



# The Skinnie

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# Upfront

A Roman reset. We returned to the Hostess City from the Eternal City last night, and we are energized. A five-day trip in the second week of the New Year has sharpened the image of what 2026 can be.

Traveling soon after the flurry of winter holidays is not for everybody. The numbers confirm it. Airlines report January through early February to be the lowest-volume period of the year. Airfares are commensurately relatively low, as are hotel room rates. You feel like a local as you explore an uncrowded, quiet European capital. You get a reservation – or walk in on a whim – at restaurants that turn you away with a dismissive shrug in peak season. The native language gently caroms through timeless piazzas in a soothing hum.

Winter days are short and chilly in central Italy, just like they are here. Clear, crisp seasonal conditions make for stunning azure skies. Perfect light reveals the genius in the wall colors that artisans developed during the Renaissance. Some things are hard to improve upon, even if you have half a millennium to try. Warm earthy tones like burnt Siena and ochre and umber are honored and celebrated by afternoon midwinter sun.

Many New Year's resolutions focus on self-denial. The elimination of things that have taken you past a comfortable point. But travel is about opening yourself to possibilities. It synthesizes aspirations. It encourages growth through addition rather than subtraction. It tends to reinforce your appreciation for what you already have, while hinting at what your future could be.

Imagine crossing the threshold into one of the grandest, most spiritually uplifting buildings on earth. Say...one of the four of the world's major Papal Basilicas, which are all in Rome. You needn't be Catholic to be blown away. But think of how cool it would be to find yourself completely alone inside one of these staggeringly magnificent engineering miracles in the middle of the day. That was us last week. The scale is humbling. The silence is transcendental. The beauty breaks and repairs your heart.

Speaking of beauty: "Age before beauty," they say. But I have come to understand that my primal affection for the places I love most...the places that feel like home to me...don't follow this commandment. In Savannah, as in Rome, age is beauty. As I am no longer young, I greatly appreciate the metaphor.

Walking through the ancient epicenter of a fantastical empire makes tangible the claim, "They don't make 'em like that anymore." So does an afternoon amble up (which is actually down) Bull Street to Forsyth Park. A combination of developed efficiencies and shifting economics dictate this inevitable truth. Time is irreversible. Tastes evolve. Circumstances reframe the limits of the possible, not always for good.

The façade of an irreplicable building, whether antebellum Southern vintage or Imperial Rome, is arresting. It amazes you. It makes you consider your own legacy. Your legacy doesn't require a massive structural monument; it can be much more subtle than that. But your tenure on earth is finite: Use it well.

These are the thoughts that bubble below your consciousness as you walk among the landmarks of history. You are in-the-moment fully satisfied and prospectively inspired. Each narrow cobblestone street willingly surrenders its enduring mystery to you. You press on, confident that there is always another incredible unknown thing just ahead.

And there's the food. Your eyes and ears have already been seduced; your senses of taste and smell deserve the same.

We're home again, in time to write this for you. We gratefully appreciate what has been, and imagine what is yet to be. Have an epic 2026.

*Scott A. LaFerriere*

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*Altar of the Annunciation*, at the  
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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Scott Lauretti  
slauretti@theskinnie.com

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Philip Schweier  
pschweier@theskinnie.com

ADVERTISING | CONTENT

Jenna Treat Lauretti  
jtreat@theskinnie.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Ron Lauretti  
Philip Schweier  
Ron Taylor

STAY IN TOUCH

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@theskinnie.com

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responses, letters and more, email  
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ADVERTISING

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ART AND STORY SUBMISSIONS  
[production@theskinnie.com](mailto:production@theskinnie.com)

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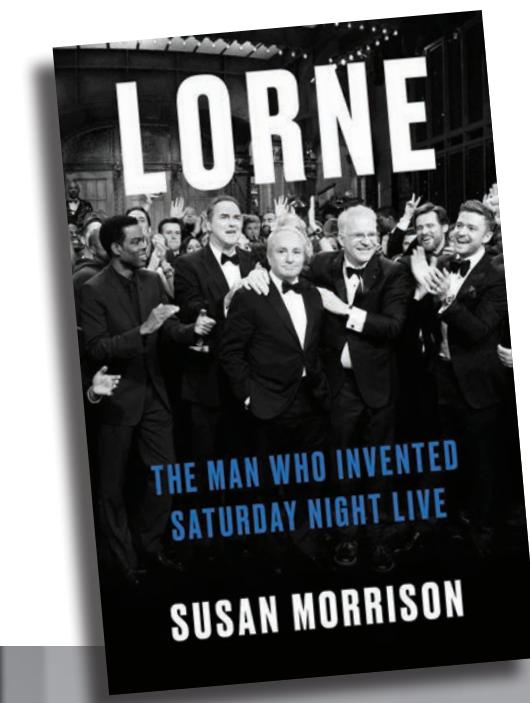
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Susan Morrison is the articles editor of *The New Yorker*. Formerly, she was the editor-in-chief of *The New York Observer* and an original editor of *SPY* magazine. (photo by Taylor Jewell)

# SAVANNAH NIGHT LIVE

## Annual Book Festival Welcomes Author Susan Morrison

In February, the Savannah Book Festival will host Susan Morrison, author of *Lorne: The Man Who Invented Saturday Night Live*. The book lifts the curtain of the great and powerful Lorne Michaels to reveal the creator and producer of the show that has been a comedic mirror of American culture for half a century. While there have been many books chronicling the ups and downs of *Saturday Night Live* over the decades, Michaels has intentionally cultivated a reputation for avoiding self-serving press.

Morrison, currently the articles editor of *The New Yorker*, had worked as an assistant on *The New Show*, a short-lived comedy hour Michaels produced in 1984. "I befriended a lot of the show's writers, many of whom continued to work at *SNL*," Morrison says. "For decades I'd heard them talk about Lorne in an obsessive way, alternately demonizing and lionizing him. They compared him to the Wizard of Oz, the Godfather, Gatsby, and Obi Wan Kenobi. He was a potent, mysterious figure, hiding in plain sight, and I decided that I should write a book about him."

After selling a proposal to Random House, Morrison visited Michaels at his office to tell him of her plans to write a biography. "I

By PHILIP SCHWEIER



Lorne Michaels in  
2021

told him that I didn't need anything from him, but that the book would be richer and better if he agreed to talk," the author recalls.

She says Michaels was very hesitant, but they agreed to meet a few days later to discuss the idea further. "To my surprise, he just started right in telling stories about the old days," Morrison says. "He wanted nothing from me in return – no control or approval. He was all-in."

