

The Skinnie

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Fred Langley
Photography

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UP front

"We need to have a (national) conversation..." Have you heard this phrase? Sure you have; because it's as ubiquitous as it is annoying and absurd.

What's the origin of this directive? I Googled it. Which is an unscientific, borderline-lazy, approach, yielding an inconclusive but brilliantly ironic result.

In 2008, Barack Obama, then a freshman U.S. senator, began to regularly reference the concept of a national conversation, specifically dealing with race. His calls for such discourse followed the widespread exposure of his pastor-friend Jeremiah Wright's incendiary and racially divisive library of public comments. Obama, running against a white woman, Hillary Clinton, for the Democratic presidential nomination, seemed to be suggesting that we keep race front-of-mind and tip-of-tongue. But what to do about "race?" He didn't get too deeply into specifics. Conversation was both the means and the ends, effectively. Keep talking; something's bound to happen, aside from the collective noise.

In 2013, now president, Obama reprised his call-to-mouths, as moderator-in-chief. He implored us to metaphorically man millions of microphones and let 'er rip. We must have national conversations, he said, again and again. He told us to talk about topics as wide-ranging as gun violence, data-collection, cyber security, fatherhood and...of course... race. The notion of a national conversation seemed omnipotent to the president. Omnipotent might be the wrong word. Expedient is likely more apt. In 2016, Obama participated in "A National Conversation: The President and the People," which aired – no joke – on the Disney family of networks, and utilized, for social media purposes, "#nationalconversation" to draw the hipper among us in.

Interglot is a widely used online translation source. It offers two insightful and amusing substitutes for our phrase-of-the-millennium. "To have a conversation" is "to rattle" or "to blab."

When I moved to the South (thank God), I heard somebody say a thing that has stuck with me so that I think of it every day. "...gettin' ready to get ready," the

man said, in a deep and unmasked drawl. I'm guilty of it: Planning without its essential companion: execution. The art of eloquently getting nothing done.

Talk is the enemy of action. Talk is cheap.

Here's my contribution to the national conversation on gun violence: "Don't shoot anybody unless it's in unavoidable self-defense. And if you do shoot somebody unjustifiably, you're screwed. Legal retribution should be swift and severe."

On cyber security: "There's only one way to guarantee your secrets will always remain so. Never tell them to a single soul. Oh, and if you steal stuff, digital or analog, you're screwed (see excerpt from national conversation on gun violence directly above)."

On immigration: "It's awesome that we live in a place that inspires people to come to it. So please, come... respecting laws that govern the process. If the laws don't reflect majority opinion, change them...but they're not optional, subject to individual whim."

On race: "Treat every person you encounter the way you expect to be treated yourself. Don't pretend you don't see race; but don't let it define your thinking. Give everyone a chance to demonstrate what's in his soul, under his skin. If you harm someone, regardless of his or your hue, you're screwed (as you are if you kill or steal, which we have already addressed)."

"We need to have a conversation." The mantra of men known more for what they say than what they do. Me? I'm just over here trying to ensure we make payroll. We can talk when we both finish our work.

Talk is the enemy of action. Talk is cheap.

Scott A. Lauriat

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SAVANNAH SKIDAWAY ISLAND POOLER

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on the cover:
Feed Landley provided this photo of a coffee set crafted from wood by fellow woodworker Chris Geiger. To see more of their impressive craftsmanship, turn the page

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Background image courtesy of Becky Carter; Sunset at Delegal Creek Marina



ABOVE: John Harvey, Jr.'s bread box would be a delight in any kitchen.

LEFT: Typical of John Ragland's "make anything" attitude is making beautiful, individually designed jewelry boxes.

Making SAWDUST

When John Weaver and his wife moved to Skidaway Island, they quickly adopted the Landings lifestyle. He was an engineer by training, an executive with several technology companies, and a partner in a large lobster distributor. But his passion was woodworking. With shops at both his Skidaway and Maine summer homes, he progressed from "rough" woodworking to making fine furniture. Although woodworking tends to be a solitary activity, he sought out others with the same interest. In 2014, Weaver and six Landings neighbors formed the Landings Woodworkers Guild.

The group planned to meet regularly in a member's shop to exchange information or share techniques. The original members came from various backgrounds – high-tech, corporate finance, property management and

WHAT: Landings Woodworkers Guild Display
WHEN: Dec. 1 - 31
WHERE: Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: Landings Art Association, www.landingsartassociation.com/
WHAT ELSE: The Landings Art Association has selected the Landings Woodworkers Guild as its Artist of the Month. Drop by the Palmetto Club to view creations from members of the Woodworkers Guild.

a high-end furniture manufacturer. Abilities within the group ranged from highly skilled amateurs to relative beginners. The one thing they shared was a passion for creating things with wood.

One of the organizers, John Ragland, be-

gan woodworking at the age of 12 under the guidance of his father. As with many of the group's members, he advanced from bird-houses assembled with hand tools to very complex projects. He says of his association with the guild: "Our mutual appreciation and respect for each others' work creates a unique bond."

