



The Skinny

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Upfront

I heard muffled voices through our front door, loud enough to suggest they were sitting on our steps. A sweet Southern accent. One with a New York bite. The makings of a small group.

It happens. People walk by and coopt the stoop as a resting place. Typically, they move on after a few minutes. But these voices persisted. Eventually, I put the crossword puzzle on the floor beside my chair and stood to investigate the sound source.

One of our neighbors was sitting on the center step. Another was standing on the sidewalk. She looked up at me and flashed a broad smile. I didn't see Jenna until I turned my gaze left, where she was kneeling next to the opening underneath the stoop. Shifting my eyes to the brick walkway on the opposite side of the stoop from Jenna, I noticed the center-step-sitter's boyfriend, prone on the ground, bristle-end of a broom in his outstretched hands, handle probing the darkness under the steps.

I walked down the steps, past the sitting neighbor who was wearing a cat-that-ate-the-canary grin, and asked Jenna, "What's going on?"

Her response was non-verbal, as they often are. She cast her eyes towards the under-stoop void, pointed, and prompted me to look there. Expecting something sinister like a snake or a rat, I was surprised by a white orb of fluff, like the spilled contents of a bag of cotton balls. Then, the fluff moved.

The prone neighbor gently coaxed the fluff out of the opening on Jenna's side. Jenna extended her arms and corralled the mystery kitten. The standing neighbor lady said to me, "It looks like you have a new cat."

I half-smiled and answered quickly and definitively, "Absolutely not."

We humans adopt a high pitch when we address babies and domestic animals. The scene outside our front door featured a chorus of these falsetto tones. I retained my natural tenor. Soon, I was back inside with the



crossword.

The group did not disassemble, so it was difficult to concentrate on my Saturday leisure-work. Half-annoyed, I went back outside. "Bring her in; we'll have her checked; and we'll find her a permanent home."

"Really?"

"Really. But just for a day or two."

The hypothetical permanent home turned out to be our own.

Roughly two months ago, a nameless white Siamese-looking kitten, no bigger than the palm of an adult hand, joined our family. We searched and inquired for and about news of a little lost cat. None came. A comprehensive veterinary exam declared her healthy. Providence declared her ours.

We debated prospective monikers for days. Jenna proffered one that I embraced: Chinotto, which is a popular (and my favorite) Italian soda that tastes of the small, bitter citrus of the same name. Soon thereafter, Jenna started calling her "Kiki," a justifiable shorthand for her proper name, and cattier than a fizzy beverage brand. Kiki/Chinotto: Something for her, something for me. A marital win-win.



Kiki is maniacally active, much of the time. She runs away from us tauntingly in a perpetual game of hide-and-seek. Yet she stops scurrying regularly to roll onto one side, belly exposed, asking-without-asking for a tummy-rub. It's a thing that Mushu did for almost two decades when he was alive. Kiki looks a lot like Mushu, actually. Evidently, Kiki looks and acts like Cooley, too. Cooley was younger-Jenna's beloved cat.

"Absolutely not" has a funny way of acting as a placeholder on the way to, "Sure, let's figure it out together." When we do the latter — figure things out together — the results tend to be very good.

"Where did she come from?" Jenna has asked several times since June. The question is both rhetorical and asked-and-answered. She believes — we choose to believe — Kiki is a divine gift. Not in an immaculate-conception way, but one of the infinite everyday miracles God offers to those willing to see them as such. A breathing tribute to the love Mushu and Cooley gave and received and the lives they lived.

If the spilled contents of a bag of cotton balls was an accurate description when we found her, Kiki is at least two bags now. She's adorable and precocious and fully integrated into her forever home. Which is the happiest accident I can recall.

Scott A. Lawrence

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on the cover:

Frequent contributor Jorge Gojman shared this close-up of a monarch butterfly. For more of his nature photos, check out page 30.

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LAUREL GROVE

AN OVERLOOKED TREASURE

By Roger Smith

Though damaged by vandals in 2020, the statue of Silence continues to preside over the Confederate casualties of Laurel Grove.

Laurel Grove Cemetery is neither as glamorous as its sister at Bonaventure, nor as historic as its downtown ancestor Colonial Park. Laurel Grove is easy to miss, nestled at the far western end of Anderson Street, within sight of Interstate 16 just after the 37th Street ramp. Seemingly unassuming, Laurel Grove is a 19th Century treasure.

Sited on the former Springfield Plantation, Laurel Grove's name evokes the native laurel trees that once grew there. Envisioned as a cemetery as early as 1818, it was finally developed in 1850 and dedicated in 1852, just as Savannah's other burial grounds began to overflow. The old Colonial Cemetery, opened in 1750, had become a crowded, neglected public nuisance and a perceived health hazard in an era when citizens and doctors alike linked yellow fever to "miasmas" – bad vapors – emanating from the moldering dead.

Both Laurel Grove and Bonaventure emerged mid-century in a significant Victorian shift of attitudes towards cemeteries. They were no longer places to avoid; rather, they became fond, familial destinations. Reflecting the new concept of leisure time for a growing middle class, the rural cemetery movement located cemeteries outside of city centers and separate from church yards. Cemeteries became bucolic forests not just of gravestones but of landscaped vistas, venues for family picnics, and places for strolls, just for their own sake.

Laurel Grove was established as two cemeteries: One for white

Savannahians – Laurel Grove North – and the other for people of color – Laurel Grove South. While Laurel Grove South boasts its own impressive tombstones, monuments, and mausoleums, it predictably falls far behind Laurel Grove North for imposing funeral statuary and art. The comparative lack of physical grandeur, however, does not diminish the presence of hundreds of notable African Americans, whose pantheon will be the subject of a future article.

Laurel Grove North is a museum of Victorian art, probably the most extensive and complete in the area, because as the cemetery's popularity gained traction with Savannahians, its plots were prolifically subscribed and the cemetery largely built out by the 20th Century. Left behind were the skulls and crossbones, primitive winged souls, and spare inscriptions of the 18th Century. Laurel Grove's tombs comprise a pageant of Victorian beauty in artistic representations such as broken trees or truncated columns indicating lives cut short, weeping willows bowing low over prostrate mourners, and urns representing the dust and ashes to which the dead return.