Morrison suspects one reason Michaels chose to embrace the project was because of a shared connection to Lillian Ross, a noted *New Yorker* writer who had profiled Ernest Hemingway and Charlie Chaplin, among others. When *SNL* launched in 1975, Michaels was a recent transplant from Toronto. Ross took him under her wing, showing him the ropes in New York. As their friendship developed, she began a decades-long project of profiling Michaels for *the New Yorker*. How-

ever, the project remained unfinished when Ross died in 2017.

"Lorne knew that I was Lillian's editor and close friend," explains Morrison. "When I went to see him in his office that day, I think my book had a feeling of kismet for him – me picking up a thread that she had left dangling."

Morrison was granted unprecedented access. "I was allowed to look at his archives, sit in heretofore confidential meetings, and speak to anyone I wanted to," the author says. "Once people knew that Lorne was on board, they were on board, too."

For cast members, writers, and others in Michaels' orbit, recalling specific events from 50 years ago proved a challenge, especially in light of the drug use common in the 1970s. "Whenever I had stories that directly contradicted each other, I tried to find as many people as possible to clarify, and I tended to go with the version of the person who had proven him or herself more reliable," Morrison explains.

For almost a decade, Morrison worked on



Lorne Michaels (second from left) shares a laugh with then-President Gerald Ford (right) and cast members of Saturday Night Live, c. 1975.

the book while fulfilling her full-time job. "I took hardly any time off, so I mainly researched and wrote on weekends and in the evenings," she says. "But I think it took that long because it took that much time for it all

to get 'fully cooked.' As I marinated in the material, my understanding of Lorne and how he does what he does shifted and deepened."



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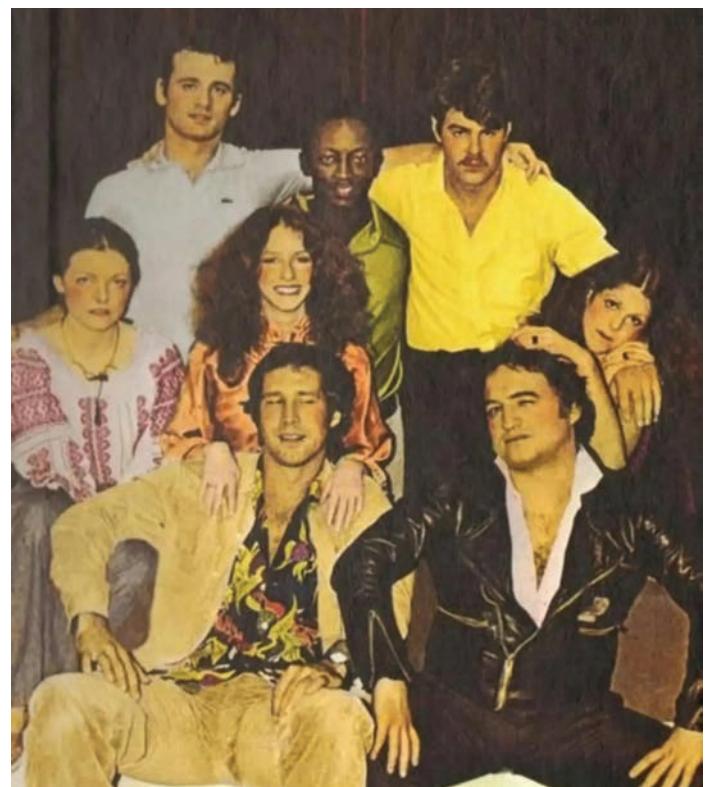
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The original cast of *Saturday Night Live* – known as the Not Ready for Prime Time Players – included future comedy legends Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Gilda Radner, and John Goodman.

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**WHAT:** Author Susan Morrison Speaks  
**WHEN:** Saturday, Feb. 7, 11:40 a.m.  
**WHERE:** Cultural Arts Center, 201 Montgomery St.  
**HOW MUCH:** Free and open to the public  
**CONTACT:** For a complete schedule, visit [SavannahBookFestival.org](http://SavannahBookFestival.org)

**WHAT ELSE:** Saturday presentations take place in museums, churches, and theaters in and around the historic Telfair, Wright, and Chippewa Squares in downtown Savannah. Nationally-recognized authors from multiple genres give 30-minute solo presentations on their creative process, followed by Q&A and book-signing.

Morrison credits Michaels' success to his taste, describing it as "hard won and extremely evolved." She applies a favorite phrase of his, that he is attuned to "when the music changes," explaining that he pays attention to the hinges between eras. "He has an uncanny ability to see around corners and have a sense of what the next big thing is," Morrison explains. She credits him for his ability to delegate. "He hires smart young people and then listens to what they have to say."

Since the earliest days, Michael's formula for *Saturday Night Live* has remained the same – host, sketches, music. Every sketch is tightly scripted without improvisation allowed. "Lorne compares it to a Snickers bar," explains Morrison. "Viewers know what to expect – a certain amount of chocolate, a certain amount of peanuts, a certain amount of caramel. What changes is the talent."

Morrison's initial draft was significantly longer than the final manuscript. Much of the final year was spent editing and polishing what became a 656-page bestseller. According to *Variety*, "Readers are treated to the Holy Grail for any journalist hoping to crack the show: a warts-and-all week in the life of *SNL*, where Morrison gets to see the real process of putting the thing together."

Morrison applied this process to the book's structure, alternating chapters of Michaels' life with close-ups describing each day of the week in the show's production. "I know it's dense with information, but much of that is amusing anecdotes," Morrison says. She recognizes that comedians often exaggerate to make a story funnier.

Nine years of hard, exhausting work paid off. The book was released February 18, 2025 – two days after *Saturday Night Live*'s 50th anniversary special. Within a week, it reached #4 on the *New York Times* bestseller list, where it was described as, "the kind of biographical monument usually consecrated to founding fathers, canonical authors, and world-historical scientific geniuses."

Despite her first published book earning such praise, Morrison is in no hurry to release another too quickly. "I have a few other book ideas knocking around in my head," she admits, "but for now I am enjoying doing my absorbing day job without the pressure of an additional crushing deadline."

