of the original Top Gun school for air crews and maintenance, and was excited and honored to be there," he says.

Assigned to an F-4J Phantom jet training squadron, Jones learned how F-4s operated and were maintained, working the flightline



David Jones stands next to a VF-151 F-4 Phantom jet with a Sidewinder missile c. 1980.

The heart of the action on an aircraft carrier is the flight deck. It is considered one of the most dangerous places in the world to work. Peril lurks everywhere, especially during flight operations. There's precarious proximity to jet intakes and exhausts.

In both daylight and pitch blackness. He studied radar technology and maintenance for the equipment that provides search-and-tracking data to launch a variety of ordnance. After six months, he received orders to Naval Air Facility Atsugi in Japan. From there, he boarded the nearby USS *Midway*, a forward deployed aircraft carrier that was part of Attack Carrier Air Wing Five based in Yokosuka, Japan. The *Midway* was one of three 45,000-ton CVBs (C=carrier, V=fixed wing, and B=battle) built during World War II and commissioned shortly after the war ended and reclassified for the third time in 1975.

Jones spent the next two and a half years overseas, mostly aboard the *Midway*. He discovered the truth behind the Navy slogan, "It's not just a job, it's an adventure!" During four years of active duty, Jones made three deployments of six to nine months each aboard the *Midway* and many shorter cruises. In 1979, on the way to Perth, Australia, he became a "shellback" – a sailor crossing the equator for the first time, followed by a traditional initiation ceremony known as "crossing the line." Although the initiation ceremony is meant in good fun, Jones was relieved when it was over.

The heart of the action on an aircraft carrier is the flight deck. It is considered one of the most dangerous places in the world to work. Peril lurks everywhere, especially during flight operations. There's precarious proximity to jet intakes and exhausts. Spinning propellers on prop-driven planes can kill in an instant. A broken arresting cable is a vicious and deadly weapon. Collisions between people and objects can range from minor to catastrophic. A Navy flight deck requires the Navy's best sailors. Jones never experienced any misfortune during his service aboard the *Midway*, but he did witness many close calls.

In 1979, the *Midway* was on a port call in Perth. When militant students in Iran stormed the American embassy and took Americans hostages, U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf was required. The *Midway* was ordered to depart immediately, making a long and stressful voyage across the Indian Ocean, up into the Arabian Sea, through the Strait of Hormuz, and into the Persian Gulf. During the long cruise it was essential to maintain the fighter aircraft on board so they would be ready for any potential mission. As a fire control technician, Jones worked hard to keep the jets ready for launch.

He became an expert troubleshooter while working 99 days straight, earning him an early promotion to E-5 second class petty officer. Thanks to personal caution and a dose of good luck, the only harm Jones suffered on the long cruise was an occasional case of exhaustion.

One night Jones will never forget is July 29, 1980. While sailing through the Balabac Strait in the South China Sea, the *Midway* suddenly collided with something very large, resulting in loud screeching of metal against metal. An intense rocking motion threw

Jones from his bunk. Staggering to his feet, he heard the urgent announcement for all hands to report to battle stations, with the dreaded qualifier, "This is not a drill!" As Jones rushed through the clogged passageways to his station, he learned the *Midway* had collided with the *Cactus*, a freighter registered out of Panama. Two *Midway* sailors died in the crash and several others were injured.

The flight deck was a mangled mess of damaged aircraft and scattered debris, with jet fuel and dangerous liquid oxygen spilling everywhere. Aviation ordnance men were ordered to remove the live missiles and bombs on deck, with AQ men expected to assist. Jones was the first AQ to volunteer to join the damage control teams on deck. To make matters more challenging, the salvage work was being done in awful weather – a rough sea, rain and wind, and darkness. The damage was so bad the *Midway* had to be assisted to the U.S. Naval Base Subic Bay in the Philippines for several months of extensive repairs before heading back to the Persian Gulf to fly missions to support the lingering U.S. hostage crisis.

The collision was not the only emergency aboard the *Midway* to demand Jones' intervention. Like all sizeable naval ships at that time,



The *Cactus* struck near the carrier's liquid oxygen plant, killing two sailors working in the plant and injuring three others.

the ship was an oil-fired powered vessel. Carbon and unburnt fuel residue accumulated inside exhaust uptakes, sometimes causing fires inside the smokestack. That happened twice during Jones' time on the *Midway*, and he was grateful the Navy had trained him to extinguish a fire on a moving vessel.