Posh memorials preside over a Who's Who of Savannah's Antebellum elite. John Macpherson Berrien, a Savannah transplant whose life probably warrants multiple historical markers, is buried at Laurel Grove. A U.S. senator representing Georgia, Berrien stepped fully onto the national stage as Attorney General in the Andrew Jackson administration. As the nation's top law enforcement official, he prosecuted high-level officers for embezzlement of public funds. He ar-

gued against the emancipation of the Africans on board the illegal slave ship, *The Antelope*, famously saying that slavery "lay at the foundation of the Constitution." He returned to Savannah in retirement, joining founding members of the Georgia Historical Society and serving as its first president.



John Macpherson Berrien

James Moore Wayne was a Savannah native, the first to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. Before going to Washington, Wayne served in active duty during the War of 1812, a conflict that saw enthusiastic support in the South. A respected attorney, Wayne served as mayor of Savannah and a delegate to the Georgia legislature. He was serving in the U.S. Congress when President Andrew Jackson appointed him to the Supreme Court in 1835, where he spent the remainder of his life. He returned to Savannah only in death in 1867 and was laid to rest in Laurel Grove.

Buried nearby is Wayne's protégé, William Washington Gordon, the founder of the Central of Georgia Railway and Banking Company. This is the same Gordon who is lauded by the handsome monument – replete with its railroad bas-relief carvings and the name GORDON – in Wright Square. Although establishing a transportation and finance institution may not seem all that unusual today, Gordon's company was nearly single-handedly responsible for giving Georgia the means to compete with South Carolina in the all-important transport of cotton from the upcountry to the port of Savannah. His railroad and



The ornate grave of William Washington Gordon (1796-1842), the founder of the Central of Georgia Railway and Banking Company



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The grave of Confederate commander Francis Bartow, slain at the first Battle of Bull Run, is obscured by a bush and can be difficult to locate.

bank transformed Georgia commerce in the 1830s and 1840s.

Laurel Grove Cemetery reveals the great tragedy of American history: the Civil War. Writ large with the graves of hundreds of Confederates (and even one Union general), the cemetery reminds visitors of the conflict that ended chattel slavery yet cost hundreds of thousands of lives. Francis Bartow, the firebrand who defied Georgia's governor and left the state to fight with Confederate troops in Virginia, dying at the first Battle of Bull Run, is buried at Laurel Grove. Another Confederate warrior is Lafayette McLaws, who died a natural death in 1897. The two men are linked in historical memory by their matching busts, which flank the Civil War Memorial in Forsyth Park.

Historical memory abounds in Laurel Grove's Gettysburg section where more than 700 markers commemorate Savannah's fallen, casualties of the 1864 confrontation in Pennsylvania that some call the climax of the Civil War. Presiding over these graves is the 1870s *Silence*, one of two allegorical figures removed from the original Confederate Memorial (*Silence* and her sister *Judgment* were unpopular figures when the memorial was first unveiled and were soon sent to cemeteries, replaced by a bronze Confederate soldier). During the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests, which proceeded in relative peace in downtown Savannah, vandals desecrated *Silence*, breaking off the finger she held to her lips and spray-painting "Silent no more." Mayor Van Johnson condemned the act, declaring that cemeteries are sacred, no matter how compelling the cause for protest.

At the time, Laurel Grove marched into the 20th Century, receiving such notable Savannah women as Anna Davenport Raines, a founding

member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and a lifelong champion of Lost Cause ideology. Florence Martus, the woman who spent her life on Cocksbur Island where her father was the lighthouse keeper and for decades waved to ships entering and leaving the port of Savannah, is interred at Laurel Grove. So is Juliette Gordon Low, granddaughter of William Washington Gordon and founder in 1912 of the Girl Scout movement in the U.S. According to her precise instructions prior to her death in 1927, she is buried in her beloved Girl Scout uniform.

Although Laurel Grove is not yet full and receives new burials each year, it serves as a collection of 19th Century history in an important Southern port city. It exemplifies the Victorian-era rural cemetery movement, with its then-exurban location. It puts on full display the exquisite art and iconography of an era that viewed death differently from earlier generations. And it serves as the final resting place for a century of Savannahians whose lives and legacies mirror – for better and for worse – the achievements, sensibilities, and sometimes tragic mistakes of their generations.

Roger Smith is a Savannah native who researches and writes about his home city. He directs *The Learning Center*, a program of Senior Citizens, Inc. TLC is a robust lifelong learning institution serving Savannah and coastal Georgia. To learn more about *The Learning Center* and to request a fall catalog, contact rsmith@seniorcitizens-inc.org.



Beneath this marker lies the mortal remains of Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low, laid to rest in her Girl Scout uniform.



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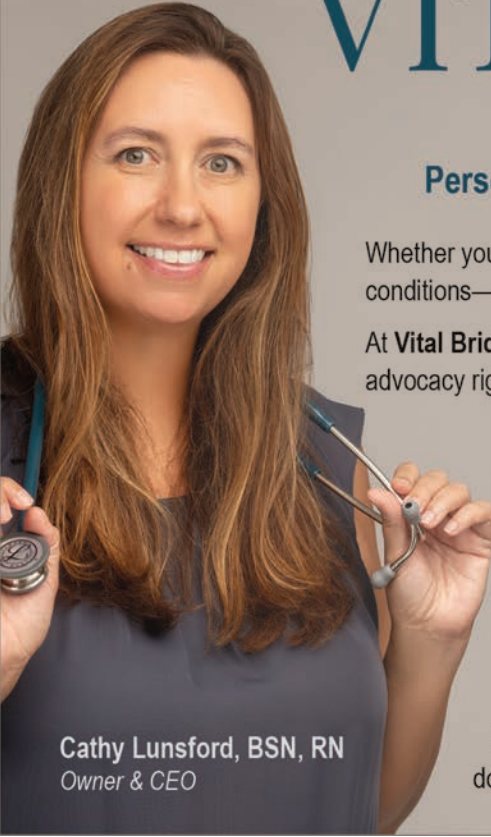
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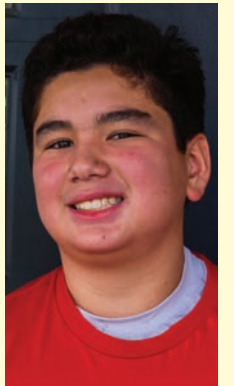
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Flags Fund The FIGHT