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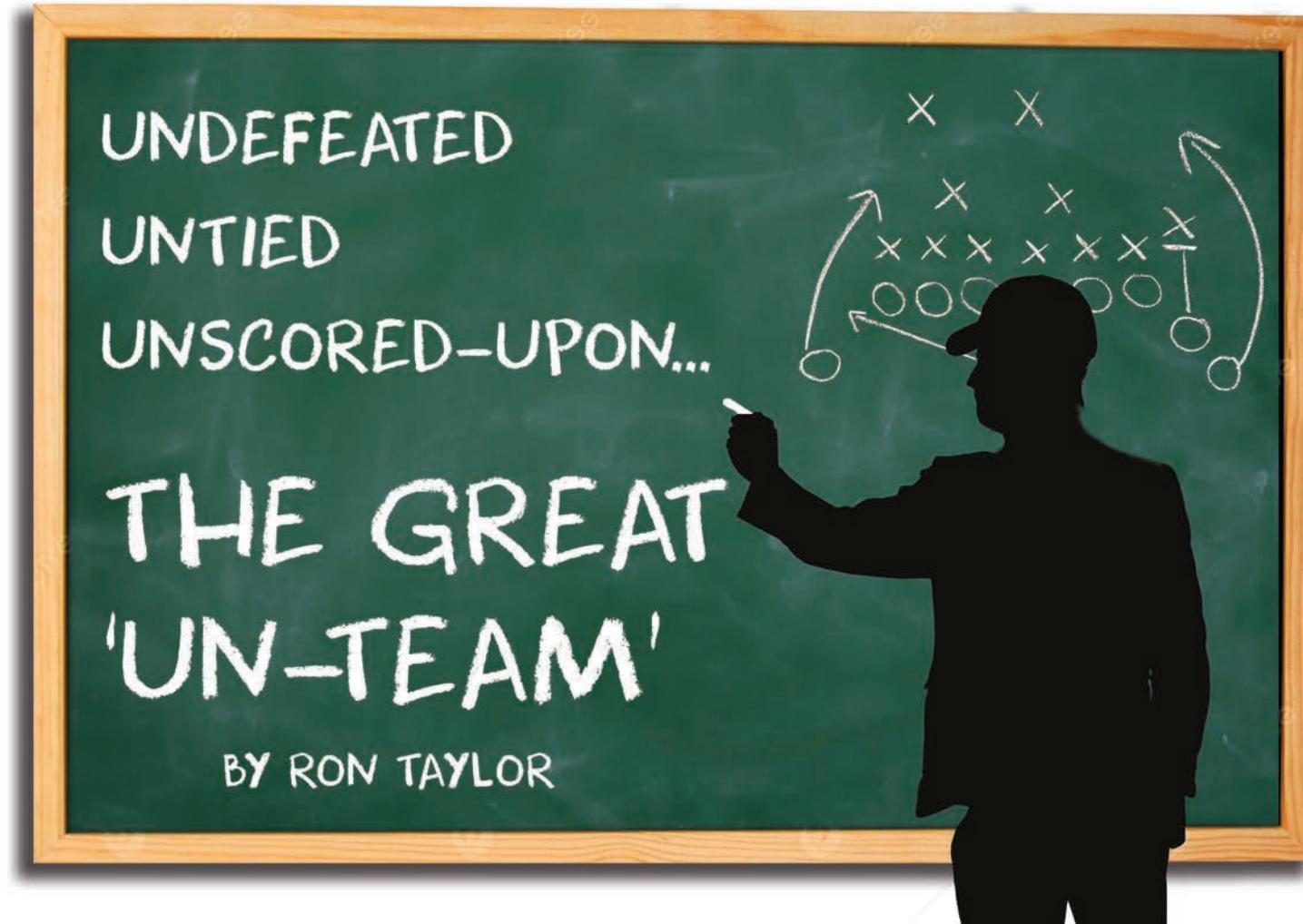
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## Despite a historic season in 1932, Colgate's bowl dreams were denied.

Now that the college bowl season is almost over, here's a little story that I thought you might enjoy. But first, some background.

Several of us at the Landings are – or were, before they passed away in the last few years – graduates of Colgate University. For those unfamiliar with the school, Colgate is a small liberal arts college in Hamilton, New York, about 50 miles southeast of Syracuse. From its founding in 1819 until 1970 when it first admitted women, its student body consisted of 1,300 men. Currently, its enrollment is slightly more than 3,000, and the last numbers I'm aware of showed roughly 52 percent women among the student body. Colgate currently fields 25 NCAA Division 1 teams.

The long-time 1,300-student population reflects the importance of the number 13 in Colgate lore. One of the Colgate songs we all learned during freshman orientation contained the following first verse:

*"Long ago, in the valley of Chenango, gathered 13. Funds were low, but abundant was their pluck in 1819. Thirteen prayers were said with rapt devotion; 13 dollars set the thing in motion. Thus, began old Colgate University in 1819."*

So, whenever a Friday the 13th comes around, rather than fear it, we consider it "Colgate Day." Alumni around the country use it as a

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wonderful excuse together and raise a glass to our alma mater.

Athletically, the school has been akin to "the little engine that could." Throughout its history, schools like Syracuse, Penn State, Illinois, Army, Navy, and many others with enrollments many times that of Colgate have appeared on its football schedule. However, since the NCAA separated football programs into the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) and the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), the current schedule is mostly confined to other FCS schools. In other sports, the Raiders take on the big and small and in-between.

FCS was once known at Division 1-AA, a distinction created in 1978 to separate its members from larger, bigger budget programs. In 1986, a group of similarly academically inclined schools – Bucknell, Colgate, Davidson, Holy Cross, Lafayette, and Lehigh – formed the then-Colonial League, inspired by the Ivy League's student-athlete model. In 1990, the league expanded and rebranded as the Patriot League. Today, its football members include the original six, less Davidson, plus Fordham, Georgetown, Richmond, Villanova, and William and Mary. This year, Lehigh completed an undefeated regular season and earned the Patriot League championship.

Colgate has never won a national championship in football. No Patriot League team has, although Lehigh was the 1977 NCAA Division





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II national champion. The closest Colgate has come was runner-up in 2003, losing to Delaware in the FCS national championship game. The Delaware quarterback at the time? Future Super Bowl MVP Joe Flacco.

That's the background. Here's the story:

On New Year's Day of 1983, UCLA defeated Michigan 24-14, the latest in a string of lackluster Rose Bowl games. A couple of days later, there appeared on the front page of the Los Angeles Times sports section an article by Jim Murray entitled "Next Time Give the Bid to Colgate."

The article opened with, *"A letter from a reader reminds us that this would have been the 50th anniversary of the great Colgate-USC Rose Bowl of 1933... What's that, you say? Colgate and USC never met in the Rose Bowl? Colgate never played in it? Exactly. That's just the trouble."*

Murray takes the reader back to 1932, when college football, while not in its infancy, had not yet reached full flower. He cites the nicknames of popular teams from the era, like Stanford's "Wow Boys." Colgate's 1932 squad was known as the "Un-Team," and they were a sight to behold.

