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VOL 24: ISSUE 1 SEPTEMBER 25, 2026



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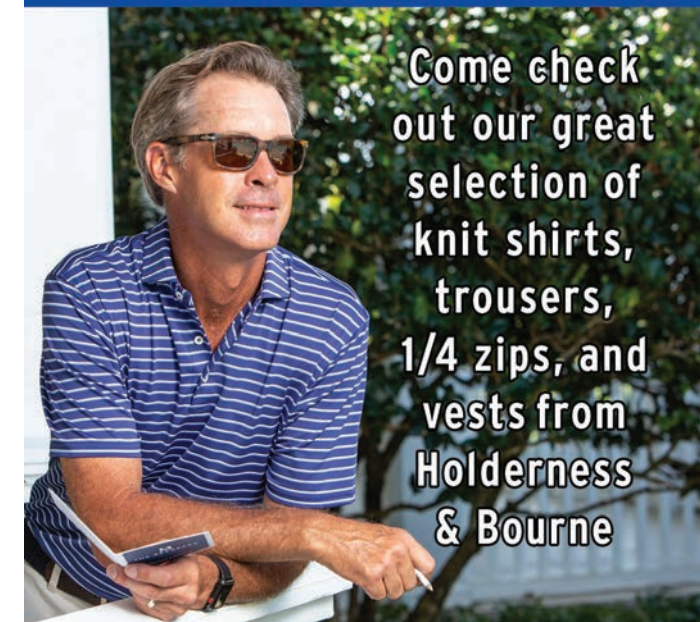
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Last issue, I mentioned my birthday. I'm not interested in belaboring the celebration (although my family made it great), but I can't avoid thoughts of mortality that I didn't entertain as a younger man.

I'm 62. I'm in good shape. The metrics used to measure health and vitality tell an encouraging story in my case. But time is unflinchingly relentless. The universal clock never misses a tick.

My five closest college friends and I maintain an active text thread. It's important and special to me, and I'm sure it is for them, too. These guys have done admirable and impressive things; raised lovely families; and remain active and curious and relatively fit. They/we have access to excellent health care and quality food and attractive recreational facilities. But you can't engineer perfect outcomes where physiology is concerned. So, among the six of us early-60s-aged American men, there have been three cancers and a stroke since our Lehigh years...with each of the four affected doing encouragingly well today.

One of the six, John, lives in Wilmington, North Carolina, recently relocating after spending his career years in Atlanta. John is unceasingly thoughtful and warm. Last weekend, Jenna and I connected with John and his wife, Bowen, on eastern Long Island at a mini-reunion for a group of my graduate school friends. Although John wasn't our classmate, he has grown close to several of my Wharton chums; he's very likeable and open to building relationships and he can carry on a conversation with anyone. I remarked to John that it's nice that he has embraced and been embraced by a friend group that doesn't trace all the way back to our college days. He answered simply, "We're saying yes to everything we can," explaining his and Bowen's approach to this season of life.

John's attitude is the right one. We – my cohort – can travel in relative physical comfort and get around without inducing excessive residual pain. Our schedules are more open than they were a decade ago. Our kids have homes and lives and families of their own. So, in the last few years, various configurations of an assembly of 20, plus or minus a few, have met in Italy and imprinted some of the most precious memories on our mental files, just by being together and sharing time.

I'm a travel addict. I'd take 10 trips a year if left to my own devices and absent the many obligations of my real life. As it is, we typically do three or four annual biggish ones and a bunch of weekends away. Inevitably, the few days just prior to departure fill with stress as we realize the things we "must" but haven't done. Experience has

taught me, though, that the world will be fine without my focus and input for a week or two. Whatever hasn't been completed will be available for revisitation upon our return.

Today is an especially busy day. This magazine requires last-minute attention, October work schedules for the coffee shop are overdue, preparation to teach tomorrow's class is essential, and I can't miss my workout...plus, as with most days, I intend to cook. We're going to Greece Thursday, which has recently become an every-annum thing. This September excursion is the result of a postponement in May. When I'm worried about what I will fail to do in the coming 48 hours, I visualize us side-by-side in a two-seat window-side row on a Delta jet and know exactly how great and peaceful that moment will feel.

The underappreciated bonus of travel: The amazing gratitude that overcomes you when you return to your beloved home. Seeing the world is a wonderful privilege. Reminding yourself of the familiar exceptionalism of your chosen hometown is a gift that is given again and again.

Technology talk dominates a disproportionate amount of public discourse these days. As I tell my students: Relax, this stuff has been around for a long time. I did my collegiate senior project in 1986 on artificial intelligence and – actually – the world hasn't been destroyed in the 40 years hence. There are aspects of technology that are undeniably scary, like many things that are unknown or we don't well understand. But there's the indispensable flip side and convenience that we take for granted that we wouldn't undo: Next week, if anyone needs me, I'll have my laptop and a Greek coffee on a comfy couch overlooking the boats in Hydra's port, and I'll mix a little work in with my play.