BY MARK MEYERS

When Skidaway resident Myles began suffering severe headaches and personality changes, doctors discovered what they initially believed was a high-grade brain tumor. Myles faced a poor prognosis of grueling radiation and chemotherapy treatments with debilitating side effects. Fortunately, genetic testing revealed that the tumor was a rare, unclassified type that could be treated with a simple daily pill instead of harsh traditional therapies. Myles has been through several treatments since his original diagnosis, but he is ready to start ninth grade in the fall and is thriving on the basketball court.



CURE Childhood Cancer is one of the many organizations cheering for Myles and other area oncology patients. The Georgia-based organization is dedicated to conquering childhood cancer by fueling cutting-edge research and providing comprehensive support to children and families affected by this devastating disease. Over the years, CURE has invested millions of dollars in innovative research projects while offering critical resources and support to local families navigating the challenges of childhood cancer diagnosis and treatment.

One of CURE's key initiatives is a focus on precision medicine, or gene-based therapy, which seeks to identify genetic triggers that cause cancer to grow. Through CURE's Precision Medicine Program, Myles and other children have been positively impacted with the hope of better outcomes and less aggressive treatment options.

"CURE has been there for me and my family during my three-year battle with brain cancer, helping us in countless ways beyond diagnosis and even after treatment was over," Myles says.

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and a simple way you can help ensure that every child diagnosed with cancer has the same opportunities as Myles is to purchase a CURE flag to display outside your home. CURE flags turn your garden into a show of awareness and support. These flags create a visual impact that catches the eyes of neighbors and passersby. Transform your outdoor space while supporting a cause close to your heart.

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WHAT: 2025 CURE Childhood Cancer awareness flags sale
WHEN: Flags are on sale now; pickup begins in August
WHERE: Order online at cureflags.org
HOW MUCH: \$30/flag, pole not included
CONTACT: makenzie@curechildhoodcancer.org
WHAT ELSE: All proceeds from the flag program benefit CURE's pediatric cancer research initiatives and family support programs. Flags begin going up in September in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and we encourage everyone to proudly display them year-round. Each flag features original artwork by a child currently in treatment for cancer.

This year's flag is especially meaningful, featuring original artwork by 11-year-old Caroline, whose grandparents are Savannah residents. Currently in treatment for cancer, she is a bright, creative girl who loves to draw, write, and express herself through art. Her bold, hand-drawn "FIGHT" reflects the courage kids battling cancer show every single day.

Caroline's been bravely fighting a rare brain tumor since she was just a year old. Thanks to genetic sequencing through CURE's Precision Medicine Program, doctors discovered her tumor carries a specific mutation that renders standard treatments ineffective. That discovery also unlocked a new path – a targeted therapy for Caroline. The results have been remarkable. Her main tumor has visibly shrunk, and two other spots doctors were watching have nearly disappeared. Caroline's journey is far from over, but today she is doing well – still creating, still smiling, and still fighting – with strength that is inspiring.

Displaying a CURE flag extends far beyond decoration. Your flag becomes part of a network of support that creates awareness and conversations about important issues. It offers comfort and encouragement to families affected by childhood cancer, showing them they're not alone in their fight.

"When I see the CURE flags in people's yards, I feel so proud and supported," says Myles. "It reminds me that I'm not alone and that there are people who care."

To place your order and support CURE's Childhood Cancer Flag program, please visit cureflags.org.

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The Future of Healthcare

Nurturing Tomorrow's Medical Minds

Summer evokes images of sun-drenched days and carefree leisure for young people. However, within the bustling halls of St. Joseph's/Candler, a different picture has emerged this season. The youth haven't been on vacation; they have been actively engaged, getting a feel for the evolving healthcare landscape and the vital role the next generation can play in it. Their dedication, curiosity, and early exposure to the medical field comprise a critical investment in the future of patient care.

One heartwarming initiative that perfectly encapsulates this forward-looking vision is the Teddy Bear Clinic, hosted by second-year

students from the Medical College of Georgia (MCG) – Savannah Campus. These aspiring physicians visited The Children's House, a daycare on the Candler Hospital campus, to provide "check-ups" for the children's beloved teddy bears and other stuffed animals. Eager to participate, the young patients became "caregivers" themselves, assisting the medical students in examining their teddies' eyes, ears, and bodies, ensuring every stuffed friend received a clean bill of health.

"Our goal is to help children understand that medical visits don't have to be scary," explains Akshara Jayaraman, an MD candidate at MCG who organized the clinic. "This way,

they get to join in and be caregivers, demystifying the healthcare experience from an early age."

Beyond alleviating childhood anxieties, the clinic offers a valuable learning opportunity for the MCG students themselves. It provides a practical platform for them to hone their communication skills, translating complex medical concepts into age-appropriate language, and fostering empathetic interactions with young patients.

"Volunteer events expose us to different fields," Jayaraman adds. "After being with those adorable kiddos, a couple more of us are leaning towards pediatrics."

The students who participated in the Teddy Bear Clinic were among the first to start their education at the four-year MCG Savannah campus, which opened its doors a year



Youth Volunteers – The Next Generation of Healthcare Professionals

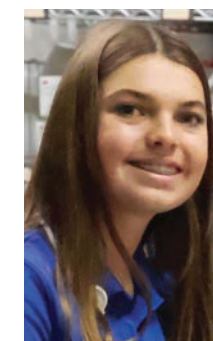
Complementing formal medical education initiatives, St. Joseph's/Candler fosters future healthcare talent through its enduring youth volunteer program.