Jones retired from active duty on September 22, 1981, having earned three Navy Expeditionary Medals as well as other commendations and ribbons. After his discharge, he enrolled at Pennsylvania State University

and earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, a master's in business, and a master's certificate in aeronautical systems. He has continued serving his country by working with the defense industry for 40 years. He is a long-time employee of the Lockheed Martin Corporation and serves as a senior staff systems engineer supporting the F-35 Fighter program.

Jones is proud of his service in the U.S. Navy where it all started, and grateful to continue his career while protecting our freedoms and residing on Skidaway Island since July of 2021.



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WILD THINGS

GRAB YOUR CAMERA!

You live in a photographer's paradise. Keep those local nature snapshots coming our way. The bigger the photo, the better, so we can really show you off.

Skidaway resident David Jones – this issue's He Served – shared this photo of a mama racoon teaching her two kits how to climb.

"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.



Daniel
Ravenel

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



4 MOONGLADE LANE | 4 BEDS | 4.5 BATHS



6 SEA EAGLE COURT | 4 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS



32 SEAWATCH DRIVE | 0.5 ACRES



10 HENRY CLAY COURT | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS



1 WATERFORD LANE | 3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS



3 TUPELO LANE | 4 BEDS | 3 BATHS

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island hopping

Please email content to mail@theskinnie.com.

Deadline is the Friday prior to publication.

HEAR GREAT SPEAKERS

WHAT: Kiwanis Club of Skidaway
WHEN: Thursday mornings at 8 a.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: Free to attend, including any refreshments, which includes coffee/tea (compliments of Morgan Stanley) and occasional pastries from Auspicious Bakery.
CONTACT: Michael Klavon, 912.306.0474 for gate pass
WHAT ELSE: Membership is open to Savannah/Chatham area residents. Visit www.kiwanisofskidaway.com for more information.

WHO NEW?

WHAT: New Neighbors
WHEN: Visit www.landingsnewneighbors.com to see our calendar
CONTACT: Visit our website or contact Jody at nnnewmember@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: New Neighbors is one of the best ways to meet your neighbors, make new friends, and become part of our community. From biking, golf, pickleball, walking groups, and fishing to Mahjong, Bridge, needle arts, and Canasta, there's something for everyone. You'll also enjoy exciting tours, special events, and countless opportunities to connect with others on Skidaway Island.

SEA FOR YOURSELF

WHAT: Skidaway Marine Science Day
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
WHERE: UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: gacoast.uga.edu/events/ or Shannon Matzke at shannon.matzke@uga.edu or 912.598.2446
WHAT ELSE: A campus-wide open house with free entry to the UGA Aquarium and special access to areas usually not available with regular admission.

PADDLE BATTLE

WHAT: 5th Annual Paddle Battle, a fundraiser for Fish Gotta Swim©
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 10, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
WHERE: Wilmington Island Marina
CONTACT: Visit www.wilderness-southeast.org/paddle-battle-2026 for more information
WHAT ELSE: Fish Gotta Swim is WiSE's flagship science enrichment program for at-risk youth in Savannah. The event includes 5- and 10-K kayak/SUP races, a 1-mile fun race, live music, a Lowcountry boil, beverages, a raffle, kids' games,

and free family boat rides.

AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER

WHAT: Savannah Council on World Affairs
WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 15, 7 - 9 p.m.
WHERE: Coastal Georgia Center, 305 Fahm St.
HOW MUCH: Free for SCWA members, full-time students, faculty, and active military; \$20 for the public
CONTACT: Please confirm details regarding time and place at savannahcwa.org
WHAT ELSE: Dhruva Jaishankar, executive director of Observer Research Foundation America, will address "India's Role in the World and the U.S. Relationship with India."

DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

WHAT: Skidaway Island Democrats general membership meeting
WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.
WHERE: The Landings Association, 600 Landings Way South
CONTACT: Rosemary Mackey at rwmackey1@gmail.com if you don't live at the Landings and need a gate pass; If you need a ride from the Marshes or Thrive, please contact Mitzi Toth at mlaneto38@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Guest speakers will include Tanya Miller, candidate for GA Attorney General; Sonya L. Jackson, candidate for Chatham County Tax Commissioner; and Corey Foreman, candidate for State Senate District 1.