* * *

Speaking of play...play along with our football pool. It's free and easy to enter and you'll find it on page 26.

Scott A. Lauretti

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The events of 9/11 must be included in the education of present and future generations.

Months after moving to Georgia after retiring as a professor at a college in The Bronx, New York, I began teaching at a local college in Savannah.

In 2012, on September 11, a group of us were discussing the tragedy and we were overheard by a passing colleague who commented, "In my country, we consider 9/11 to be just a day when two buildings fell down." Later, I learned that the individual and her husband had returned to Canada, their country, to live.

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on the cover:

Are you ready for some football?!

Check out the Skinny Football Pool on [page 26](#).

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We do not print unsigned letters.

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A Hundred Years of Home Runs

By Philip Schweier

Savannah's Stadium Celebrates Centennial

As the World Series approaches, it's worth noting the 2026 baseball season marks the 100th year for Savannah's historic Grayson Stadium. The Hostess City had been home to the Cleveland Indians' AA minor league affiliate from 1906–1912 and in 1926 the city invested \$100,000 to build a new stadium on Victory Drive, luring the team back to Savannah.

In 1927, the stadium sold out as more than 15,000 spectators passed through the gates to witness an exhibition game between the previous year's World Series foes. The St. Louis Cardinals had triumphed over the New York Yankees, four games to three. The rematch in Savannah included future Hall of Famers Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig on the Yankees roster. Despite their legendary status, the Yankees lost, 20-10.

When baseball season ended in the fall, the stadium hosted a Thanksgiving Day Football Classic between Savannah High School and Benedictine Military Academy, an annual tradition that continued for 32 years.

The Great Depression forced the Savannah Indians to shut down; but, in 1932, Major League teams began holding spring training and exhibition games at the local stadium. Babe Ruth returned in April of

1935 as a member of the Boston Braves for an exhibition game against Georgia Teachers College (now Georgia Southern University). The Braves won, 15-1, thanks in part to a home run from The Bambino.

The following year, as Ruth was among the first inductees into the Baseball Hall of Fame, floodlights were installed at Savannah's ballpark, blazing the way for night games and increased attendance. The Savannah Indians returned to the Coastal Empire and in 1937 they won their fourth league championship. Throughout the 1938-1940 seasons they accumulated more than 80 wins.

On August 11, 1940, a hurricane caused more than \$850,000 in damage to the city, including Municipal Stadium (as it was then known). Winds greater than 73 miles per hour destroyed the wooden grandstand. Spanish-American War veteran Gen. William L. Grayson spearheaded the stadium's reconstruction, securing \$150,000 for repairs from the City of Savannah, with additional funds from the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Sadly, Grayson would not live to see the finished ballpark. Following his death on March 31, 1941, the Savannah City Council unanimously voted to name the rebuilt stadium in his honor.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt speaks at Savannah's Municipal Stadium in recognition of Georgia's bicentennial in 1933.

Throughout the 1941 season, the Indians continued playing at Grayson Stadium despite construction work going on around them. However, America's entry into World War II brought the construction to a halt, and in 1943 the South Atlantic League (SAL) suspended operations for the duration of the war.

Grayson Stadium reopened in 1946, welcoming close to 200,000 fans for the 1947 season. Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play in the Major Leagues in the "modern era," made an appearance at Grayson Stadium in an exhibition game with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1951. Two years later, the Indians were the first team in the SAL



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to break the color barrier, when Al “Izzy” Israel and Fleming “Junior” Reedy started on Opening Day, 1953.

Also in 1953, Hank Aaron, a 19-year-old second baseman with the Class A Jacksonville Braves, played at Grayson, his final Minor League season before joining the Milwaukee Braves.

The Savannah Indians era came to an end in 1954. The following spring, the team was renamed the Savannah A’s, reflecting its new Major League parent, the Philadelphia Athletics. However, the association lasted only one season, followed by the Cincinnati Reds (1956-1959). During this time, lucky fans witnessed future Hall of Famer Mickey Mantle hit a home run when the Savannah Redlegs played an exhibition game against the New York Yankees. Savannah’s home team affiliation – and their name – continued changing, as the franchise passed to the Pittsburgh Pirates, then the Chicago White Sox. At the end of the 1962 season, the Savannah White Sox were forced to relocate to Lynchburg, Virginia, due to increasing racial tensions over stadium seating.