Hospitals have embraced teenage volunteers for decades, a tradition dating back to the days of "candy strippers" with their distinctive red-and-white striped uniforms. This venerable program has not only endured but thrived, recognized for its dual benefits: Teens gain invaluable life skills, career insights, and personal growth; while hospitals receive much-needed support, enhance patient care, and cultivate a vital connection with the next generation of potential healthcare workers.

The profound impact of this program is evident in the experiences of Ella Arthur, Jillian Schmid, and Elise Stuchell, three remarkable young women who dedicated almost two months to volunteering across various departments within the health system. Their hands-on involvement has provided them with a window into the complex world of hospital operations.

"Getting to talk to people and assist them has been really fun," says Ella Arthur, who discovered the program through her mother, Sarah Mankin, an education specialist for St. Joseph's/Candler. Beyond her time in physical therapy, Arthur worked at the Candler Hospital Gift Shop, gaining diverse experiences.

"There is so much communication, and people want your opin-



L-R: Volunteers Ella Arthur, Jillian Schmid, and Elise Stuchell

ion," Arthur says. "It's been a great experience. I would definitely do this again."

Jillian Schmid joined the program with a clear aspiration - a career in medicine, possibly specializing in dermatology. "I was looking for something I could do at my age that would get me involved in the medical field," she explains. "This way I

could test my interest. I love this program because I've been able to do so many different things. I'm on the rehab floor at Candler, and I didn't know I'd be interested in it, but it's been great."

Schmid praises the welcoming environment created by the St. Joseph's/Candler team. "Everyone here is so nice," she says. "They seem to really love that we are here to help."

Rising senior Elise Stuchell found great value in the advice and mentorship shared by St. Joseph's/Candler co-workers. "The co-workers in OB/GYN would tell me about their careers and how they found them, and they would ask me about what I thought I might want to do," Stuchell recalls.

Stuchell joined the program to gain practical insight into work in a hospital setting. "There are a bunch of different areas that you can work in as a volunteer," she notes. "You can do hands-on assisting with nurses, or you can help in the offices. You get to see every little moving part. It was a great experience."

ago this month on the Armstrong Campus of Georgia Southern University (GSU). This campus represents a significant leap forward in addressing the growing demand for healthcare professionals, dramatically increasing the number of medical students who can be trained directly in the region. Beginning in 2011, MCG has maintained a two-year regional campus at Candler Hospital for third- and fourth-year medical students. Now, with the new four-year program, 40 medical students per class will live and learn in Savannah for the entirety of their four years of medical school.

At the official ribbon-cutting ceremony in August of 2024, Paul P. Hinchey, president and CEO of St. Joseph's/Candler, highlighted

the profound impact of this expansion. "This is a great day for our city, for our region and for our state, but most importantly for all the future generations of patients who eventually will be treated by today's medical students."

Dr. David C. Hess, MCG dean, echoed the sentiment, expressing deep gratitude for the local institutional partnerships that transformed MCG's vision of a four-year campus in Savannah into a tangible reality. "MCG has a nearly-200-year tradition of producing great doctors and great medicine, and this marks an important milestone in that history. This new campus would not be possible without the continued partnership and support of St. Joseph's/Candler, which has been clinically educating our students in Savannah for the

past 17 years, or this new collaboration with Georgia Southern. I am confident that both will continue to grow as we expand MCG's footprint in Southeast Georgia."

From medical students demystifying doctor visits for toddlers to high schoolers gaining invaluable insights into hospital operations, these scenes at St. Joseph's/Candler paint a hopeful picture of healthcare's future. It's a future built on more than technological advancements, depending upon the cultivation of new talent, the early fostering of empathy, and the engagement of young minds. Young people, from freshmen in high school to medical school students, help St. Joseph's/Candler have a great summer. All the best to them as they start a new school year.



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People are at the heart of all war stories. But places play their part in history, too.

ONE WAR, THREE CREEKS

For troops in combat, an adequate water supply is critical – to drink, wash wounds, or to cool off. During the American Civil War, troops often marched long distances, and wells were scarce, did not contain much water, or were not clean enough to drink.

Not only were rivers, creeks, and ponds important sources of drinking water, but they also served as natural defensive barriers. Bridges formed “pinch points,” forcing troops to cluster, making them easier targets. Soldiers attempting to cross open water were dangerously exposed, and footing in a shallow creek could be treacherous. Firearms often relied on black powder and keeping it dry could prove the difference between life or death. Three creeks became especially important during the Civil War.

BULL RUN, VIRGINIA

The first major battle of the Civil War was fought at Bull Run Creek near Manassas, Virginia, about 40 miles south of Washington, D.C. When Confederate forces left Richmond in July of 1861 and headed due north, federal military leaders – including commander-in-chief Abraham Lincoln – feared an assault on the nation's capital. The Federal Home Guard provided security for the city, a soft and easy duty that rendered many of the men overweight and out of shape. Despite the condition of the troops, they were deployed to a farm near Manassas, probably draining their canteens dry of water during the hot summer march.



ABOVE: Depiction of the Battle of Antietam near Dunker Church by Thure de Thulstrup;

BELOW: Burnside Bridge near Sharpsburg, Maryland

Upon hearing the news of the impending battle, many civilians in and around Washington packed picnic lunches, hitched up their buggies, and headed south, expecting to view an easy victory for the Yankees. But when they arrived at the Manassas farm with Bull Run





Creek flowing through it, the view was anything but pleasant. The battlefield became littered with casualties from both sides, including Gen. Francis Bartow, CSA, who is laid to rest in Savannah's Laurel Grove Cemetery (see page 10). Eventually, the South dominated the fight, and the first battle of Bull Run was considered a Confederate victory.