When I retired from my career as finance manager with energy companies, my son convinced me to look to the day when golf and tennis would not be options. He recommended woodworking. He had been taught advanced skills by his grandfather and passed those skills to me. When my two grandsons were very young, I made toys and games for them. As they got older, I introduced them to my shop, and we now make ambitious projects using power tools.

When the guild was formed, I considered myself a beginner and was a little self-conscious in the presence of "masters." But soon I soon grew comfortable asking for help and accepting advice.

WOOD IS GOOD

The woodworkers in the guild build custom furniture for their own enjoyment or to be sold. Some items are created as gifts or donated to charity. The gallery on the group's website provides insight to the variety of the Landings Woodworkers Guild's creations. Pieces range from serious furniture to utilitarian items to pure flights of fantasy. Most are original designs and, in some instances, utilize fresh techniques or inventive uses for available tools and materials.

Chris Geiger, a former executive with an international textile company, is perhaps the guild's most creative member. His projects feature a unique mix of beautiful and practical furniture and whimsical creations of amazing artistry. "We have a group that places sharing at the forefront," Geiger says, "demonstrating that the sum of the parts is much greater than the individual pieces."

That sharing often extends to tools, providing each member with access to a wide variety of equipment. The guild's website offers information regarding sources of materials, and a For Sale section to buy or sell tools.

Fred Langley, an accomplished photographer, became a woodworker out of necessity. Fresh from college, broke and expecting his first child, Fred's only way to furnish his young family's apartment was to build pieces himself. Over time, his skills contributed to various homes, including his children and grandkids' bedrooms. "The guild offers new ideas from creative and talented lovers of wood," he says.

Often, a member will present a problem he's encountered with a project – such as furniture repair or exotic finishes – and other members offer helpful suggestions. One member has a special concern about safety and usually takes a few minutes to share tips on how to make workshops safer. Sometimes, outside speakers demonstrate special techniques or new products. The guild schedules field trips to various area points of interest including the SCAD design studio, the Port of Savannah, Release Marine, and the Benedetto



One of John Saucier's hand-made guitars

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By Edward Harvey, Jr. • Photos Courtesy of Fred Langley

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A wooden platter, created by Fred Langley.

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Though an engineer by education, John Saucier also studied classical guitar. His interest in how things are made led him to study the history of guitar construction. Today he crafts guitars using traditional materials and original methods. When authentic tools are not available, Saucier fashions them himself. "There is always a better and unexpected way to make things," he notes, "and the guild provides a way to discover those techniques."

Meetings include a show-and-tell period for members to exhibit their latest projects. Afterwards, the guild enjoys dinner at a nearby restaurant. Spouses meet for dinner at the same time, but in different venues.

There was concern that the group could outgrow available space, so it was originally decided not to actively advertise or solicit members. Instead, the founders would invite friends with a known interest in woodworking and let word of mouth do the rest. Today, the guild has about 20 active members with a broad range of skills, areas of interest and resources. Many reside at the Landings, but some come from downtown Savannah,

Richmond Hill and Bluffton. John Weaver observes, "The guild provides camaraderie, inspiration, learning and wonderful team projects."

Part of the guild's mission is to support community-based organizations and local charities. Members – individually or in teams – have donated handcrafted items to charity auctions, helping raise funds on behalf of the organizations. The Woodworkers Guild built 25 birdhouses and nine bat houses for the Audubon Society and will fabricate bases for the Skidaway Kiwanis yard flag program. One team project involves the Landings Art Association display cabinet located in the Palmetto clubhouse.

Anyone from Skidaway Island and beyond with a strong interest in woodworking is welcome. You needn't be highly skilled or have an extensive workshop. To learn more, visit landingsww.celeris.com.



John Weaver, John Ragland and Ed Harvey collaborated on this slant top desk with inlays. It was donated to a fund-raising auction for Safe Shelter.

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Notes From the Deep Rough

While not unique to the South, a certain epiphytic flowering plant is iconic and immediately associated with the region below the Mason-Dixon line and east of the Mississippi River. The abundant Spanish Moss draped from our trees is simultaneously eerie and irenic, and somehow redolent of stagnation and decay. Speaking of stagnation and decay, how's your golf game?

I try hard to keep in mind that elite milers don't run their personal bests at each meet and professional golfers don't shoot their career lows in every round. That is not truly a fair comparison, though, since golf is subject to the vagaries of weather, course conditions and rub of the green. But all things equal, even a top pro may shoot 64 one day and 74 the next. At my talent level and physical condition, the range is greater - 72 one day, 92 the next. I've come to believe that it's just a matter of how I get out of bed in the morning and not a function of shunning the practice facility and fitness center.

And what if I do shoot 72, from the member tees? At that yardage, Rory McIlroy would shoot 54. My golfing ability is to that of Rory as my brain power is to that of (mathematician) Alan Turing, and he is dead. How do mere mortals avoid feeling inferior and insignificant in comparison to the exceptional? I suppose there is slight comfort in the realization that I am smack-dab in the middle

of most bell curves of human attributes. No rogue genes have made me preternaturally clever, tall or able to hit a golf ball 300 yards.