Murray wrote, *"You remember the Cal-Stanford play in which the Cal Bears lateralized the ball clear through walls of people, including the Stanford band and halfway across the field, for a winning touchdown? Well, every play was like that for Colgate."*

The writer compared Colgate's offense to a carnival shell game, as opposing teams became increasingly baffled as to which Colgate player had the ball. *"On every snap the ball went through more hands than a plate of boarding house hash. The attack was so bewildering that opposing players would end up tackling the band."*

Murray credits coach Andy Kerr, a canny little Scotch-Irishman for whom the school's stadium is named. Kerr refined the idea of scouting reports in that pre-computer era. His team was swift, hard-hitting, cerebral, and well prepared. In nine games during the 1932 season, Colgate scored a total of 234 points, while not allowing a single point from its opponents.

Colgate played its final game of the season against Brown University (also undefeated), drawing the attention of nationally known sports journalists. When Colgate won, 21-0, the team was convinced it was going to the Rose Bowl. Only one other team in history as of that time – the 1902 Nebraska Cornhuskers – had gone undefeated, untied, and unscored upon. Few have done it since.

Immediately following the Brown game, a rueful Andy Kerr gathered his team in front of a blackboard in the visitor's locker room. The players were certain he was about to announce that a bid to the Rose Bowl was on its way. Instead, without speaking a word, Kerr wrote the immortal tagline that would follow his team throughout history:



Andy Kerr

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In 1932 Colgate football team wins the national championship, the program's first and only title to date.

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Instead, the Tournament of Roses chose twice-beaten University of Pittsburgh, a mediocre team which had lost to USC three years earlier, 47-14. In their 1933 rematch, USC won again, 35-0.

In today's world, any team playing a meaningful schedule that was undefeated, untied, and unscored-upon would be a shoo-in for a major bowl, or, in current terms, a very high rank in the playoffs. However, it just wasn't meant to be for the great Colgate Un-Team of 1932.

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**Think S.M.A.R.T. for 2026**

*Breaking down big goals can help make them more achievable*

We're halfway through January. Have you given up on your New Year's resolutions yet? If so, don't beat yourself up. Doing so is very common. But don't give up just yet. You might just need to change your approach. Instead of relying on sheer willpower to "eat healthy and exercise," try breaking down your goals into manageable bits.

The wellness experts at St. Joseph's/Candler advise people to use SMART guidelines to set goals. SMART stands for:

**S** – Specific  
**M** – Measurable  
**A** – Attainable  
**R** – Realistic  
**T** – Time

"The key to setting a good SMART goal is identifying what your challenge is," says Kathy Carlson, MA, ACSMEP-C, of St. Joseph's/Candler Wellness Center and Health

Promotion. "Some people say, 'I want to lose weight,' but they are not really identifying the specific challenge. When you are setting your SMART goal, keep it simple and use the acronym."

So how does it work? Let's say you want to exercise more, so that you have more endurance and shed a few pounds. How do you apply the SMART technique?

• **Specific:** Pick an exercise, such as walking each day or using the treadmill.

• **Measurable:** Measure your progress by setting days of the week and times that you are going to walk, such as Mondays, Wednes-



Kathy Carlson

days and Fridays at 5 p.m. for 30 minutes.

• **Attainable:** If you are not a morning person, don't plan on going to the gym in the morning.

• **Realistic:** Think realistically about how far you can walk each day, or how much you can do once you are on the treadmill – do you want to do 30 minutes at 3.0 speed and 3.0 incline? Be sure to set your SMART goal within your personal limits.

• **Time:** Think about the time in which you want to achieve your goal. Perhaps you want to be able to do your routine without feeling winded within a month or six weeks of starting. This provides a target to aim toward.

So now you don't just have a goal, you have a SMART goal. It's important to complete this goal before moving on to another one. According to Carlson, you should be between 80 to 100 percent successful before moving on. This will help prevent frustration, the feeling of being overwhelmed, and ultimately

## Resolve to DE-STRESS

*Stress relief can have both short- and long-term benefits.*

If you eat a balanced diet and have a regular exercise routine, congratulations! You are doing things that can be difficult for many people. But when it comes to overall wellness, there's another question you might ask: How am I managing stress?

Everyone experiences stress. If it's not chronic, stress is not something to feel bad about or a sign that there's a major problem. But healthy stress management is more important than many people realize. By making stress management a focus this year, you will improve your mood and invest in your long-term health and happiness.

Researchers believe the stress originates from the "fight-or-flight" response that helped our ancestors escape predators. In modern life, however, this system is often triggered by non-life-threatening events, like a full inbox or a traffic jam. When this response remains "on," it becomes chronic, which can be detrimental to your body.

Chronic stress keeps levels of cortisol and adrenaline high, a condition that is linked to increased risk of heart disease, hypertension, and a weakened immune system. It can also make you more susceptible to anxiety, depression, and cognitive burnout. So, what can you do?

Luckily, managing stress doesn't require a total life overhaul. Try these simple tactics:

• **Cut down on "doom scrolling."** Our greatest stressor is often the device in our pocket. Set aside a short time to use your phone with intention, then set it out of reach. Try silencing notifications in the evening.

• **Use the 4-7-8 breathing technique.** Inhale for four seconds,

giving up on your challenge.

"Make it simple, at your level, and not too aggressive," Carlson recommends. "Tiny SMART goals can get you to your overall big goal."

SMART goals aren't just for weight loss and exercise. You can set a SMART goal for anything you find challenging, from saving money to stress reduction to drinking more water. Just remember to identify your challenge, break it down, and keep it simple by using the SMART acronym.

"Your reward is to complete your SMART goal so you feel successful and stay," Carlson adds. "That's the ultimate reward – keeping yourself motivated by setting these smaller goals so you can achieve the overall big goal."



hold for seven, and exhale slowly for eight. This pattern signals your brain that you are safe. Instead of "fight-or-flight," it reads as "rest-and-digest."

• **Learn the power of a polite "no."** Protecting your time is not selfish if it prevents the resentment and exhaustion that can lead to burnout.

• **Do your exercises outside.** A simple 15-minute walk in nature has been shown to lower cortisol levels and clear mental fog.

Other classic methods of de-stressing include meditation or yoga and simply talking with friends and family. Of course, if your anxiety levels feel unmanageable even with these lifestyle changes, you might want to inquire about professional counseling. Therapy has become a very common and helpful way for people with chronic stress to manage their symptoms.