RAPTORS AND REPTILES

WHAT: Georgia Southern University's Center for Wildlife Education program
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m.
WHERE: The Landings Athletic Field, 600 Landings Way
HOW MUCH: Free, no registration needed
CONTACT: Please visit skidawayaudubon.org for more information on this and other programs
WHAT ELSE: Get up-close looks at live hawks, owls, and fascinating reptiles as Skidaway Audubon presents GSU's Center for Wildlife Education's family-friendly program. Cameras are permitted, but pets and food are prohibited. If the weather is not suitable for the animals, the event will be cancelled.

HELLO, SAILOR

WHAT: Basic Sailing Class, sponsored by the Landings Sailing Club
WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 18, 10- 4 p.m. plus four hours on the water

HOUSE OF SECRETS

WHAT: A Literary Crawl through the Green-Meldrim House
WHEN: Friday and Saturday evenings, Oct. 9, 10, 16, 23, 24, and 30, at 6 and 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: Green-Meldrim House, 327 Bull St.
HOW MUCH: \$18 in advance, \$22 at the door
CONTACT: 912.233.3845; jcredle@green-meldrimhouse.org
WHAT ELSE: Savannah is famous for its ghosts, but the real spirits live within the words left behind. Come to the historic Green-Meldrim House for a one-of-a-kind evening where history, architecture, and literature intertwine during the creepiest month of the year. Reservations are strongly recommended. Spaces are limited for this intimate experience.

BETWEEN THE LINES

WHAT: Author Conversation Series
WHEN: Monday, Oct. 12, 5 - 7 p.m.
WHERE: The Village Library
HOW MUCH: Free to all Skidaway residents
CONTACT: Please contact the library at 912.598.1183
WHAT ELSE: A wine-and-cheese reception hosting Savannah author Barbara Lohr and her wide array of novels. The event includes a presentation by the author, Q&A, and book signing.

WORDS AND PICTURES

WHAT: Fall book and art sale
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
WHERE: The Village Library, 1 Skidaway Square
CONTACT: 912.598.1183
WHAT ELSE: Hundreds of books for readers of all ages and genres - all at bargain prices! The event includes exhibits by members of the Landings Art Association, local authors available to meet and greet, and kids' activities.



WHERE: TLA Meeting Room, 600 Landings Way South

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

CONTACT: Angela Margolit, amargolit@hotmail.com or 973.296.8011

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

BLOOMING BULBS

WHAT: Landings Garden Club annual daffodil bulb sale featuring the Carlton Daffodil

WHEN: Orders accepted Oct. 19–24; Pickup - Sunday, Nov. 15 and Monday, Nov. 16, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Pickup dates are subject to change, purchasers will be notified

WHERE: Pickup on Black Hawk Trail - Exact address provided on the order form

HOW MUCH: Bulbs are \$20 for a bag of 12

CONTACT: landingsgardenclub.com, click “Daffodil Order Form” in the upper right corner of the homepage

WHAT ELSE: Carlton is a Southern garden favorite with large, buttery-yellow blooms. This reliable, easy-to-grow daffodil returns year after year and multiplies readily. It grows 16 to 18 inches tall, blooms in March, and thrives in full sun to partial shade.

HISTORICAL HOMES

WHAT: Architectural tour led by Jonathan Stalcup, SCAD Master of Architecture grad

WHEN: Wednesday, Oct. 21, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Begin at Forsyth Fountain and end at the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist

HOW MUCH: \$30

CONTACT: Kate Kastner, katesastner@icloud.com, 508.558.1077

WHAT ELSE: Rain or shine. Sign up on Landlovers website through your Landlovers membership.

MUSIC MATES

WHAT: Amici Music presents “American Song”

WHEN/WHERE: Thursday, Oct. 22 at 6:30 at the Skidaway Community Church; Monday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Savannah

HOW MUCH: A free will donation will be collected to help fund outreach programs into schools and assisted living homes

CONTACT: For more information, visit www.amicimusic.org and click on the link to Savannah concerts.

WHAT ELSE: Artistic director and pianist Daniel Weiser will be joined by soprano Cass Panuska, a recent arrival to Savannah with a very power-

ful voice. They will highlight some of the great American composers in the worlds of opera and Broadway.