So, what pleasure is to be derived from golf played as it is by the rest of us? I have no interest in winning a B-flight competition at my club. If I can't take on the club champion straight up, why fight over table scraps? There are few cheap thrills left to us jaded, older golfers, so I throw caution to the wind and go for broke at every opportunity, a la Arnie. Take on that fairway bunker, the trees at the corner of the dogleg, and the pin tucked behind that sand trap. Who remembers that fine lay-up shot on the short, reachable par 5? But you will remember the pure 3-wood that carried the water and reached the green in two. Then again, at my age, who remembers breakfast?

If you're an 80 shooter and fail every challenge and shoot 95, so what? Tomorrow's another day, and the golf gods don't demand that you lop off a finger with pruning shears for your ineptitude.

In complete negation of the previous diatribe, I remain perplexed by one thorny conundrum that seems unresolvable. The universe had been in existence for 13.8 billion years before I was created and will be around for countless eons after I'm deconstructed. By any objective accounting, I am a meaningless mote, as are my wants and fears. Why, then,

By Peter Sizer

does shooting 86 hurt so deeply? Why should the various atomic elements that were created in the titanic explosion of a supernova and now, improbably, compose my mind and body, lead to my shanking that shot on the sixth hole? What a terrible waste of the Big Bang.

Being very serious about golf in my younger days, I failed to absorb the wisdom that was freely offered during a round on Cape Cod 40 years ago. It was early autumn and there was a chill in the air. I was staying at the home of my girlfriend's parents. Since she didn't play golf, I showed up alone at the local muni one Sunday afternoon. I joined a threesome of a husband and wife, and her mother. The mother was a pistol. After a few holes, I learned that her festive mood was being artificially enhanced when she offered me a nip of bourbon "against the nip in the air" from her flask. She had taken pity on a fool who took silly golf much too seriously. I politely declined, clinging to the falsehood that good golf demanded complete sobriety. Only recently have I realized that when the front nine is a total disaster, a wee nip on the 10th tee can see you through the long slog to the 18th green. Oh, the needless misery I've endured over the years.

In Savannah, golf is a year-round endeavor, unlike New England with a golf season that is eight months long at best, and where the Feral Golfer lived for 60 years. While the forced winter layoff produced the inevitable rust, one benefit was a cleansing of the system of bad habits and bad memories. When signs of spring arrived, the avid golfer felt like a racehorse at the gate, as golfing adrenaline began coursing like the sap in dormant maple trees. Only by midsummer did the bad habits insinuate themselves once again, along with the concurrent invasion of gypsy moths into those same maples - an apt metaphor.

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The actual limit to the golf season in New England is variable, depending upon the first snowfall, when many courses are converted to impromptu cross-country skiing venues. Temperature is also a factor, as swinging a club with a stalactite of frozen snot hanging from your nose is too much for even the most dedicated. So, in fond memory of "colden" days gone by, I offer this bit of doggerel.

ODE TO DIEHARD GOLFERS (Why I Moved to Savannah)

The furnace kicked in yesterday, my sweater's on to stay,
Yet the end of golfing season is several weeks away.

No starting out at three o'clock to save another dime,
November marks the last hurrah of daylight-saving time.

The geese are winging south, and that's certainly a blessing,
No need to stop and clean your spikes made foul by their messing.

The leaves are falling freely, so don't delay and diddle,
Swing routine is pointless when you lose it down the middle.

Leafless trees present no hazard, in case your ball comes close,
Unless of course it strikes the part that's solid cellulose.

Playing golf with woolen mittens can be a bit too much,
But loss of feel is nothing if you never had the touch.

Frozen fingers can relieve those chronic bouts of yipping,
That's because, more often than not, you're merely chilly-dipping.

You tee it up and start your swing and try to take it back,
But extension's a foreign concept when you wear that Anorak.

Bundled up in winter wear, your swing resembles chopping,
No posing at the finish when Fahrenheit is dropping.

Recall the days of gutta balls without resiliency,
The holes are long when roll and all your drive goes 1-8-3.

Replacing divots becomes moot when the ground is frozen,
Hit the ball a little fat and curse the game you've chosen.

Water hazards pose no threat when they're in a solid state,
Hit that pond deliberately, your longest drives await.

No need for ball retrievers, but a broom's a useful tool
For snow's a loose impediment for those who know the rule.

One might stop and ask the question, "Why prolong the topping?"
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GLORIA and DALE MOSES

Registered nurse Gloria Moses served in the Air Force Nurse Corps from 1959 to 1964. Growing up in Savannah, Gloria's family knew hard financial times. Her mother worked whatever jobs she could find while raising three young daughters herself. After graduating from Savannah High School in 1947, Gloria boldly took a bus to Augusta, where a scholarship enabled her to attend the Barrett School of Nursing. Within three years, Gloria was capped a registered nurse, and was employed by Augusta's University Hospital for the next two years.