When you manage stress, you don't just feel better, you often perform better. A calm mind is a sharp mind. You'll find that your decision-making improves, your relationships become more harmonious because you're less irritable, and your physical energy increases.

Consider prioritizing your internal peace this year. By starting there, you can create the steady foundation necessary to conquer other goals on your list.

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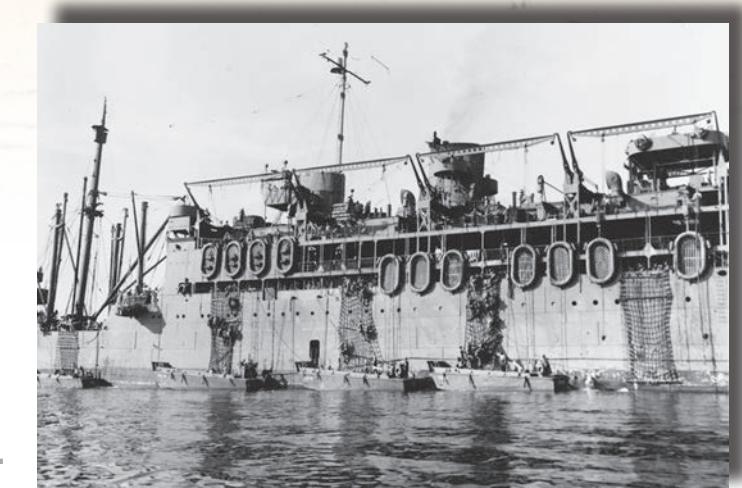


## GOING ASHORE *The Evolution of Amphibious Landings*

**They Served by Ron Lauretti**

Recently, the U.S. Navy has deployed to two specific problem areas in the world. Ships are stationed in the Mediterranean Sea to prepare for potential engagement with Iran, whose nuclear capability has been significantly reduced due to American military intervention. Ships in the area also provide a calming influence in an otherwise tense region. Navy vessels are also patrolling the Caribbean Sea, headed by one of our nuclear aircraft carrier battle groups. This assignment has provided a launch platform for intervention in Venezuela. Though modern naval assaults feature missile attacks and aviation groups, ships like the ones in the middle of today's hotspots include several vessels transporting Marines trained in amphibious landings.

Military experts recognize that capturing a heavily fortified enemy beach is one of the most difficult combat objectives. During World War II, the lengthy Anzio Beach campaign and the high losses at Iwo Jima illustrated amphibious campaigns can be costly, difficult, and ugly. The Allied forces landing at Omaha Beach on D-Day earned the nickname "Bloody Omaha." Operation Iceberg, the Allied assault and



ABOVE: Troops climb down cargo nets hung over the side of the USS McCawley to board Higgins boats during training for the assault on New Georgia in June 1943. (Image courtesy of the National Archives)

TOP: Philippine and U.S. Marines simulate a modern amphibious landing and beach assault on a small island off the coast of the Philippines in 2015. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Anthony J. Kirby/released)

capture of Okinawa, is considered the deadliest such battle in the war.

Because of the challenges associated with amphibious landings, attack transports were developed to carry their own fleet of specialized landing craft. Though 65 years have passed since my days in the Marine Corps, I still remember well my training in amphibious landings.

Life was no picnic on the transports. Living areas were below decks, accommodating about 200 Marines and their equipment. Canvas sleeping racks were stacked up to six levels high. The low man was frequently stepped on, and the top man was claustrophobically close



to the ceiling. It got stuffy, though fans helped circulate the air. Most of us spent the day on deck, doing close-quarter calisthenics and various duties, but it was compulsory to clear all decks after 9 p.m. We had two meals a day. Chow lines were long. The head (bathroom) was crowded, and showers were saltwater and quick.

Near the middle of the ship were areas about 20 feet wide, designated with a color and number – Red One, for example. These served as muster points before going overboard. Using a cargo net, Marines would climb down to landing craft (LCVP), commonly known as a Higgins boat. On a calm sea, it was easy to keep the Higgins boat close to the hull of the transport vessel. Not so much in rough waters. Marines climbed down three abreast, and the first one on each side to reach the bouncing Higgins boat would grab the outer length of vertical rope, keeping it as tight as possible while the rest of us descended.

Each Higgins boat could hold about 36 fully armed troops. The individual with the toughest task was the one with a flamethrower strapped to his back. They were an essential offensive weapon in the Pacific during World War II, used for driving enemy troops out of entrenched positions. Until the end of the Korean War, American flamethrower units weighed 60 pounds and had an effective range of about 40 yards. Because of their bulk and weight, they were usually assigned to a stronger and taller combatant. Unfortunately, he was often a prime target for the enemy.

Once fully loaded, the Higgins boat navigated to an area offshore, where it would join other Higgins boats in a circular holding pattern that could last for several hours. During this dizzying ride, many Ma-

ries – sweating, thirsty, and burdened with combat gear – would lose their breakfast. Eventually, the Higgins boats would advance to their assigned landing areas in an assault wave. The run to the beach was usually a relief, unless the flat-bottom boat got stuck on a reef or sandbar before it reached the shore. If the Higgins boat was unable to make it directly to the beach, the Marines had to walk off the front ramp and wade through the sea.

In the early days of World War II, there were no front ramps to be lowered. Troops climbed over the sides, dropped into the water, and make their way to the beach as best they could. Too many Marines drowned that way; consequently, the swimming qualification of Marine recruits was increased, while the front ramp feature was conceived and engineered.

As the Marines landed on shore, there were shore patrol members to direct them to their designated location. Beaches could be open to a proper advancement, depending on the flow of personnel and equipment and supplies, and the degree of enemy resistance. When the latter was fierce, the marshaling shore patrol was too busy to act as a welcoming committee.

By the end of the 1950s, the Higgins boats were replaced by amphibious tractors (LVTs) and air assault helicopters for carrying assault troops. Combat forces could not be supported by attack transports in the numbers required, and new amphibious ships were developed throughout the 1960s. In 1969, the last of the attack transports were reclassified as "landing platform, amphibious" (LPA) until being decommissioned in 1980.

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## We're GIVING IT AWAY!

### The Skinnie Football Pick 'Em Pool

It can't get much closer. With the opt-outs and coach firings and transfer portals and flagging motivation, it's hard to predict bowl games these days. But Crystal "Ball" Higgins and Steve "The Machine" Mulqueen did better than the rest. Each picked two-thirds of our bowl winners correctly (9 misses), forcing us to go to the tiebreaker to find a winner. For that, we'll have to wait a few days.