ANTIETAM CREEK, MARYLAND

An even deadlier Civil War battle was fought next to Antietam Creek, which flows close to the small town of Sharpsburg, Maryland. It is of historical significance as Gen. Robert E. Lee's first attempt to invade Northern territory, resulting in the costliest day of the war – almost 23,000 casualties from the two sides combined.

The battle began on July 21, 1862, with a deadly barrage of Northern artillery on a cornfield occupied by Southern troops. On the southeast side of town, Union troops led by Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside had been trying to cross Antietam Creek since mid-morning, stymied by 500 Georgia sharpshooters firing from the woods on the opposite bank. Around 1 p.m., the Northerners finally crossed the bridge and advanced up surrounding high ground. After a two-hour lull in the battle, Union troops reformed and advanced up the hill, driving the remaining Confederates back towards the main conflict near Sharpsburg. However, the timely arrival of Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill's division pushed Burnside's forces away from Sharpsburg, driving them back to the heights above the bridge.

After heavy back-and-forth fighting all day, the flow of battle swung

in the Union's favor, until ending late in the afternoon with Yankee troops on three sides of the 10,000-acre battlefield. In the middle of the night, Lee led his crippled army back across the Potomac into Virginia, to fight again another day.

EBENEZER CREEK, GEORGIA

In the fall of 1864, Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman conducted his "March to the Sea" from Atlanta to Savannah. During the 285-mile trek, his troops destroyed many of the farms and plantations along the way, liberating several hundred slaves. However, the freed slaves remained fearful of their previous "masters," and many followed Sherman's army for protection. Meanwhile, a small but determined Confederate cavalry unit followed in the distance, remaining safely out of range.

Eventually, Sherman's army arrived at Ebenezer Creek, about 30 miles outside Savannah. As the last of the troops crossed over the bridge of the fast-flowing, rain-swollen Ebenezer Creek, Sherman ordered the bridge to be burned, to hinder the following Confederates. Tragically, this left the former slaves behind without any safe refuge from the advancing Southern soldiers. Many of the former slaves plunged into the creek, but most could not swim very well and struggled to reach the opposite bank, almost 50 yards distant. Very few made it, and quickly the creek was filled with floating dead bodies. Worse yet, many of the remaining slaves who fled into the woods died from exposure or inadequate food supply, making the incident at Ebenezer Creek near Savannah a double tragedy. The location has been designated as a historical site, with a memorial sign installed there.



This historical marker at Ebenezer Creek near Savannah recognizes the tragedy of 1864.

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island hopping

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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: 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.

MUSIC AT MESSIAH

WHAT: The Arts at Messiah
WHEN: Friday, Aug. 8, at 7 p.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1 West Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public, but donations for the concert series are appreciated.
CONTACT: MLC at 912.598.1188, weekday mornings
WHAT ELSE: Duo Arpeggione will feature two internationally acclaimed musicians – pianist Catherine Lan and cellist Claudio Jaffé. The performance will demonstrate some of the best works for this winning combination, including Beethoven's A major sonata and Grieg's masterpiece Sonata no. 3.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

WHAT: Nicholas Seward photography exhibit
WHEN: Opening reception Sunday, Aug. 10. Exhibit will be on display until Aug. 31
WHERE: Montag Gallery at the JEA, 5111 Abercorn St., Savannah
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
CONTACT: Please visit www.savannahjea.org/artsideasfor more information
WHAT ELSE: Nicholas Seward, has been immersed in photography since he was seven years old. His work often combines themes of female body positivity and empowerment and www.theskinnie.com

explores women in positions of strength. Selected experiences highlighting landscapes and moments of reflection during his journeys are featured in this show.

CARING WITH CASSEROLES

WHAT: Landlovers Safe Shelter Casseroles
WHEN: Friday, Aug. 15
WHERE: Volunteers will be notified of drop off locations in the Landings
CONTACT: Carol Stiles or Sue Souls, LLComm-Service@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Learn more details at the Community Service page at landingslandlovers.com

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

WHAT: Skidaway Island Democrats social gathering
WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 21, 7 p.m.
WHERE: Landings Harbor Marina, 600 Priest Landing Dr.
CONTACT: If you don't live in the Landings, email Rosemary Mackey (rwmackey1@gmail.com) for a main gate pass; Anyone needing a ride from the Marshes or Thrive should contact Mitzi Toth at mlanetoth38@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: The executive committee will provide wine, beer, water, and soft drinks. Please feel free to bring an appetizer, if you feel so inclined.

LUNCH MONEY

WHAT: Tharros Place Back-to-School fundraiser
WHEN: Sep. 12, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club at the Landings
HOW MUCH: Sponsorships range from \$500 to \$3,000 - Includes tickets, branding opportunities, and membership in Tharros Place's Courage Club
CONTACT: For information, visit tharrosplace.com/events.html or contact Gabriella Marvaldi at gabriella@tharrosplace.com or 912.226.7531 x105.
WHAT ELSE: Local nonprofit Tharros Place will host a back-to-school fundraiser to support its education program for underage survivors of human trafficking. The luncheon features inspiring speakers, classroom chic tables, raffles, and a silent auction.

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, 912.598.0323
WHAT ELSE: Prior experience is not necessary. Many volunteers learn on the job and only do whatever they feel comfortable with. Tools are

FEELING CRABBY

WHAT: "Crabbing 101"
WHEN: Saturday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
WHERE: UGA Marine Education Center and Aquarium
HOW MUCH: \$25
CONTACT: gacoast.uga.edu/event/ or Cindy Lingeback at calingeb@uga.edu or 912.598.2344
WHAT ELSE: See different species of crabs up close, then head outside for a crabbing lesson.

SHELL GAMES

WHAT: Release of turtle hatchlings
WHEN: Tuesdays, Aug 19, Sep. 2, 16, and 30, - 5 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 12, - 1 p.m.
WHERE: Sunset Park, Landings Way South
HOW MUCH: free, donations appreciated
CONTACT: friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Participation is limited to Landings residents with gate passes. Pre-register at skidawayaudubon.org beginning Aug. 1. Attendees will learn how volunteers rescue diamondback terrapin eggs from golf course sand traps, and how they are incubated. They will help release the hatchlings into the marsh. Limited to 60 attendees per session. Children must be at least 6 years of age to participate. Golf carts recommended as parking is limited.