Dale Moses

It was a wonderful couple of years, as Gloria remembers the time in Japan. When not exploring the country, she and Dale lived off-base in a small house in a collection of rice fields.

When Dale retired from the military in 1962, the couple decided to try life on the West Coast. Before they finished settling into their new home in Vacaville, California, Gloria became the office nurse for a local doctor, which led to an eventual position as director of a nursing home. Dale took a job with the California Department of Corrections as a prison guard at Solana State Prison.

During a summer vacation, the couple traveled to Arkansas. They enjoyed their visit so much that they later relocated there, buying a 220-acre cattle ranch. With hired help, they turned it into a profitable business. "No venture or amount of work was ever too much for Dale," Gloria explains.

Five after the beginning of the Arkansas experiment, Gloria and Dale moved to San Antonio, where her sister lived. Gloria returned to nursing, leading the care team at a large retirement facility. Dale drove a school bus for two years, which affirmed his affinity for large vehicles, and he purchased an 18-wheeler and began to haul freight far and wide. One truck

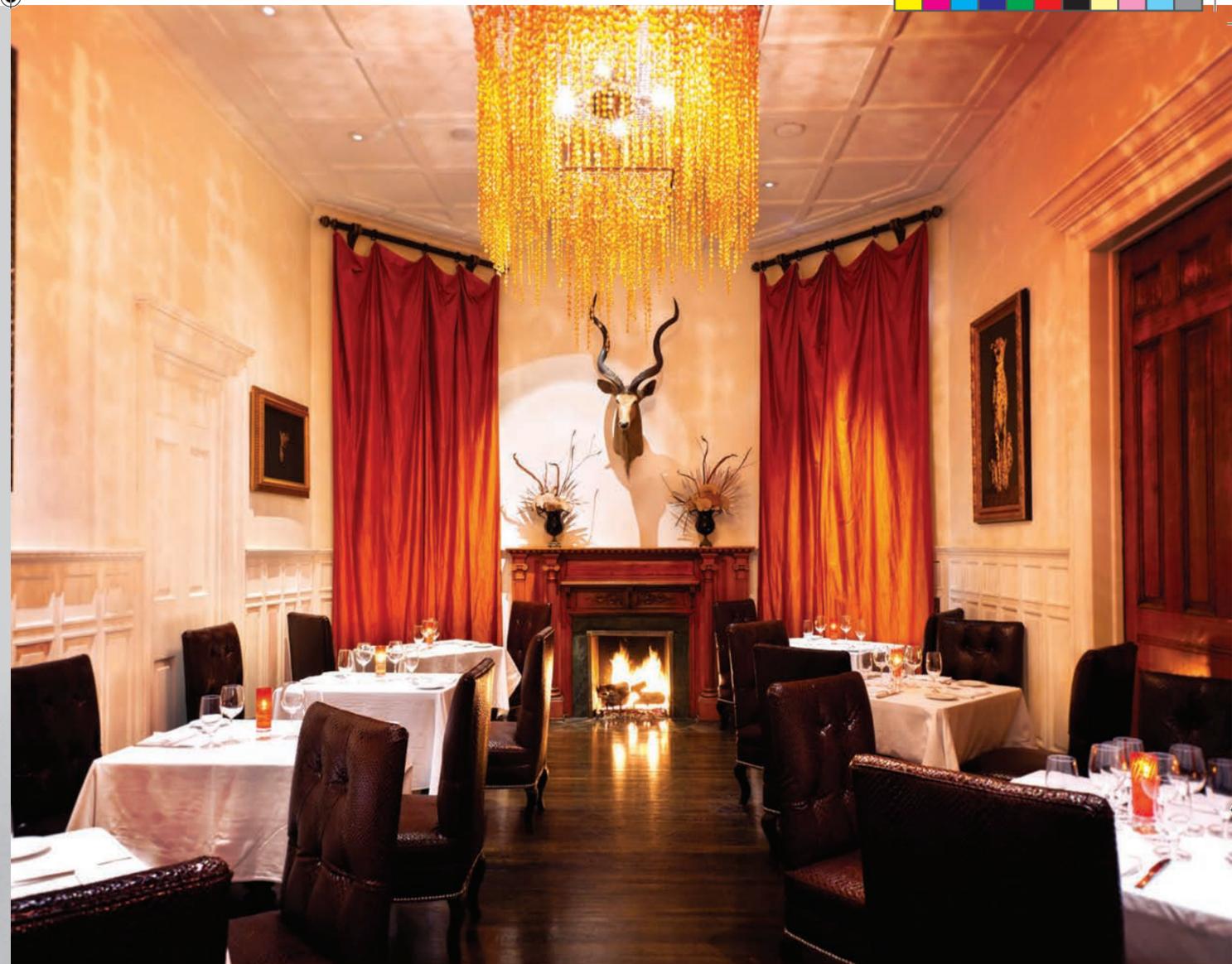
led to two, which led to five. After 10 years, Dale sold his trucking company and considered his next move.