Thanks for playing along this year.

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### Happy New Year

As we welcome 2026, Linsey McDougal Blocker and Julie Evans are here to help you move confidently towards your next chapter. Whether you are dreaming of a home that fits your lifestyle or planning a thoughtful real estate investment move, our local knowledge and personal approach are here to guide you on Skidaway Island and beyond.

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[linsey.blocker@evrealestate.com](mailto:linsey.blocker@evrealestate.com)

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[julie.evans@evrealestate.com](mailto:julie.evans@evrealestate.com)



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# Save the dates

# The Market

at 3 West Ridge

Enjoy a shopping boutique of select national vendors and a spring plant sale with St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Proceeds will benefit **Union Mission's Magdalene House for Women and Children** and **Loop It Up Savannah**.

#### TO BENEFIT



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**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

4:30pm-7:00pm  
with wine and light hors d'oeuvres

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

10:00am-5:00pm

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

10:00am-4:00pm



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# The Landings Real Estate Company

MLS Data accurate as of January 9, 2026



15 RIDING LANE

Beautifully updated 3BR, 2.5BA home in a sought-after spot near Franklin Creek and The Deck. Light-filled living and dining rooms, a heated and cooled sunroom, and a bonus room with bath create flexible living. Major systems updated, making it easy to move in and enjoy. \$778,000.

William Boyd, Danny Quinn



9 LILLIBRIDGE CROSSING

Brand new roof in 2025! This fully renovated, move-in ready 2BR, 3BA home features engineered hardwood floors, fresh paint, and updated kitchen and baths. A light-filled sunroom, flexible den, and expansive new deck offer easy living near the North Gate, clubhouse, and marina. \$799,000.

Ginna Carroll, Jill Brooks



5 TANGLETREE LANE

Enjoy expansive views of Terrapin Point's #5 fairway from this 5BR, 4.5BA home designed for comfort and entertaining. Three bedrooms on the main level, two upstairs with a large bonus room, and a spacious screened porch- ideal for relaxing. Delegal Marina is nearby, offering beautiful sunset views. \$849,000.

Linda Novack



5 WINDLASS COURT

Do not miss this astonishing opportunity to own this 4BR, 3.5BA patio home that captures sweeping lagoon and river views, a flexible layout, and a gracious main-level primary suite. Move right in for luxury Lowcountry living, perfected. \$975,000.

Eileen Galves, Susan Connolly



41 DELEGAL ROAD

Elevated and custom, this renovated 4BR, 3.5BA home, set on .74 acres with panoramic golf views. Features include a grand foyer with curved staircase, gourmet kitchen with butler's pantry, elegant millwork, abundant windows, lush landscaping, and wonderful curb appeal. Tremendous opportunity. \$1,199,000.

Linda Novack



5 SUNDEW ROAD

Exceptional 3BR, 3.5BA home set on one of Deer Creek's most desirable streets. All bedrooms on the main level with soaring ceilings, abundant natural light, and beautifully flowing living spaces. Thoughtful upgrades throughout create comfort, privacy, and an ideal island retreat. X-Flood Zone. \$1,200,000.

Cathryn O'Neill



5 MIDDLE MARSH RETREAT

Beautifully renovated and set on a quiet cul-de-sac, this 3BR, 2.5BA home offers privacy with sweeping views of the eastern marsh and Adams Creek. Gorgeous heart-pine floors, and refined finishes throughout, this home boasts an easy, timeless elegance. \$1,349,000.

Russ Toler, Gail Toler



2 TOP GALLANT CIRCLE

New Construction! Elegant Mediterranean-style residence offers lagoon views and versatile living with three beautiful suites designed for privacy. Highlights include a brick courtyard entry, chef's kitchen, main-level primary, bonus room, and a screened porch perfectly positioned for evening sunsets over the lagoon. \$1,399,999.

Ginna Carroll, Jill Brooks



OPEN HOUSE - Sunday, 1/18 from 2 to 4 PM  
2 KITTIWAKE LANE  
Exceptional Deer Creek estate set on a quiet cul-de-sac, offering tremendous golf and lagoon views with abundant wildlife, a private pool, and screened porch. The home features 5BRs, 4FBAs and 2HBAs, a versatile bonus suite, 3.5-car garage, and thoughtfully designed indoor-outdoor living spaces ideal for both everyday living and entertaining. \$2,550,000.

Jill Brooks, Ginna Carroll



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## LET THE SPIRIT MOVE YOU

**WHAT:** "An Evening of African-American Spirituals," featuring mezzo-soprano Kimberly Hernandez  
**WHEN:** Wednesday, Jan. 21, 6:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Skidaway Community Church, 50 Diamond Causeway  
**HOW MUCH:** Free will donation  
**CONTACT:** Director of Music Nick Klemetsen, nick@skidcc.org or 912.598.0151  
**WHAT ELSE:** The program explores the depth, beauty, and enduring power of spirituals passed down through generations as expressions of faith. Hernandez recently played the title role in Bizet's "Carmen" and performed with the Ocala Symphony Orchestra and Opera Orlando.

## GREAT SONG RIDE-ALONG

**WHAT:** American Traditions Vocal Competition Semifinals  
**WHEN:** Meet at Methodist Church Feb. 19, at 2 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Victory North  
**HOW MUCH:** \$85 per person; Tickets are only available to Landlovers members  
**WHAT ELSE:** Your ticket includes round-trip trolley transportation from Skidaway to Victory North, a cocktail to enjoy on the way, two sessions of amazing vocal competition in the semifinals, a private meet-and-greet with the contestants, and the return trolley. You will have time between sessions for your own dinner arrangements. Make your dinner reservation at the Vault and receive 10 percent off your check. \$5 of your ticket price is a tax-deductible donation to Landlovers.

## TAP YOUR TOES

**WHAT:** Lowcountry Bluegrass Concert  
**WHEN:** Saturday, Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** First Presbyterian Church, 520 Washington Ave.  
**HOW MUCH:** Free and open to all  
**CONTACT:** savannahfpc.org; 912.354.7615  
**WHAT ELSE:** Charleston's "New Ghost Town" brings their authentic, refreshingly modern bluegrass to town. Donations benefit Hope Arbor's joyful respite care for seniors. Free street parking.

# island hopping

Please email content to [mail@theskinnie.com](mailto: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](http://www.kiwanisofskidaway.com) for more information.