Grayson Stadium remained without a baseball team until 1968, when the Washington Senators renewed a minor league presence in Savannah. However, they didn’t stay long. The Atlanta Braves took over two years later. In 1973, the Braves pushed racial boundaries, especially for the South, when they named Tommie Aaron (Hank’s younger brother) the first black manager of a Class AA team. When association with the Braves ended in 1983, the St. Louis Cardinals stepped in the following season. In 1991, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of Grayson Stadium’s reconstruction, Savannah was cho-

sen to host the SAL All-Star Game.

In May of 1993, the team became the subject of nationwide focus when the Department of Labor forced the Cardinals to fire their 14-year-old batboy, Tommy McCoy. Child labor laws prohibited people less than 16 years of age from working past 7 p.m. on school nights, or 9 p.m. on non-school nights. Savannah Cardinals General Manager Ric Sisler argued that hiring young batboys is common in minor league baseball. “I’m sure if you examine other minor league parks around the nation, you’ll find the exact same thing happening,” he told the Associated Press at the time.

Labor Secretary Robert Reich intervened, exempting bat boys from such federal restrictions. “It is not the intent of the law to deny young teenagers employment opportunities, so long as their health and well-being are not impaired,” Reich said.

The Savannah Cardinals won the SAL championship in 1993 and 1994, but in 1996 alliances changed again. As the Los Angeles Dodgers assumed the affiliation, the team was renamed the Sand Gnats and adopted localized branding. Significant upgrades took place at the stadium with an updated press box, computerized sound system, enlarged restrooms, and a stadium club. Whether such sweeping changes reinvigorated Savannah baseball is uncertain, but there’s no arguing the success of the Sand Gnats inaugural season, which ended with another SAL title.

Savannah’s team continued changing affiliations – the Texas Rangers from 1998-2002; the Montreal Expos in 2003 and 2004; and the

Washington Nationals in 2005 and 2006. When the New York Mets took over in 2007, Grayson Stadium was upgraded again, beginning with a new scoreboard featuring a nearly-300-square-foot video screen. This allowed for instant replays and in-game highlights, as well as a speedometer and a temperature gauge. Other improvements included new field lights, a new sound system, and demolition of the left field bleachers, which had deteriorated due to neglect. At the end of the 2007 season, additional improvements were made to the field and the grounds.



Appearances by Major League legends are remembered today with posters in Grayson Stadium’s Walk of Fame.

The Savannah Sand Gnats took home the 2013 SAL championship, defeating the Hagerstown Suns three-games-to-one in the championship series. This was Savannah’s 10th SAL title – more championships than any other member of the league at the time. However, in 2016, the Sand Gnats relocated to Columbia, South Carolina, and were renamed the Columbia Fireflies.

Filling the baseball void in Savannah were the Savannah Bananas, who were originally part of the Coastal Plain League (CPL), a col-

legiate summer league featuring players recruited from throughout the country. The Bananas took the CPL championship their debut season and began building a fan base to rival Major League attendance.

At the end of the 2022 season, the Bananas left the CPL to concentrate on professional exhibition operations. The team has reinvented the game as “Banana Ball,” reinvigorating the city’s baseball culture with slightly different rules and an emphasis on entertainment. The players’ showmanship is akin to that of the Harlem Globetrotters, playing for sell-out crowds who enjoy the humor and fun. The Bananas organization has expanded to operate an entire league, with teams

in various cities in addition to the beloved hometown Bananas. Meanwhile, Grayson has enjoyed necessary improvements, with seating added to the stadium for the first time in its history.

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RONALD P. WELLER

Although it is more than 50 years since the U.S. pulled out of Vietnam, mixed emotions remain with many of the war's veterans. At a cost of more than 58,000 American lives, was it worth it? One local veteran who asks that question is Landings resident Ronald P. Weller, who served as a medical service corps officer during the Vietnam War.

While majoring in biology at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, Weller was a member of the Army R.O.T.C. program and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army upon graduation in 1966.

At the time, the conflict in Vietnam was escalating, U.S. involvement was increasing, and a growing force of combat troops was engaging the Viet Cong (VC). Qualified medical personnel were needed to treat the sick and wounded. Because of Weller's academic focus in college, he was assigned to the Army Medical Service Corps and trained as a medical service administrator at Forts Sam Houston, Texas, and Bragg, North Carolina.

Weller shipped overseas in September of 1967, arriving at Chu Lai, Vietnam, a major U.S. military base 65 miles southeast of Da Nang. Chu Lai had a hospital staffed with military nurses and Heller expected clean and easy duty. He soon learned how wrong he was. The base was often under enemy mortar attack and soldiers frequently ventured beyond the security wire to sweep the surrounding area for enemy troops who were hidden in underground tunnels and caves. Additionally, two friendly battleships were anchored just offshore, and personnel at Chu Lai were subjected to overhead artillery noise when the vessels fired their heavy guns aimed at the nearby jungle.