In 1993, Gloria and Dale retired and moved to Savannah, living on Wilmington Island until Dale's death in 2002 at age 85. Now 92, Gloria lives comfortably in a local retirement home. Age does nothing to diminish her many memories of her adventures living in Washington, Japan, California, Arkansas, and, ultimately, right here Dale.

As Gloria recalls with obvious fondness and pride, "He was a wonderful husband and a driven entrepreneur."



Gloria Moses, early in her nursing career



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It's the most wonderful time of the year. Filled with potlucks, parties, pastries and much more. Delightful – unless you're trying to maintain a healthy lifestyle. But eating well during the holiday season is possible, with a bit of commitment.

A study from the American Heart Association reports that the average person gains three pounds between Halloween and New Year's Day. Our first question: Who are these people who gain only three pounds? More seriously: Is it possible to stay healthy during the holidays?

"Staying healthy this time of year doesn't mean you can't enjoy the parties and celebrations," says Rachel Binkley, clinical dietitian at St. Joseph's Hospital. "It's all about moderation. There's just so much more food around this time of the year, and it may not necessarily be foods you are used to. Halloween you have more candy. Thanksgiving and Christmas, you'll have way more dessert. You get to eat dishes that your family members make that you don't normally get year-round. It can lead to a cheat-day mentality where you think, 'Since I can only get it on this day, I better get it while I can.'"

For best results, don't restrict yourself so much that you don't enjoy the holidays. offers eight healthy holiday eating tips.

CREATE A BALANCED PLATE

Make half your plate fruits and vegetables. This provides important nutrients and fiber, and such foods are typically relatively low in calories. Even if a vegetable portion is a casserole, that's okay. Include a lean protein that will help you feel full, and some carbohydrates for energy.

BRING A HEALTHY DISH

If you know from past get-togethers that vegetables and fruits aren't in abundance, consider bringing a nutritious dish that you enjoy, such as fruit salad or roasted veggies.

WEIGH YOUR OPTIONS

A lot of holiday meals are set up buffet style. Evaluate all your options before you start plating. Choose what you like most. Again, think about the vegetables and proteins, but if you really, really want



something, get it.

STAY HYDRATED

Drink water. When you drink alcohol and sugar-sweetened beverages, the sugar and calories add up quickly and leave you feeling sluggish.

DO DESSERT

If you're craving dessert, eat one. If you ignore cravings, they tend to get stronger, and you might even end up eating more sweets.

If you tend to get desserts or seconds, try to wait 30 - or just 15 - minutes after your first plate. It may take a little while for your body to recognize you're full. If you're still hungry, go for it. Think about what looks best when you're going back for seconds.

EAT YOUR NORMALLY SCHEDULED MEALS

There's no need to skip early meals on holidays. Eat breakfast as you usually would. If your holiday get-together is at dinnertime, eat lunch anyway. If it's later than your normal dinnertime, it's okay to snack before dinner. This helps to prevent overeating when you're famished.

EXERCISE

Incorporating movement into your day can help prevent bloating and discomfort. Take walks. If you enjoy going to the gym and have extra time in the morning, that's great, too. Make sure whatever you choose isn't going to cause you stress or take away from time with loved ones.

Julia Gammon, education specialist/clinical dietitian with the St. Joseph's/Candler Wellness Center says, "During the holidays, it's important to watch how you consume calories. Are they empty calories – without nutritional value – like sugary beverages and fatty foods? Or are you getting mostly fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains and

Live smart

Give Smart. Give Healthy.

Here are some thoughtful, fun and healthy ideas to complete your holiday shopping:

- An annual gift membership to the St. Joseph's/Candler Wellness Center. Call 912.819.8800 for specific details, or visit sjchs.org/wellnesscenter.
- HOLIDAY SPECIAL: Buy five, get one free. Purchase five personal training sessions or five massage therapy sessions and get one free, now through December 23. To purchase, visit the St. Joseph's/Candler Wellness Center, or call 912.819.8800.
- An annual gift membership to the St. Joseph's/Candler Smart Senior Program. Call 912.352.4405 for more details, or visit sjchs.org/smartsenior.
- Find a wide variety of special holiday gift items at the gift shops at both St. Joseph's and Candler Hospitals.

lean proteins?"

Plan ahead. Consider the following alternatives to some naughty holiday treats:

- Instead of eggnog, fill your glass with mostly low-fat or skim milk and add a small amount of eggnog for flavor.
- If you're a hot chocolate drinker, use low-fat or fat-free cocoa mixes with low-fat or nonfat milk or hot water.
- Too many people overindulge on alcohol during the holiday season. Reduce your alcohol intake by drinking still or sparkling water between each alcoholic drink.
- Compare labels of your favorite holiday ingredients and choose items with less sodium and saturated fats and no added sugars.
- Want to have your cake (or pie) and eat it too? Consider the buddy system, and split your dessert with someone, or try bite-sized or half portions.
- Stay active. Go for walks after meals; don't skip the gym and keep moving.