GO NUTS

WHAT: P.E.O Chapter AS Pecan Sale

WHEN: Orders accepted by Oct. 22; Deliveries at your convenience

HOW MUCH: \$15 per bag

CONTACT: Sue Muscarella – 925.948.5202 or Heidi Nelson at jbirdwyo@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Delicious, beautifully packaged dark or milk chocolate, glazed, mammoth halves or pieces, caramel clusters, and cinnamon glazed. Fundraiser for scholarships and loan funds for women seeking degrees at accredited institutions.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

WHAT: Landlovers Garden Tour

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

HOW MUCH: \$40 per person, tickets to be purchased with a credit card on the Landlovers website

WHAT ELSE: This year's Landlovers Garden Tour invites you to discover the personalities of eight gardens at the Landings and gather fresh ideas for your own outdoor oasis. Visitors can also explore Skidaway Farms, including individual raised garden beds and communal herb and flower gardens.

Throughout the day, four speakers will present at the farms on “Being Waterwise,” “Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flooding,” “Native Plant Gardening,” and “Fall Vegetable Gardening.”

SOUNDTRACK FOR P.A.C.K.

WHAT: Rockin’ Scott and the Hot Shots

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 24, at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church, 520 Washington Ave.

HOW MUCH: Free and open to all with free street parking

CONTACT: savannahfpc.org; 912.354.7615

WHAT ELSE: Kick up your heels with a tasty gumbo of New Orleans-inspired R&B and roots rock ‘n roll, delivered by a powerhouse local band. Donations help P.A.C.K. fill backpacks with nutritious meals for hungry Savannah students.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

WHAT: Savannah Children’s Theatre Gala and Auction

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m.

WHERE: Savannah Children’s Theatre, 550 Mall Blvd.

CONTACT: Call 912.238.9015 or visit savannahchildrenstheatre.org

WHAT ELSE: A fundraiser to transform “Once Upon a Time” to “Happily Ever After,” as the

organization continues to seek its “Founding 50” donors and fundraise for the next stage. To contribute to SCT’s Build the Next Stage fundraising campaign, visit www.savannahchildrenstheatre.org/donate-1.

GRAND OLD PARTY

WHAT: Inaugural Liberty Gala

WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 29, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom

HOW MUCH: \$125 per person

CONTACT: LadiesontheRight.org for reservations

WHAT ELSE: Ticket price includes food stations and entertainment by DEAS-GUYZ. Put on your fancy clothes, your dancing shoes, and join us for an amazing night of fun and celebration. Bid on wonderful trips in the live auction.

CAFE CONVERSATIONS

WHAT: EnviroWay Community Café

WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 1, 1 p.m.

WHERE: Landings Harbor Marina

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Kim Slodden, 845.820.3123

WHAT ELSE: Worried about the future? Let’s talk about it. Join us for a guided group conversation. Bring your own water, tea, coffee and dress to be outdoors.

CHILD SUPPORT

WHAT: One Hundred Children Foundation annual grants reception

WHEN: Wednesday, Nov. 4, 5 - 8 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Club Ballroom

HOW MUCH: \$75, including hors d’oeuvres

CONTACT: theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org

WHAT ELSE: Join us for “An Evening of Giving” as we present grants to local organizations who help fulfill our mission of promoting the health, education, and wellbeing of children in the Savannah area. Learn how your volunteer efforts and donations make an impact on the children we serve.

MERCY MEALS

WHAT: Drive-by food collection to benefit All Angels food pantry for food-insecure local families and the homeless

WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 8, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 3 W. Ridge Rd.

CONTACT: Regina Poulos, 305.323.5353

WHAT ELSE: Requested food items include canned chicken, tuna, spam, beef stew, chili, corned beef, canned fruit, individual snacks, granola bars, crackers, canned vegetables, gravy mix, stovetop stuffing, boxed potato and rice options, corn muffin mix, cranberry sauce, mac

and cheese, small bags of nuts or dried fruit, cake, and cookie or brownie mixes.

50th FANFARE

WHAT: Savannah Wind Symphony Sound of Celebration Concert

WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 8, at 3 p.m.

WHERE: GSU Fine Arts Auditorium, Armstrong Campus, 11935 Abercorn St.

HOW MUCH: General admission – \$20; military – \$15; children under 18 – \$10

CONTACT: savannahwindsymphony.com for details and tickets

WHAT ELSE: The Savannah Wind Symphony is a non-profit community wind band serving the region. Over the decades, the community band has grown as large as 100 volunteer musicians by recruiting music teachers, high school band directors, and military musicians. Players have ranged from teens to musicians in their 90s. The SWS mission is to enhance the cultural climate and appreciation of music by performing concerts at a high artistic level, and provide concert experiences that are meaningful, creative, and enjoyable for everyone.