SEA FOR YOURSELF

WHAT: Skidaway Marine Science Day
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHERE: UGA Skidaway Marine Science campus 30 Ocean Science Circle, Skidaway Island
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
WHAT ELSE: Join us for a can't-miss event for all ages. The campus-wide open house will be presented by UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant, UGA Skidaway Institute of Oceanography and Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary.



provided.

TAXATION REPRESENTATION

WHAT: Opportunities for volunteer income tax assistance with Neighborhood Improvement Association

WHEN: starting in January, flexible hours from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Several sites in Savannah, Pembroke, Rincon, Richmond Hill and Hinesville
CONTACT: Tiffany Carter, tcarter@niacdc.org or 912.447.5577

WHAT ELSE: This program helps underserved communities by offering free tax preparation. No experience necessary. Volunteers include greeters/screeners and tax preparers

FINANCIAL AID

WHAT: AARP Tax-Aide Program needs volunteers

WHEN: Training in Dec. and Jan.; Tax preparation starts Feb. 3 for 10 weeks; hours and days are flexible

WHERE: Chatham SW and Bull Street Libraries
CONTACT: Volunteer coordinator John Gerardi, 912.661.8705 or johngerardi@hotmail.com

WHAT ELSE: This program provides free tax preparation for low- to moderate-income families, as well as the elderly and people with disabilities. AARP Tax-Aide saves underserved individuals/families millions in preparation fees and helps taxpayers claim millions in refunds, which can be used to reduce poverty. Tax preparers will be trained to become IRS-certified. Volunteers are also needed to help with intake/front desk.

SHELF INDULGENCE

WHAT: Bag of Books Sale

WHEN: Last Saturday of every month

WHERE: The Village Library, 1 Skidaway Square
HOW MUCH: Buy a bag for \$15 and fill it with books from the sales wall

CONTACT: Contact the library at 912.598.1183 for more information

WHAT ELSE: Fiction and nonfiction, hardcover and paperbacks, all genres. Benefits the Village Library.

ONCE UPON A TIME...

WHAT: Children's Story Hour

WHEN: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. – 12 noon

WHERE: The Village Library, 1 Skidaway Square
HOW MUCH: Free to all children on Skidaway Island

CONTACT: Contact the library at 912.598.1183 for more information

WHAT ELSE: For children ages 2 – 6. New stories begin every half hour.

LUNCH BUNCH

WHAT: Landlovers Men's Lunch Group

WHERE: Various restaurants around Savannah

WHEN: 2nd Tuesday of each month

HOW MUCH: Based on restaurant

CONTACT: llmenslunchgroup@gmail.com

CAUSEWAY CLEAN-UP

WHAT: Diamond Causeway litter pickup

WHEN: 9 a.m., 3rd Saturday of each month, starting Oct. 19

WHERE: Meet at Butterbean Landing parking lot

CONTACT: Courtney Fowler at 912.891.0850 or causewaycleanup@gmail.com, or Susan Ragland, sragland@fourseasonstvrl.com

WHAT ELSE: Please contact Courtney in the event of inclement weather. Bring work gloves, safety vest if you have one, or wear bright clothing, trash picker, water. Trash bags will be provided. Water is recommended to avoid dehydration.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

WHAT: Boy Scout Troop 57, for boys 10-18

WHEN: Weekly meeting Tuesday 7-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Skidaway Community Church, 50 Diamond Causeway

CONTACT: BSA office, 912.927.7272

WHAT ELSE: Chartered in 1989, the troop has sponsored 80 Eagle Scouts to date. Weekly meetings, monthly outings (canoeing, hiking, kayaking, rafting, backpacking), yearly summer camp and high adventure trips. New Scouts and transfers are welcome.

REEL MEN

WHAT: Landlovers Men's Action Movies and Dinner

WHEN: We usually see an action movie once a month.

HOW MUCH: Movie admission

CONTACT: Dave Robinson, dave.robinson16@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Men's Action Movies is a friendly gathering of men who want to see movies your wife probably wouldn't want to see. Must be a Landlovers member. Membership is open to all residents of Skidaway Island.

SPEAK EASY

WHAT: Savannah Speech and Hearing Center's "Speak Easy"

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

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

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

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

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

SHOP TALK

WHAT: Green-Meldrim House Gift Shop – Volunteers needed

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Green-Meldrim House, 14 W. Macon St. – Madison Square

HOW MUCH: Training provided

CONTACT: Jamie Credle, jcredle@green-meldrimhouse.org or 912.233.3845

WHAT ELSE: Request for two shifts per month. Please visit GreenMeldrimHouse.org for more information.

READ ALL OVER

WHAT: Landlovers Singles Co-ed Book Club

WHEN: 4th Thursday each month, 5 p.m.

WHERE: Various Landings clubhouses

CONTACT: Marianne Claysmith, claysmith2@aol.com

WHAT ELSE: We read novels and biographies. Members belong to the Landings Club

CHILD FRIENDLY

WHAT: Join the One Hundred Children's Foundation

WHERE: www.theonehundredchildrensfoundation.org

HOW MUCH: \$100 annually

CONTACT: Sue Souls and Carol Stiles at theohcfmembership@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Join an organization that promotes the health, education, and well-being of children in coastal Georgia and South Carolina.

BATH AND BODY WORKS

WHAT: Landlovers community service toiletry collection

WHEN: ongoing

WHERE: Drop off location is the front porch at 7 Heartwood Court, the Landings

CONTACT: Linda Brownlee lindabrownleemd@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Are you traveling and staying at a hotel? If you have any unused hotel soaps, shampoos, or lotions, please bring them back to Savannah. Share your vacation with Social Apostolate, which works with poor, homeless and disabled people in different ways including providing showers for those in need. No mouthwash or larger sized toiletries, please.