It's important to focus on you. Don't expect perfection. "It's a holiday," Binkley notes. Here's to a happy – and healthy – holiday season to all.

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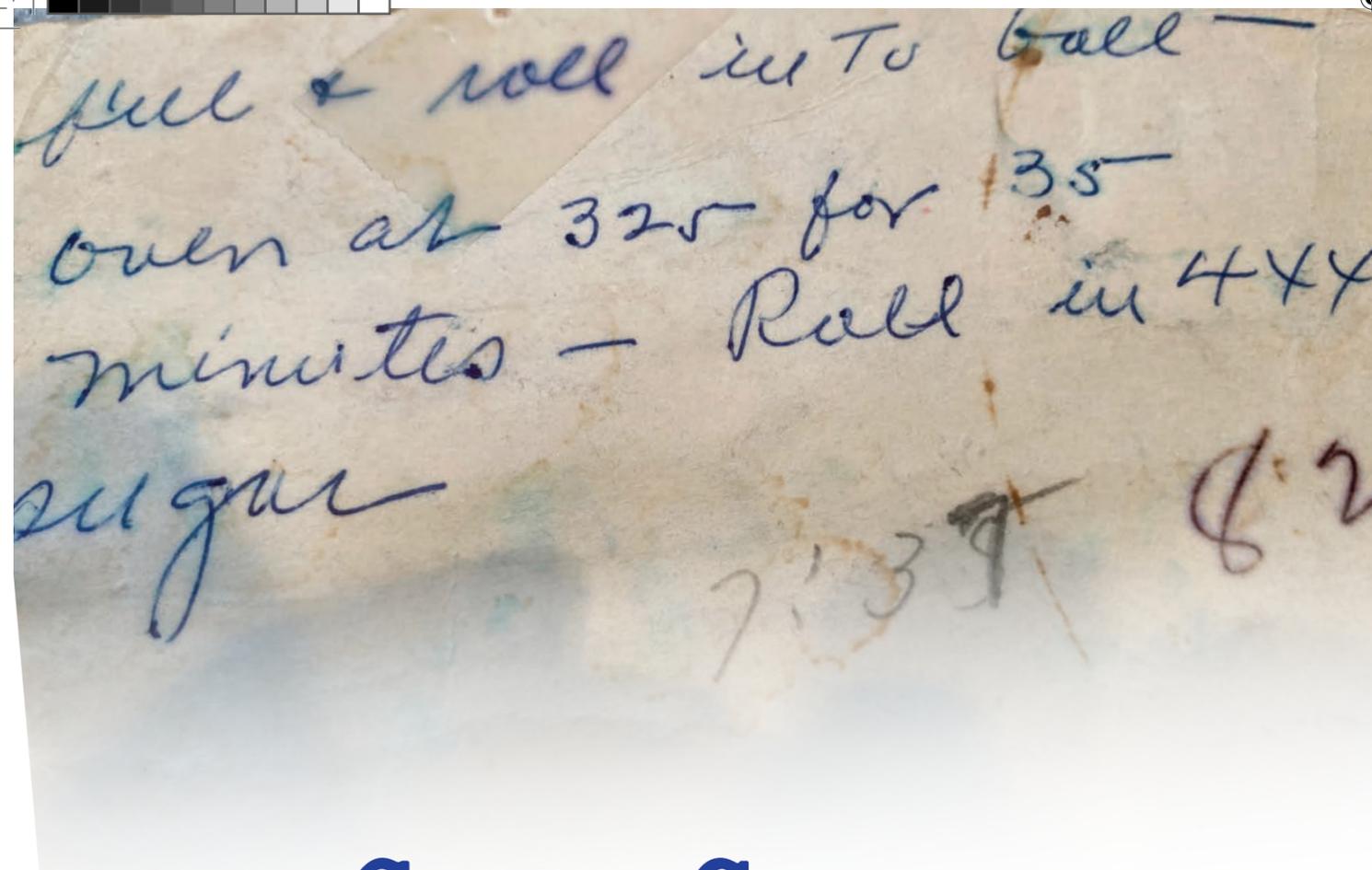


Co-Workers Support the Community



Saturday, December 4, St. Joseph's/Candler co-workers took to the streets of Savannah supporting two local community efforts. The health system's community volunteer corps, the Angels of Mercy, manned Salvation Army red kettle at Kroger on Mall Boulevard (above). Other members of the Angels of Mercy staffed the annual Enmarket Savannah Bridge Run, one of the city's biggest public athletic events (below).





GREEK COOKIES

A Ghost of Christmas Past by Scott Lauretti

To call these cookies “Greek” is to overlook variations in culinary canons across the globe. But they’re Greek to me. Because my mother refers to them so. Because my great aunt, Ruth, of German and Irish descent, made necessity-named Greek cookies after marrying a Greek, Bill Veroukes. And these were they.