On January 30, 1968, the VC launched a surprise attack known as the Tet Offensive. It targeted military and civilian command-and-control centers throughout South Vietnam, including Chu Lai. On the morning of January 31, 1968, North Vietnamese forces attacked the base with rockets and mortars, triggering an explosion in the bomb dump. Three aircraft were destroyed and 23 damaged.

Although Weller was an administrator, it was all-hands-on-deck whenever a heavy load of casualties came in. Almost everybody helped with the unpleasant task of triage – evaluating the medical status of casualties and deciding the priority of each case. It was sometimes a life-or-death decision with little or no margin for error. Weller remembers triage as the most stressful part of his job.

Other unpleasant and sometimes dangerous tasks at Chu Lai included "med cap" missions, when some of the base medical personnel accompanied a squad on patrol. The objective was to build friendly





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relations with the local inhabitants. “It was hard to do,” Weller recalls, because the enemy often infiltrated local communities, dressing and acting like locals and making it difficult to tell friend from enemy.

After a year at Chu Lai, with the rank of captain, Weller was assigned to Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah. Serving as adjutant of Tuttle Army Hospital, Weller received positive evaluations from his commanding officers until his honorable discharge on May 31, 1972.

Weller liked the Savannah area, so a few days after his discharge he applied for employment at Great Southern Federal Savings Bank. After a few years, he joined the First Liberty Bank as vice president, working in commercial banking and business development, where he became friends with Norma, a teller. Her husband was a helicopter pilot who had been shot down in Vietnam and was listed as missing in action. She asked Weller to accompany her to Vietnam to help learn what they could about her husband. Their search was to no avail. Eventually, Ron and Norma married and have been together for 47 years.

Following a long, successful banking career, Weller retired in 2014, but continues to serve as a volunteer consultant to small business entrepreneurs. He has been actively involved in the Exchange Club of Savannah and the Rotary Club of Savannah South, and was appointed by the governor to serve for several years as chairman of the Chatham County Department of Family and Children Services.

Weller is proud of his military service, especially his year in Vietnam. To this day, he wonders if the U.S. involvement in Vietnam was worth it, but he knows that he did his part in the effort.



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10 HENRY CLAY COURT

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30 DREAM MAKER CIRCLE

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7 MARSH ELDER LANE

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BETSY KINGSTON MYERS



34 DREAM MAKER CIRCLE

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DREW JOHNSON



262 WILEY BOTTOM ROAD

LISTED AT \$549,000
DREW JOHNSON



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6 TOMOCHICHI LANE
GINNA CARROLL & JILL BROOKS
3 MAD TURKEY CROSSING
GINNA CARROLL & JILL BROOKS
15 PELHAM ROAD
GINNA CARROLL & JILL BROOKS
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
4 FRANKLIN CREEK ROAD N
EMILY SALZER
3 PINESIDE LANE
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Football season has begun, but it will be a while before it feels like fall in the Coastal Empire. If you haven't done a tailgate in a while, you may find that game day lasts a little longer than you remember. Often, you set up around 11 a.m., kickoff is at 3:30 in the afternoon, and you're walking back to your car at 7. Most of what could go wrong during those eight hours is attributed to heat, so keep the following tips in mind.

The two-hour rule becomes a one-hour rule. Generally, perishable food should not sit out longer than two hours. But the window is cut in half once the temperature climbs above 90 degrees. The USDA and the FDA both draw that line at one hour when it is hot outside. Bacteria multiply fastest between 40 and 140 degrees – what food safety officials call the danger zone. Cold food needs to stay at or below 40 and hot food at or above 140. Anything in between is on the clock, and on a hot day that clock runs fast. What was fine at noon can be trouble by 2.

Pack two coolers. The cooler holding your drinks gets opened ev-

ery few minutes, and the temperature inside rises each time. Using a second one for food is a smart idea. Pack it full since a full cooler holds its temperature longer, and keep it closed and in the shade. Always bring lots of ice.

Think about what is on your table. Pimento cheese, deviled eggs, pasta salad, chicken salad, sandwiches made with mayonnaise, pulled pork, fried chicken – all great stuff, and all of it is perishable. Set out small portions and refill items rather than putting everything out at once. Use serving dishes in ice when you can.

Grill with a goal. If you plan to grill, keep raw meat in sealed containers at the bottom of the cooler so nothing drips onto what is ready to eat. Use separate plates and utensils for raw and cooked food, keep a thermometer on hand, and cook to temperature rather than color. Poultry needs 165 degrees, ground meats 160, and steaks and chops 145.

Keep clean. Bring water, soap, and paper towels, or at least hand

Last Chance To Enter the Diamond Dig

The 24th annual SmartWomen Luncheon and Expo sold out, but anyone can still enter this year's Dazzling Diamond Dig. This is a chance to snag two beautiful pieces of jewelry – and you do not need to attend the SmartWomen Luncheon and Expo to win.