BODY AND SOUL

WHAT: Exercise classes at Skidaway Island Methodist Church

WHEN: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Mat Pilates, 9-9:45 a.m.; Functional Full-Body, 10-10:45 a.m.

WHERE: Bailey Hall at Skidaway Island Methodist Church, 54 Diamond Causeway

HOW MUCH: \$8 per class or \$65 for the whole month.

CONTACT: Taylor Reese (Taylorreesept@gmail.com) for more info or visit skidawaymethodist.org/exercise

WHAT ELSE: No advanced registration is required. Mat Pilates participants must bring an exercise mat and be able to get up/down from the floor. Functional Full-Body participants should wear athletic shoes. Everyone should bring a water bottle. Everyone should bring water.

TILE WITH STYLE

WHAT: Landlovers Mahjongg

WHEN: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Clubhouse, Byrd Room

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: landingsmahjongg@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: You must also have some knowledge of the game. Please bring your set and your quarters. We can accommodate a maximum of 24 players.

FRIENDS OF FRIENDS OF BILL W.

WHAT: Al-Anon

WHEN: Mondays, 4 p.m.

WHERE: Skidaway Island Methodist Church, 54 Diamond Causeway

WHAT ELSE: A recovery program for families and friends of people who are struggling with addiction.

FERAL FRIENDSHIP

WHAT: Skidaway Cat Alliance Team

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Skidaway Island and surrounding

CONTACT: To learn more about volunteer opportunities or need help with a feral cat, please email skidawaycats@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/skidaway-catalliancecteam

WHAT ELSE: The Skidaway Cat Alliance Team is a group of dedicated animal lovers who provide food, population control (spay/neuter), medical

care, and shelter for free-roaming cats in the Skidaway area.

FOOD FOR FELINES

WHAT: Kitten food drive for the Humane Society of Greater Savannah

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Humane Society Adoption Center, 7215 Sallie Mood Dr.

CONTACT: Call Rosemary Longueira (Landings resident and volunteer) at 912.598.2875 or 912.507.7722

WHAT ELSE: The Humane Society is in need of Fancy Feast canned kitten food, dry kitten chow, kitten treats, bottles and nipples, and kitten replacement milk (such as KMR) for the neonatal bottle-fed kittens. Small soft fuzzy blankets would also be appreciated. Donations can be dropped off during normal business hours (Tuesday-Saturday, 1-6 p.m.) at the shelter on Sallie Mood Drive or in the special donation bin in the back parking lot by the Thrift Shop donation bins. The Humane Society also provides pet food for those members of the community that are having trouble providing food for their pets.

A DAY AT THE MUSEUM

WHAT: Visit Bethesda Museum

WHEN: By appointment

WHERE: Bethesda Burroughs Hall

HOW MUCH: Free, though donations are appreciated

CONTACT: JT, 203.788.5052

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

HONORABLE MENTION

WHAT: Honor Flight Savannah seeks war veterans and volunteers

CONTACT: honorflightsavannah.org or 912.367.9020

WHAT ELSE: Honor Flight Savannah is offering WW II, Korea, and Vietnam War era veterans living in southeast Georgia and southeastern South Carolina an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., to visit their war memorials. Funding for trips is dependent on contributions from community citizens and businesses.

JUST DANCE

WHAT: Dancing for fitness! Great music and stretches complete your workout.

WHEN: Every Tuesday, 9 - 10 a.m.

WHERE: Bailey Hall at Skidaway Island Methodist Church, 54 Diamond Causeway

HOW MUCH: \$2/month

CONTACT: Sherry Williams, sherryaw1@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: A signed waiver is required for participants.

WELCOME MAT

WHAT: Learn to create sleeping mats for the homeless from discarded plastic bags

WHEN: Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon

CONTACT: For project information, DIY videos or to schedule group workshops call Carol Greenberg at 912.355.1238 or MStarArts@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: These mat and pillow sets help divert plastic bags from landfills and waterways while providing comfort to the homeless. All ages can learn to cut the bags into ribbons, tie these together to make plastic yarn. No tools are needed for braiding, crochet hooks cost less than \$5 and looms about \$10 to make.

MATERIAL GIRLS

WHAT: Skidaway Quilters, to learn, share experience and complete projects

WHERE: Skidaway Community Church

WHEN: 3rd Thursday of each month, 2 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Judy Davis, 912.319.2865

WHAT ELSE: Whether you are an experienced quilter or new to the craft, please join us for some handwork, conversation and networking. Bring a project you are working on, show and tell, or just plan to socialize. Learn about quilt shops in the area and local quilt guilds. All members of Landlovers who are interested in quilting are welcome.

DONATION DAY

WHAT: The Landings Company and Goodwill of Southeast Georgia collaboration

WHEN: First Friday of every month, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

WHERE: Back parking lot, The Landings Company, 1 Landings Way North

CONTACT: Goodwill of Southeast Georgia, 912.856.4418 or The Landings Company, 912.598.0500