HOLIDAY HAPPENING

WHAT: Landings Art Association Holiday Market

WHEN: Friday, Nov. 20, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom at the Landings

CONTACT: Sandra Hodge, sanhodge50@gmail.com or Martha Hough, mchough1@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Thirty Landings Art Association members will be offering a variety of artful items to inspire your holiday gift-giving. Original art, ceramics, mosaics, woodturnings, paper art, note cards, jewelry, ornaments, lamps, and so much more. Don’t miss this popular annual event. Bring your friends.

SHELL GAMES

WHAT: 10th annual Oyster Roast for a Reason, a premier fundraising event celebrating Georgia aquaculture

WHEN: Saturday, Nov. 21, 1 - 4 p.m.

WHERE: On the bluff next to the UGA Aquarium on Skidaway Island

HOW MUCH: Early Bird tickets are \$150/individual, \$275/couple; Prices increase Nov. 4

CONTACT: gacoast.uga.edu/oysterroast

WHAT ELSE: Guests enjoy a catered buffet, beverages, live music by City Hotel, and the opportunity to eat local oysters, roasted and on the half shell.

POSTAL PEOPLE

WHAT: Landings Stamp Club

WHEN: Friday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m.

WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church conference room

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Carl Luecke, cluecke@comcast.net or 631.766.5002 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.

PICK-UP ARTISTS

WHAT: Landlovers Annual Flea Market advance pick-ups

WHEN: Now

WHERE: Your house

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Email llfleaemarketdonations@gmail.com today to schedule your pick-up

WHAT ELSE: Although the Landlovers Flea Market isn’t until March 13, 2027, you can start decluttering for a cause now by scheduling an advance pickup of your gently used donations.

HABITAT HELPERS

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, 912.224.5869. Please leave a message or text

WHAT ELSE: Prior experience is not necessary. Many volunteers learn on the job and only do whatever they feel comfortable with. Tools are provided.

BRICK BY BRICK

WHAT: Membership Gift Card at The Village Library

WHEN: Available year round

WHERE: The Village Library

CONTACT: 912.598.1183 or come by Tuesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHAT ELSE: The Village Library Legacy Brick Program is designed to recognize donors, commemorate special events, honor friends and family, or memorialize the passing of a loved one. Brick donations are \$250 each.

FINANCIAL AID

WHAT: AARP Tax-Aide Program needs volunteers

WHEN: Training in Dec. and Jan.; Tax preparation starts Feb. 2 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.

SPEAK EASY

WHAT: Savannah Speech and Hearing Center’s “Speak Easy”

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

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

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

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

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

A DAY AT THE MUSEUM

WHAT: Visit Bethesda Museum

WHEN: By appointment

WHERE: Bethesda Burroughs Hall

HOW MUCH: Free, though donations are appreciated

CONTACT: JT, 203.788.5052

WHAT ELSE: To learn more and donate, please visit www.goalscholarship.org/about_goal. To learn more about Bethesda Academy, visit www.bethesdaacademy.org.

HONORABLE MENTION

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.