For just \$25, you will be entered into a drawing for a beautiful diamond pendant and a matching bracelet courtesy of Harlkeroad Diamonds and Fine Jewelry. The bracelet is made of 18K gold, with a 1-carat total weight of natural diamonds and is valued at \$6,690. The pendant is 18K gold with natural diamonds and is valued at \$5,280. Total prize value is \$11,970. The drawing will take place the day of the luncheon.



Visit www.sjcsmartwomen.org and click on Diamond Dig Raffle to get your tickets.

Remember, money raised from SmartWomen goes to the Telfair Mammography Fund, which helps uninsured and underinsured women get much-needed mammograms.

You don't have to attend the event

or enter the Diamond Dig to become a SmartWomen Champion. Today, and throughout the month of October, you can donate any amount you want to the Fund the Mission initiative, sponsored by Servpro. Learn more about how your donation can help women in our community receive lifesaving screenings and other breast health services at www.sjcsmartwomen.org.

wipes and sanitizer, and use them before you handle food. When in doubt, throw it out. The bacteria that make people sick cannot be seen, smelled, or tasted.

Keep an eye on the vulnerable. Heat illness can make you miserable, and those most at risk are children under 5 and adults over 65, who regulate body temperature less efficiently than the rest of us. Also, pregnant women, and anyone with a weakened immune system are far more likely to be seriously impacted by heat, dehydration, or lack of shade.

Stay cool. Players get shade, fluids, trainers, and a bench. Spectators, on the other hand, often get four hours of direct sun on an aluminum seat and long walks before and after the game. Wear sunscreen, light colors, and a hat. Spend halftime in the shade and find the first aid station before you need it. Drink water before you feel thirsty, since thirst lags your body's needs. Alcohol and caffeine can work against you in the heat.

See the signs. Heat exhaustion looks like heavy sweating, cool and clammy skin, dizziness, headache, nausea, and muscle cramps. Move the person into shade or air conditioning, loosen their clothing, cool them with wet cloths, and give sips of water. Heat stroke is different, and it is a medical emergency. The signs are confusion, slurred speech, a body temperature of 103 degrees or higher, a fast and strong pulse, and skin that is hot and dry because sweating has stopped. Call 911, move the person somewhere cooler, and work on bringing their temperature down while you wait. Do not give them anything to drink. The change from one problem to the other is what to watch for. Confusion is usually the signal. Someone who was uncomfortable a moment ago and is now not making sense needs an ambulance, not a bottle of water.

Mostly, safe tailgating comes down to planning. Bring the second cooler, keep an eye on the clock and each other, and enjoy a great football season!



30 DREAM MAKER CIRCLE | 4 BEDS | 5 BATHS



6 SEA EAGLE COURT | 4 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS



4 MOONGLADE LANE | 4 BEDS | 4.5 BATHS



1 WATERFORD LANE | 3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS



10 HENRY CLAY COURT | 3 BEDS | 2 BATHS



3 TUPELO LANE | 4 BEDS | 3 BATHS

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Smells Like Sunday

Chicken Salad

from the kitchen
of Scott Lawretti

"You've never made chicken salad," Gabby said.

"I thought you were making a salad and putting chicken on top," Jenna said, amplifying Gabby's assertion.

Can't a guy make something simple? Something essentially American. Something satisfying but relatively inexpensive. A basic sandwich.

Sure he can, but he can't help doing it his way.

As to the Americanism claim – I made it without evidence, so I looked it up after typing the sentence. Indeed, chicken salad as we envision it is an American innovation. Granted, ancient Asians shredded poultry and mixed it with stuff 2,000 years ago. And Europeans have long enjoyed chilled chicken with some form of vinaigrette. But the mayo-

mixed version that comes to your mind is attributed to a guy from Rhode Island – Liam Gray, owner of a meat market who wanted to monetize his food waste. In 1863, he mixed leftover chicken with mayonnaise, tarragon, and grapes. The locals liked it so much they demanded more. So much more that Gray converted his meat market to a sandwich shop, which predated iconic establishments that are considered the country's first delis, like Katz's (nee Iceland Brothers) in New York (1888) and Sprague's in St. Louis (1884).

Anyway, I never order chicken salad, but I felt like having some. So I made a batch that both Gabby and Jenna claimed was among the best they ever tasted. This is me trying to remember what I did...