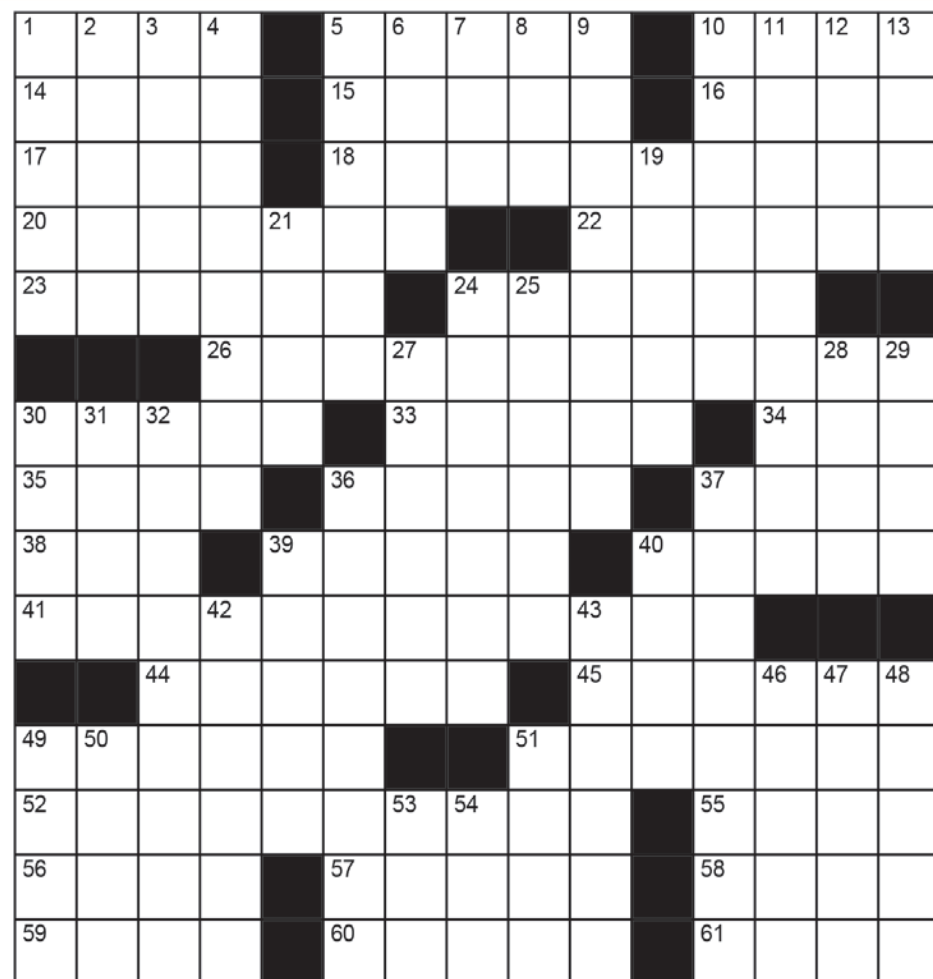
WHAT ELSE: Making giving easier than ever. Just load your car and swing by. TLC agents will be on-site to help. No mattresses, boxsprings, pillows, cribs, car seats, paint, or building supplies will be accepted.

ACROSS

1. Glazier's tack
5. Cartoon hedgehog
10. Use a straw
14. Run the show
15. Wield a baton
16. On bended _____
17. Group of soldiers
18. Over and over
20. Become rough
22. Audio, mostly
23. Store, as fodder
24. Motorless flier
26. Cassette gadget
30. Ab strengthener
33. Mess hall offerings
34. Egg cells
35. Frosts, as a cake
36. Garden tool
37. Work with yarn
38. Windows forerunner
39. Hotel upgrade
40. Preps, as potatoes
41. Steve Jobs, for one
44. It makes cents
45. Geography aids
49. Video gamer's icon
51. Roll-call word
52. BIG3's Triplets head coach
55. European erupter
56. Wrapped up
57. Socks away
58. Verb preceder
59. Piece of cake
60. Moves a muscle
61. *National Velvet* author Bagnold

DOWN

1. Wayne or Lee
2. Type of sentence
3. Identity disguiser
4. Waste
5. *Out of Africa* star
6. *A Prayer for _____ Meany*



7. Playful bite
8. Dander
9. Collarbone
10. Kabob rod
11. Too rare
12. Convict's quarters
13. Piano pieces
19. Big commotions
21. Hit Stoooge-style
24. _____ Antilles
25. Very heavy
27. British or Byzantine, e.g.
28. Live anagram
29. Sewer dwellers
30. Word with dish or effect
31. Clickable image

32. Precedent setters
36. Squelch
37. Lantern filler
39. Part of a calyx
40. Whine
42. Like old phones
43. Way out
46. Make a wager
47. Boredom
48. Mic holder
49. Balm ingredient
50. Bounty rival
51. Fishing spot
53. Parked oneself
54. Half of CXII

Puzzle answers, page 33

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

POWER WASHING



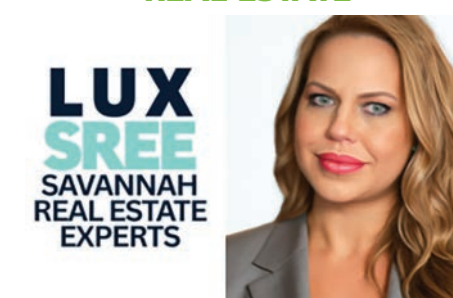
SKIDAWAY ISLAND PRO WASH • Owned by Landings residents and members, we offer the most premium roof and house soft washing, concrete pressure washing and window washing available. We use only the highest quality cleaning processes and commercial equipment available, running the highest quality service available in our industry. Free estimates. Google and Facebook 5-star rated. 100% satisfaction guaranteed. Call or text Matt Shannon 912.600.7377; email matt@siprowash.com; www.siprowash.com

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REAL ESTATE



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BUTTERFLIES

Frequent contributor Jorge Gojman shared these photos he snapped of local butterflies, as well as the image on this issue's cover.





CANCER CARE ON PAR WITH THE WORLD'S BEST.



**"THAT'S WHY I CHOOSE TO PRACTICE AT
ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER."**

Dr. Michael Chahin - Medical Oncologist

BILLY WILLIS - SAVANNAH, GA

A retiree with a passion for golf, Billy had never been seriously ill or hospitalized in his life. But after developing jaundice and other alarming symptoms, he visited the St. Joseph's Emergency Room – and was shocked to be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

He was admitted to the hospital and underwent procedures to relieve a blocked bile duct and remove part of his pancreas and small intestine. Billy then began adjuvant chemotherapy under the care of Dr. Michael Chahin, using the FOLFIRINOX regime. Determined to treat the cancer without neglecting Billy's quality of life, Dr. Chahin encouraged him to resume golfing during his chemo. Working with a multidisciplinary oncology team who shares this patient-centric philosophy is why Dr. Chahin chooses to practice at St. Joseph's/Candler – where world class care is par for the course.

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