The recipe is simple and accessible, a metaphor for the immigrant experience that has shaped this country. It instructs the maker to use his hands as his primary tool. It is written in ink on file cards. It has been used so often that the card stock is crinkled, stained and torn. Conspicuously absent: Words like “unsalted” and “all-purpose” and “parchment” and “Madagascar.” The non-sequitur “7:37” and “82” in black ink, distinguishable from the original author’s blue at the bottom of the second card, suggest a multi-tasking mother in a kitchen – dusty apron, mind racing, fingers caressing dough. There is no reminder in the “original” recipe to cool the cookies before you roll them in sugar. A mother just knows.

My mom made these a couple of weeks ago. She has done so for me for more than 50 years. This was the best batch I’ve had in my lifetime. I told her so, and then I asked her why. “Don’t overwork the dough,” she said.

Sometimes, enough is enough.

- 1 c butter
- ¼ c 4XX powdered sugar, plus more for rolling
- 2 c sifted flour
- 1 tsp vanilla

Preheat oven to 325. Cream butter with sugar until fluffy. Add flour and vanilla and mix well by hand. Scoop heaping teaspoons and roll into balls. Bake for 35 minutes. Cool cookies and roll in powdered sugar, coating them well.



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We're Giving It Away!

Football Pick 'Em Pool

Never let it be said that the Pick 'Em Pool isn't a family affair. Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy and Ramona "Fo' Sho" Foshee each, separately, scored 13 of 18 during the weekend games, while choosing several outcomes differently. So, don't worry: No collusion.

The dynamic duo differed on their guesses for the winner of the Patriots/Bills Monday night game, and that disagreement proved to be the difference that swayed things in Jimmy's favor. New England claimed victory over Buffalo, 14 – 10, making the "his" of this his-and-hers pair of prognosticators the champion of the family Foshee and all of the Skinnie land (for this fortnight). Congratulations, Jimmy, and good luck deflecting the spousal resentment for your narrow win!

Now, it's the best time of our pool year. The annual Bowl Bonanza Games begin Saturday, December 18. So, entries are due by 5 p.m. Friday, December 17. Email picks to chendrix@theskinnie.com. Or send your entry the old-fashioned way to:

The Skinnie
15 Lake Street, Suite 280
Savannah, GA 31411

Alternatively, just drop it by our offices Please, limit one entry per contestant.

Perhaps you think the NCAA bowl schedule has become ridiculously bloated. Check out these fun facts regarding college football's postseason. We'll leave the judgments regarding relative absurdity to you.

1. Who knew Frisco (Texas) was such a bowl mecca? Evidently, Dallas-area denizens are pigskin starved. Because there are TWO Frisco-named games, both played in Toyota Stadium: the Frisco Bowl and the Frisco Football Classic.

2. The NCAA has the state of Michigan covered, literally. Not only are the University of Michigan Wolverines playing in the Orange Bowl as one of four national championship playoff teams, but Eastern, Central and Western Michigans all received bowl invitations – a horizontal sweep of the Great Lakes State. And Michigan State plays in the Peach Bowl.

3. North Carolina battles South Carolina, which sounds more like a regional civil war than a football game. If war between the neighboring states were to break out, South Carolina would likely be under-resourced but tougher than the boys in baby blue.

4. The University of Texas received TWO bowl bids – one for its San Antonio branch campus and one for the El Paso branch. Meanwhile, the ACTUAL University of Texas (Austin...the Matthew McConaughey one...the one with its own TV network...the one fixin' to join the SEC) is going nowhere but home for Christmas break.

5. Remember the Alamo? You might, but the could-have-been-coaches for the two teams in the Alamo Bowl probably won't. Oklahoma's Lincoln Riley, who signed, in 2020, his most recent extension (through 2025) with the Sooners, left Norman for USC hours after losing to Oklahoma State. Meanwhile, Oregon's Mario Cristobal – at press deadline – is mulling an offer to return to Miami, his alma mater, although he has agreed to contract extensions with the Ducks twice in the last three years, and Oregon is now flashing \$85 million at him to entice him to sign for a third time.

6. Eighty-three FBS teams earned bowl eligibility...and there are only 130 teams total in the division. While that's a 64 percent success rate, neither Georgia Southern nor Georgia Tech live to play a December or January day.

Good luck and enjoy the games.

Bahamas Bowl
Cure Bowl
Boca Raton Bowl
New Mexico Bowl
Independence Bowl
Lending Tree Bowl
LA Bowl
New Orleans Bowl
Myrtle Beach Bowl
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Frisco Bowl
Armed Forces Bowl
Gasparilla Bowl
Frisco Football Classic
Hawaii Bowl
Camellia Bowl
Quick Lane Bowl
Military Bowl
Birmingham Bowl
First Responder Bowl
Liberty Bowl
SDCCU Holiday Bowl
Guaranteed Rate Bowl
Fenway Bowl
Pinstripe Bowl
Cheez-It-Bowl
Alamo Bowl
Duke's Mayo Bowl
Music City Bowl
Las Vegas Bowl
Gator Bowl
Sun Bowl
Outback Bowl
Citrus Bowl
Arizona Bowl
Texas Bowl
Peach Bowl
Fiesta Bowl
Rose Bowl
Sugar Bowl
Orange Bowl
Cotton Bowl