3 to 4 pounds boneless, skinless chicken breasts and thighs (roughly 60/40 white meat to dark)
2 to 3 celery stalks

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1 bunch of green onions
1 bunch fresh dill
2 to 3 tbsp Dijon mustard
Juice of half a lemon
Generous pinch of cayenne pepper
11.25-oz squeeze bottle avocado mayonnaise (you decide how much to use as you go based on your preference, I used half-ish)
Sea salt
Cracked black pepper
Olive oil
A loaf of brioche bread
Sliced heirloom tomatoes and green lettuce (optional)

Preheat oven to 350. Pat chicken dry with paper towels, place on an aluminum foil-lined baking sheet, season with salt and pepper, and drizzle with olive oil. Roast for 25 to 30 minutes, until cooked completely but not browned. Remove from oven and cool to close to room temperature.

Coarsely dice chicken and toss into a large mixing bowl. Coarsely chop celery and green onions and add to the bowl. Chop dill and add to bowl. Season everything again with salt. Add mustard, lemon juice, and cayenne and mix well. Begin to add mayo, a bit at a time, mixing everything, until you achieve your desired consistency (I don't like mine overly wet). Taste and season again with salt, if necessary.

Sandwich a heaping dollop between two pieces of brioche bread and top with lettuce and tomato, if you like. Enjoy. Makes enough for sandwiches for the whole family, plus a little leftover.

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Chicken salad with lettuce and tomato on fresh bread can be refreshing on a weekend afternoon.

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TheSkinnie VOL. 24 ISSUE 18 – 25

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9/28/26 9:52 AM

NCAA

Pittsburgh at Virginia Tech
Penn St. at Northwestern
Miami (FL) at Clemson
Ohio St. at Iowa
Alabama at Mississippi St.
BYU at TCU
Washington at USC
Michigan at Minnesota
Florida at Missouri
Baylor at Arizona St.
West Virginia at Iowa St.
Michigan St. at Wisconsin
Maryland at Nebraska
Wyoming at North Dakota St.
Kentucky at South Carolina
Virginia at Florida St.
Auburn at Tennessee
Georgia Southern at Coastal Carolina
Cincinnati at Arizona
Fresno St. at Washington St.

NFL

New England at Buffalo
Jacksonville at Cincinnati
LA Rams at Philadelphia
Denver at San Francisco
LA Chargers at Seattle

As a tiebreaker this week,
pick the total points in the
Florida at Missouri game.

Email picks to editor@theskinny.com
(please note the new email address). Or
send your entry the old-fashioned way
to: **The Skinny, 15 Lake Street, Suite
280, Savannah, GA 31411.** 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 Skinny Football Pick 'Em Pool

It was a wild week. By Sunday evening it was down to two entries: Pat "Dutch" Holland and Crystal "Ball" Higgins, who each picked 19 of 25 winners. The total points tiebreaker rested on the Ole Mill/LSU game, and the SEC foes tallied 56 between them in the Kiffin Bowl. Which settled nothing, since both Dutch and Ball guessed 59! A dead heat.

Several contestants finished one behind the lead pack. We had more players this week than the previous, but there's no reason we shouldn't receive hundreds of submissions. What are you waiting for?!

Enter this contest and win bragging rights and 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 2, and Sunday, October 4. **Entries are due by 5 p.m., Friday, October 2.**



www.theskinny.com

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It's a place where neighbors become family, memories last a lifetime, and every day feels a little more special.

As a resident of The Landings for the past four years, I've come to truly appreciate the remarkable sense of community that defines this neighborhood. I have spent many days enjoying all that The Landings has to offer, from golf to bocce, or long walks along the marsh. I'm excited to share The Landings - and everything that makes it special - with all my real estate clients.

If you're thinking about buying or selling, I'd love to give you a personal tour of the island and share what makes The Landings such an amazing place to call home.

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MUSICAL MARRIAGE

WHAT: Dr. Jeremy Samolesky, piano, and Dr. Alina Windell, flute, in concert

WHEN: Friday, Sep. 25, at 7 p.m.

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

HOW MUCH: Free; Donations appreciated

CONTACT: Visit STPSAV.org/music or call Lyndall Stanley, 912.596.3480

WHAT ELSE: This husband-and-wife duo has performed across the U.S. and festival stages in Italy. Dr. Samolesky is a Steinway Artist and head of keyboard studies at Auburn University. Dr. Windell holds degrees from Indiana University, Stony Brook University, and the University of Colorado.



MUSIC MATES

WHAT: AmiciMusic presents "Italian Inspirations"

WHEN/WHERE: Thursday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Skidaway Community Church; Sunday, Oct. 4 at 5 p.m. at the home of Sheryl Acheson, 11 Seawatch Dr.

HOW MUCH: A free will donation will be collected at SCC. \$40/person for the house concert, which includes light food and drinks; seating is limited and reservations are required.

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 South African cellist Jacques-Pierre Malan in a program highlighting music inspired by Italy (Stravinsky's "Italian Concerto"), as well as works by Italian composers Rossini, Puccini, Morricone, Piatti, and more.