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

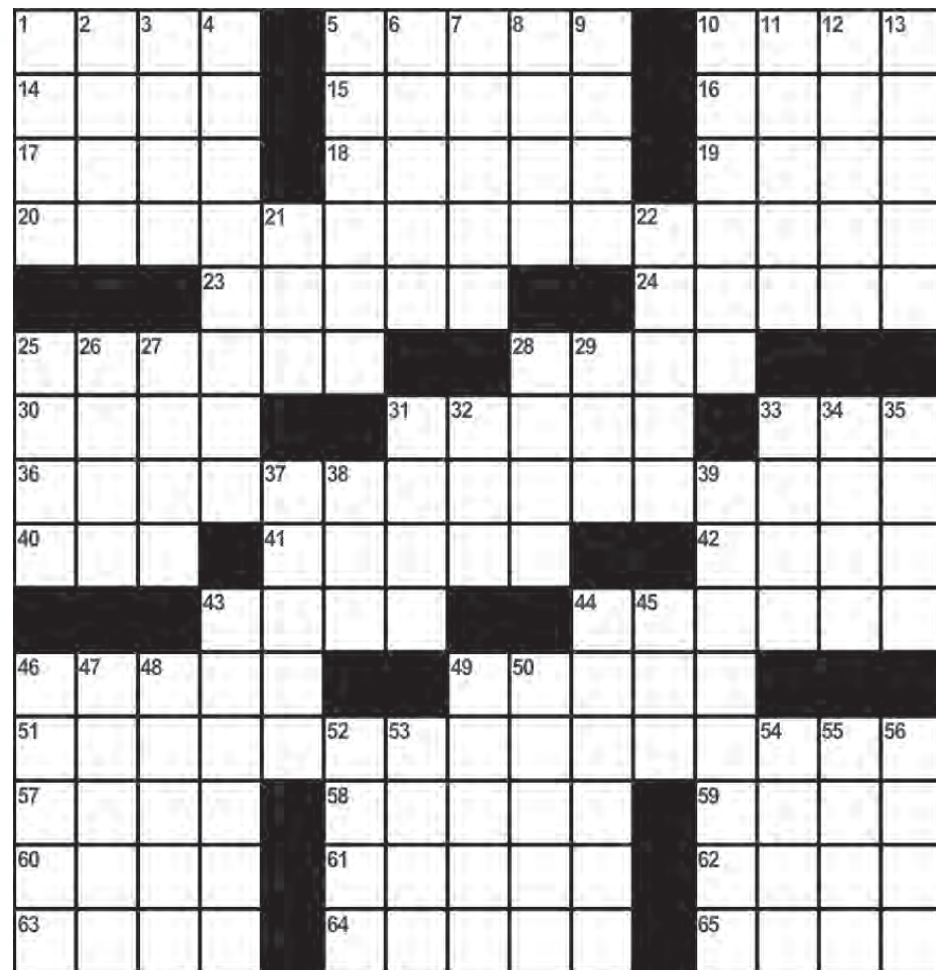
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. A gem of a lady?
5. Wooden footwear
10. Cantina offering
14. Sub_____ (secretly)
15. Tie a quick knot?
16. Islamic prayer leader
17. Be abundant (with)
18. Up and about
19. French door part
20. It may be reached in a hospital
23. Made from flax
24. Volcano shapes
25. Elf or fairy
28. "Kissing" place
30. Stew vegetable
31. Mississippi delta feature
33. Animal doctor
36. Requiring a handyman
40. "Harper Valley _____"
41. "Live Free or Die," for New Hampshire
42. Flat-topped tableland
43. Drug cooked up in labs
44. Anheuser-Busch is one
46. Barbecue chef's wear
49. "There's Something _____ Mary"
51. Revealing, as the key to a mystery
57. Apple remnant
58. Conforming to the rules
59. Bygone days
60. Burden of proof
61. Department and river of France
62. Luxurious retreats
63. Outdoor wedding rental
64. Contemptuous expression
65. Cause of rage against the machine?

DOWN

1. Supper scraps
2. Versifier
3. On a slow boat to
4. Resembling ewe?
5. Calm or tranquil
6. Brady maid
7. Physics particle



8. Subject to further consideration
9. Exhibit an inclination
10. Proceed cautiously
11. At great speed, at sea
12. Pond glider
13. They're meaningful to the superstitious
21. Soused
22. Freeze over
25. "_____ Slidin' Away"
26. Closely confined (with "up")
27. Soap actress Sofer
28. Green party?
29. Fish eggs
31. Either-or alternative
32. 90 degrees from starboard
33. A lake, from a hotel room
34. "Whiskey" source
35. Russia's Nicholas, for one

37. Change one's story?
38. "Com" preceder
39. February's birthstone
43. Demure
44. Basement fixture, for many
45. Fake hair
46. Fancy tie
47. Cell or rotary item
48. "Encore presentation"
49. College Station athlete
50. Alarming sound
52. Afflictions
53. Advertising material?
54. African antelope
55. Like some advanced exams
56. Where worms may be served

Puzzle answers, page 38

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DENNIS BAXTER - BLOOMINGDALE, GA

Having dedicated most of his life to public service, Dennis is also a skilled woodworker and guitar builder. After developing some digestive issues, a colonoscopy performed at St. Joseph's/Candler revealed colorectal cancer.

He quickly began six weeks of chemotherapy at the Nancy N. and J.C. Lewis Cancer & Research Pavilion. Afterward, Dr. Mark Blankenship removed the tumor using the robotic da Vinci Surgical System. The procedure required an ileostomy, which Dennis feared he'd have to permanently live with. Seven months later, Dr. Blankenship successfully reversed the ileostomy. And while the lifesaving technology was a major part of the treatment, Dr. Blankenship feels the entire staff was instrumental in Dennis' successful recovery, which is another reason he chooses to practice at St. Joseph's/Candler.

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