## WHO NEW?

**WHAT:** New Neighbors  
**WHEN:** Visit [www.landingsnewneighbors.com](http://www.landingsnewneighbors.com) to see our calendar  
**CONTACT:** Visit our website or contact Jody at [nnnewmember@gmail.com](mailto:nnnewmember@gmail.com)  
**WHAT ELSE:** The club offers more than 250 different activities from biking, golf, pickleball, walking groups or fishing to Mahjong, Bridge, needle-arts and Canasta. We have exciting military tours and special events for you to enjoy right here on Skidaway Island.

## POSTAL PEOPLE

**WHAT:** Landings Stamp Club  
**WHEN:** Friday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m.  
**WHERE:** Messiah Lutheran Church conference room  
**HOW MUCH:** Free  
**CONTACT:** Carl Luecke, [cluecke@comcast.net](mailto: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.

## ONE FISH, TWO FISH...

**WHAT:** Toddler Touch Tanks  
**WHEN:** Friday, Jan. 23, 9 – 9:45 a.m.  
**WHERE:** UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium  
**HOW MUCH:** \$8  
**CONTACT:** [gacoast.uga.edu/events/](mailto:gacoast.uga.edu/events/) or Cindy Lingeback, [calingeb@uga.edu](mailto:calingeb@uga.edu) or 912.598.2344  
**WHAT ELSE:** Explore the coast with your child in a unique setting perfect for inspiring wonder and curiosity. This program includes a mix of games, art, stories, and animal encounters that provide fun learning experiences about the ocean.

## BEHIND THE SEA-NS

**WHAT:** Behind the Scenes Aquarium Tours  
**WHEN:** Thursdays, Jan. 29 and Feb. 26, 3 – 4 p.m.; Monday, Feb. 16, 10 – 11 a.m.  
**WHERE:** UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium  
**HOW MUCH:** \$15  
**CONTACT:** [gacoast.uga.edu/events/](http://gacoast.uga.edu/events/) or Cindy Lingeback, [calingeb@uga.edu](mailto:calingeb@uga.edu) or 912.598.2344  
**WHAT ELSE:** Participants will tour areas that are not typically open to the public, as aquarium staff demonstrates what it is like to care for our ambassador animals.

## WORTHY GOALS

**WHAT:** The One Hundred Children's Foundation Fundraising Night at the Savannah Ghost Pirates  
**WHEN:** Friday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Enmarket Arena  
**CONTACT:** [www.theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org](http://www.theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org)  
**WHAT ELSE:** Join us for an exciting night of hockey and heart as we cheer on the Savannah Ghost Pirates while supporting The One Hundred Children's Foundation. Your participation helps fund vital programs that improve the health and well-being of children in our community. Visit the website to purchase tickets.

## ARCHITECTURAL WONDER

**WHAT:** The Landings Garden Club meeting and program  
**WHEN:** Monday, Jan. 26 - 9:15 a.m. social; 10 a.m. meeting; 10:45 program  
**WHERE:** Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 W Ridge Rd.  
**CONTACT:** Joni, 925.787.9800 or [jonibro2022@outlook.com](mailto:jonibro2022@outlook.com)  
**WHAT ELSE:** John McEllen will talk about the design and preservation of the historic William Scarbrough house and gardens at the Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum.

## MUSIC MATES

**WHAT:** AmiciMusic presents "Come Rain or Come Shine"  
**WHEN/WHERE:** Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Maaja Roos, 252 Wiley Bottom Rd.; Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. at the home of Betsy Contino, 1 Marsh Bridge Lane  
**HOW MUCH:** Reservations required due to limited seating. Please visit [www.amicimusic.org](http://www.amicimusic.org) for details.  
**WHAT ELSE:** Pianist Daniel Weiser will be joined by soprano Maria Zouves, co-founder and

president of the Savannah VOICE Festival, in this intriguing and thematic program featuring wonderful songs about rain, the sun, and the moon from both the classical and popular worlds by Schubert, Chopin, Arlen, Mercer, Gershwin, and many more.

## MARKET FORCES

**WHAT:** 15th annual Market at 3 West Ridge, supporting local nonprofits working with at-risk children  
**WHEN:** Tuesday, Feb. 3, 4:30 - 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 4, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Thursday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
**WHERE:** St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 West Ridge Rd.

**HOW MUCH:** Tickets are \$5, available at the door, and grant access for all three days; Admission plus box lunches are available Wednesday and Thursday for \$15  
**CONTACT:** Lynn Wolfe, 912.660.4252  
**WHAT ELSE:** Vendors from across the country bring stylish clothes, custom linens, luxurious nightwear, home décor items, fashion accessories, hand-crafted jewelry, and (new this year) gardening supplies, containers and adornments. The plant sale offers hundreds of annuals, perennials, and hanging baskets for purchase on site or by preorder for March 19 pick up. Recipients of 2026 Market funds are Loop It Up Savannah and Union Mission's Magdalene House.

## GOLDEN GULPS

**WHAT:** "Potable Gold: Savannah's Madeira Tradition"

**WHEN:** Friday and Saturday evenings in February at 5:30 p.m. (except Friday, February 13)  
**WHERE:** Green-Meldrim House, 327 Bull St on Madison Square

**HOW MUCH:** \$36.50 per person, limited to 14 participants  
**CONTACT:** Jamie Credle, 912.233.3845 or [jcredle@greenmeldrimhouse.org](mailto:jcredle@greenmeldrimhouse.org)  
**WHAT ELSE:** This 75-minute program reveals how the flavorful, fortified wine intertwines with the history of Savannah, and mid- and late-19th Century Savannahians, Ward McAllister and William Neyle Habersham. Participants should be able to stand as well as walk up and down stairs. Patrons must be 21 years of age or older to attend.

## STAYIN' ALIVE

**WHAT:** Lifesaving CPR courses  
**WHERE:** Skidaway Community Church  
**WHEN:** Beginning Feb. 12  
**CONTACT:** Visit [limitlesstraining.org](http://limitlesstraining.org) and [skidaway.org](http://skidaway.org)

Complete Island Hopping listings are available online at [www.theskinnie.com](http://www.theskinnie.com)

## ISLAND HOPPING

Rd.  
**CONTACT:** Want to be part of the behind-the-scenes preparation for the sale? Contact Maura McGarry at [LLFMVolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:LLFMVolunteers@gmail.com)

**WHAT ELSE:** Donations of gently used items are what makes Landlovers biggest fundraiser so successful. Proceeds benefit the Landlovers Foundation, which provides grants, scholarships, and merit awards within our community. For a list of acceptable/unacceptable items, visit [landingslandlovers.com](http://landingslandlovers.com). For large items like furniture, email [fleamarketintake@gmail.com](mailto:fleamarketintake@gmail.com) to arrange a pick-up.