NOURISHING NOTES

WHAT: Free concert with Savannah-based band The Bourbon Boys

WHEN: Friday, Oct. 9, 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Landings Marina picnic grounds

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Mimi Krupp, mimikrupp7@gmail.com or 912.401.7775

WHAT ELSE: A benefit for Second Harvest (Feeding America), Kids Café. Donations will be gratefully accepted to help alleviate hunger for the children of Georgia.

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.

GOOD GRIEF

WHAT: Understanding Your Grief support group

WHEN: Fridays, Sep. 25 - Dec. 4, 3:30-5 p.m.

WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 W. Ridge Rd.

CONTACT: For more information and registration, please contact MessiahSK@gmail.com or 912.598.1188, or Dr. Karen Scheib, kscheib@emory.edu or 404.401.0219

WHAT ELSE: Please register by Sep. 18. This 10-week support group will keep the same members throughout. Registration closes after the first session, and additional members will not join along the way.

POWER PLANTS

WHAT: P.E.O. Chapter BB Plant Sale

WHEN: Accepting orders now through Oct. 1. Pick-up - Monday, Oct. 19 by last name: A-L - 11-11:45 a.m.; M-Z - 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

HOW MUCH: Pricing varies on order form

CONTACT: Jane Holst at janeholst1399@comcast.net, 404.775.1442 or Jacqy Soderberg at jacqys@aol.com, 912.598.0342

WHAT ELSE: P.E.O. Is a philanthropic educa-

tion organization that raises funds for scholarships and loans for women in higher education.

MAKE A BED

WHAT: Building Beds for Kids to benefit Sleep in Heavenly Peace

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 3, 8 a.m. to 12 noon

WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 W. Ridge Rd.

CONTACT: Lisa Oswald, laoswald@icloud.com

WHAT ELSE: Help us end child bedlessness in Savannah. No special experience required, just a willing hand to help provide a child with a safe, comfortable place to sleep. Breakfast, snacks, and water included.

SETTING COURSE

WHAT: Introductory boating safety and education course, sponsored by the Savannah Sail and Power Squadron

WHEN: Oct. 3 and 10, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

WHERE: White Bluff Presbyterian Church, Education Building, 10710 White Bluff Rd.

HOW MUCH: \$75, \$35 for additional family members

CONTACT: Register at www.abclubsavannah.org or contact Ken Hylander at education@abclubsavannah.org, 952.232.7304

WHAT ELSE: This in-person boating class covers topics to provide safe and enjoyable experiences on the water. It is approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). Attendance both days required to earn the NASBLA certificate.

STEPPING OUT

WHAT: Walk to End Alzheimer's - Coastal Georgia

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 3, at 9 a.m. - registration; Walk at 10:30

WHERE: Forsyth Park, downtown Savannah

CONTACT: Kate Ash, 912.920.3018 orkmash@alz.org

WHAT ELSE: All funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's further the care, support, and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. All donations are tax-deductible. Walk either 1 or 3 miles.

TERRAPIN TIME

WHAT: Release of terrapin hatchlings

WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 4 at 3 p.m.

WHERE: Sunset Park, Landings Way South

HOW MUCH: Free, donations appreciated

CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Learn how Diamondback terrapin eggs are rescued and incubated, then help release the adorable hatchlings into the marsh. Online registration is required and opens July 19 at SkidawayAudubon.org. The events are open to all Landings residents; however, children must be age 6 or older to participate. Due to the event's popularity, please limit registrations to one release date per family. Parking is limited; golf carts are recommended. Dogs prohibited.

HOUSE OF SECRETS

WHAT: A Literary Crawl through the Green-Meldrim House

WHEN: Friday and Saturday evenings, Oct. 3, 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.

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 flag-ship 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.

BETWEEN THE LINES

WHAT: Author Conversation Series

www.theskinnie.com

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.

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

WHERE: TLA Meeting Room, 600 Landings Way South

HOW MUCH: \$100, of which \$25 will be refunded if you join TLSCH 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.

HISTORICAL HOMES

WHAT: Architectural tour led by Jonathan Stal-

cup, 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 Land-lovers website through your Landlovers membership.

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

ISLAND HOPPING

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."

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 fundraiser 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: First Annual Liberty Gala

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

WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom

HOW MUCH: \$125 per person

CONTACT: Visit 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 on the live auction.

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: The library at 912.598.1183

WHAT ELSE: Discover 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.

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.

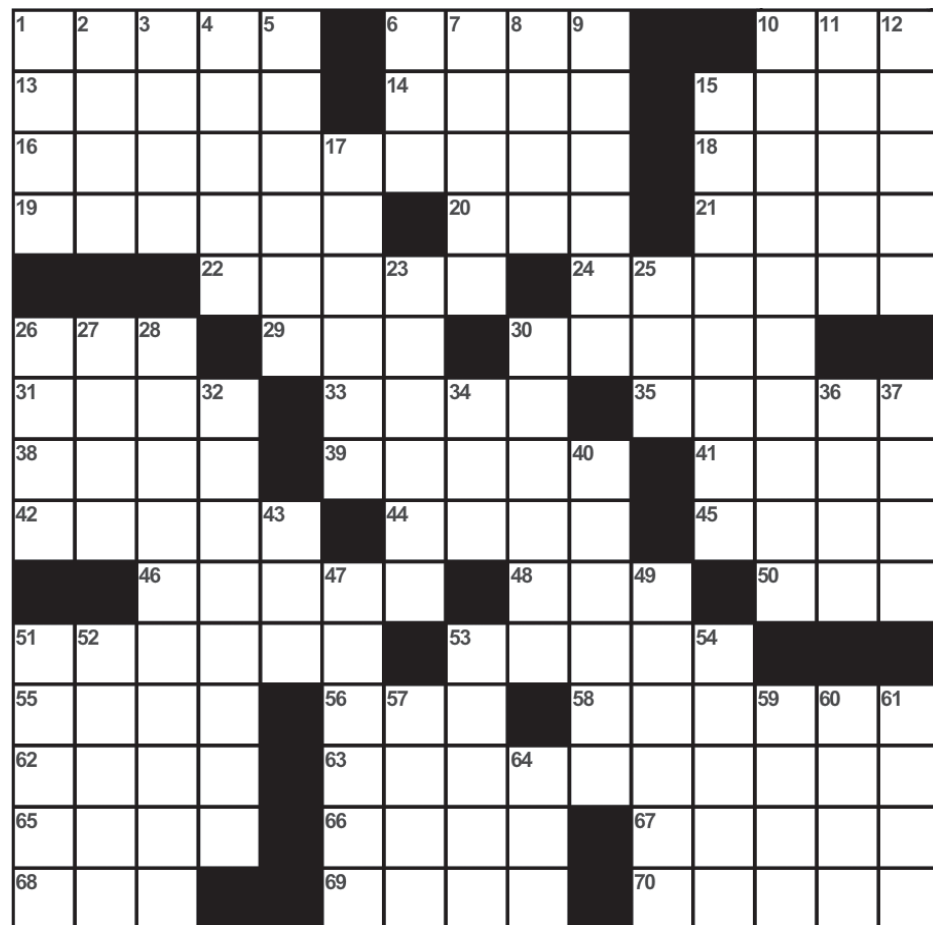
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Resell tickets at jacked-up prices
6. X-ray measurements
10. A bridge may span it
13. Pertaining to hearing
14. Sainted Norwegian king
15. Magistrate of old Venice
16. Sam Spade was one
18. "____ be a while"
19. Jennifer Lopez bio-pic
20. Baseball great Ripken Jr.
21. How-to part
22. Counter, as an argument
24. Best-seller list makeup
26. Blazed the trail
29. Clothe
30. Writing class?
31. It might come out of nowhere
33. Rough breathing sound
35. Two innings past the stretch
38. Left childhood
39. Slower kind of mail
41. Baldwin's center
42. Camera-ready page
44. Give medicine to
45. Deposed Russian ruler
46. Polynesian archipelago
48. Witch
50. View finder?
51. Not so red-cheeked
53. High-born Brits
55. Do a laundry chore
56. Charged particle
58. Make marginalia
62. Tart plumlike fruit
63. Doesn't read music
65. Long way away
66. Treasure map measurement
67. By the side of
68. Shower safety item
69. Juvenile salamanders
70. Sausage servings

DOWN

1. Fall guys



2. Work in a smokehouse
3. Seed enclosure
4. Four-time Wimbledon champ Rod
5. Celestial body
6. Surgeon's eggs
7. Supporter's political sign word
8. Angelou or Rudolph
9. Graceful and slender
10. Dolphin with a distinctive honker
11. Joyous, to Burns
12. High-pitched barks
15. Congressman's place
17. Fifer's drums
23. Neighbor of Sudan
25. Place to sojourn
26. One to distrust
27. Greater likeliness to win
28. Source for Woodward
30. Professional obi wearer
32. More skillful
34. Vientiane resident, maybe
36. Built-in airplane server
37. Not there
40. Commits to memory
43. "OK, first of all"
47. Old name for the flu
49. Worldwide
51. Indian state of silkworm fame
52. Musical syllable singing system
53. Put into the law books
54. Groove-making needles
57. "Lemony Snicket" baddie Count ____
59. ____ *Flux* (Charlize Theron film)
60. Army vehicle
61. Units of work
64. They sang "Roundabout"

Puzzle answers, page 34

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