## FLEAMARKET FESTIVITIES

**WHAT:** Landlovers Annual Flea Market and Auctionmania

**WHEN/WHERE:** Fleamarket - Saturday, March 14 - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 W. Ridge Rd.; Auctionmania - Thursday, March 19, at the Palmetto ballroom

**CONTACTS:** Flea Market: Janie Florenz at [janie1040@gmail.com](mailto:janie1040@gmail.com); Auctionmania: Judi Threlfall at [judi.threlfall@gmail.com](mailto:judi.threlfall@gmail.com) or [ChristinStreet@comcast.net](mailto:ChristinStreet@comcast.net); To volunteer, contact Maura McGarry at [LLFMVolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:LLFMVolunteers@gmail.com)

**WHAT ELSE:** Everyone is invited to drop saleable items off at Messiah Lutheran on Thursday and Friday, March 12 and 13, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## MILES OF SMILES

**WHAT:** Mile Marker Party on Moon River  
**WHEN:** Thursday, March 26, 6 - 9 p.m.

**WHERE:** Bethesa Pavilion, 9520 Ferguson Ave.

**HOW MUCH:** Tickets are \$100  
**CONTACT:** Virginia Zart, [virginia@onehundredmiles.org](mailto:virginia@onehundredmiles.org)

**WHAT ELSE:** Celebrate the beauty of Georgia's 100-mile coast at our signature coastal auction. Savor local cuisine and drinks, experience Southern music, and connect with others passionate about protecting our special coast, while supporting the vital work of One Hundred Miles. Tickets at [onehundredmiles.org/milemarkerparty](http://onehundredmiles.org/milemarkerparty).

## 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

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

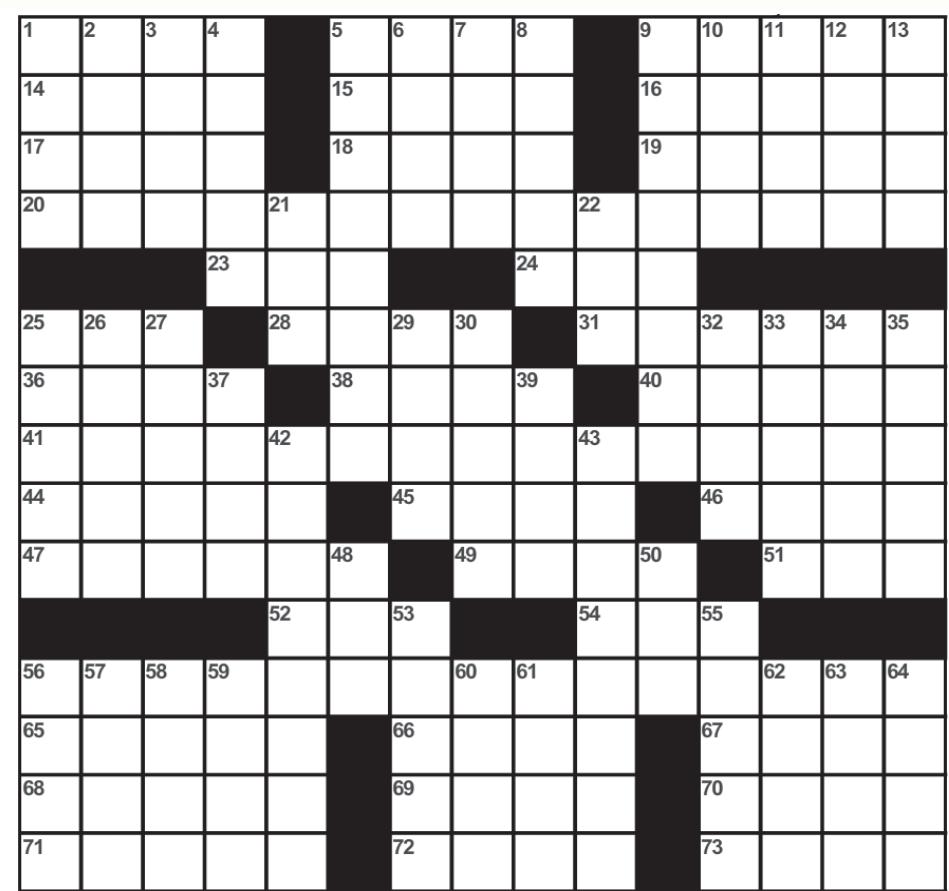
## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- Skip over
- Diary fastener
- \_\_\_\_-loading (marathon prep)
- Flower holder
- Region
- Arctic, for one
- “\_\_\_\_ for the poor!”
- One with pants on fire?
- “Lather, \_\_\_, repeat”
- Kind of roll
- Addition total
- Kennel sound
- Put a scuff on, e.g.
- Artsy New Mexico town
- Lobs softly
- Came back to earth
- Boars’ mates
- “Glycerine” opener
- Arctic tern’s landing spot?
- A month in Madrid
- Kind of pudding
- Polluted air
- Yucatan female
- Mythical god of thunder
- Cunning
- Furniture wood
- Auction grouping
- Super-fit fighter, figuratively
- Video’s complement
- Equine shade
- What skunks are known for
- Reversal of Fortune Oscar-winner  
Jeremy \_\_\_\_
- Agitated mood
- Planted, as grass
- Mathematical subgroup
- Alters a skirt
- Ominous alternative

### DOWN

- Shape of the President’s office
- French Sudan
- Credos



- Diagnostic aids
- Flag position
- Opera offering
- Word after “box,” “hot” or “bucket”
- Political group
- Bread from meal
- Liquid that can eat through metal
- Painter Magritte
- Bag of diamonds?
- Small bills
- Not safe?
- Complete a fast
- Finishes a chess game
- Classic dress style
- Become ready to pluck
- Amazed expressions
- Perspiration
- Brothers and sisters
- Wineglass parts
- Flynn of Gentleman Jim

Puzzle answers, page 33



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According to photographer Peter Schreck, the Clapper rail – commonly referred to as a marsh hen – is more often heard than seen. If you are near a salt marsh and hear a loud, "kek kek kek kek kek" coming from the marsh, that is the call of the Clapper rail. There may be as many as 20 to 25 "kek" notes, lowering in pitch and increasing in tempo. The Clapper rail has a narrow body that allows it to stay well hidden in the tall marsh grass – hence the expression "thin as a rail."

"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](mailto:production@theskinnie.com). Please include your name and a little info about where the photo was taken.

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