Middle Tennessee St. vs Toledo
Coastal Carolina vs Northern Illinois
Western Kentucky vs Appalachian St.
Fresno St. vs UT-El Paso
BYU vs UAB
Liberty vs Eastern Michigan
Utah St. vs Oregon St.
Louisiana vs Marshall
Tulsa vs Old Dominion
Kent St. vs Wyoming
San Diego St. vs UT-San Antonio
Army vs Missouri
UCF vs Florida
North Texas vs Miami
Memphis vs Hawaii
Ball St. vs Georgia St.
Western Michigan vs Nevada
East Carolina vs Boston College
Houston vs Auburn
Air Force vs Louisville
Texas Tech vs Mississippi St.
North Carolina St. vs UCLA
West Virginia vs Minnesota
SMU vs Virginia
Virginia Tech vs Maryland
Clemson vs Iowa St.
Oregon vs Oklahoma
North Carolina vs South Carolina
Tennessee vs Purdue
Wisconsin vs Arizona St.
Wake Forest vs Texas A&M
Washington St. vs Miami
Arkansas vs Penn St.
Iowa vs Kentucky
Boise St. vs Central Michigan
Kansas St. vs LSU
Michigan St. vs Pittsburgh
Notre Dame vs Oklahoma St.
Ohio St. vs Utah
Baylor vs Mississippi
Michigan vs Georgia
Alabama vs Cincinnati

As a tiebreaker this week, pick the national champion and total points in the title game. _____

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

WHAT: Coastal Empire Habitat for Humanity inaugural "Home for the Holidays" gala

WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m.

WHERE: Marriott Savannah Riverfront, 100 General McIntosh Blvd.

HOW MUCH: Individual tickets start at \$150

CONTACT: Please visit www.HabitatSavannah.org for more information

WHAT ELSE: The gala will serve as the largest fundraiser for the fourth quarter of the year for the local nonprofit organization. Guests will enjoy dinner, drinks, dessert, dancing, and a fun game!



PARISH PARTY

WHAT: St. James Holiday Party for Landings Parishioners

WHERE: Palmetto Ballroom

WHEN: Wednesday, Dec. 15 - Doors open at 5:45 p.m. for cocktail/social hour; dinner at 6:30

HOW MUCH: \$41 per person

CONTACT: Maryce Cunningham, 912.335.1717, marycejcunningham@yahoo.com

WHAT ELSE: Kick off the Christmas season with a social hour to meet new St. James parishioners. If you joined the parish in the past few years and have not attended this event, please consider joining us. You can reserve a table with up to 10 seats by including the names of your group on the reservation form.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

WHAT: Handel's "Messiah Part I" and Carols

WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 19, 5 p.m.

WHERE: Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

HOW MUCH: \$40, \$25 or \$15

CONTACT: Eventbrite.com

WHAT ELSE: The Cathedral Chamber Orchestra, Cathedral Choir and soloists will perform the Christmas portion of Handel's Messiah. The audience will have the opportunity to sing the great carols of the season with the choir, orchestra, and organ.

island hopping

Please email content to mail@theskinnie.com.
Deadline is the Friday prior to publication.

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.

GOTTA LOVE IT

WHAT: Landlovers membership / open to all Skidaway Islanders

HOW MUCH: Each \$30 membership fee covers one household of one or two adults.

CONTACT: Vicki Knapp at landloversmembership@gmail.com or visit www.landingslandlovers.com for more information.

WHAT ELSE: The membership year runs from September 1 through August 31. Landlovers is a philanthropic and social organization dedicated to enriching the Landings community and Skidaway Island at large. Landlovers sponsors year-round social activities and fundraising events to support student scholarships and multiple non-profit service organizations.

REVERIE ON THE RIVER

WHAT: Savannah Christmas Market at Plant Riverside District

WHEN: Friday, Nov. 26 - Monday, Jan. 3

WHERE: Plant Riverside District, 400 W. River St.

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Tyler Gray, tyler.gray@kesslercollection.com or 912.373.9105

WHAT ELSE: The Savannah Christmas Market at Plant Riverside District offers open-air, holiday-themed events as well as a European-style outdoor holiday market, live performances, tree-lighting ceremony, children's activities, photos with Santa, and much more. The tree-lighting on Nov. 26, at 6 p.m., will feature live music, a reading of "The Night Before Christmas," the arrival of Santa Claus, a performance by Cirque Divina, and a holiday fountain show. The Savannah Harbor Boat Parade of Lights is Nov. 27, at 7 p.m., with VIP viewing at Plant Riverside District available for \$20 per person.

FIBER RICH

WHAT: The Fiber Guild of the Savannahs' artwork

WHEN: Dec 1 - 31. Artists' reception Dec. 5, 2 - 4 pm. Masks required.

WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St.

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

CONTACT: Vicky Lunick, 912.355.8111

WHAT ELSE: The Fiber Guild of the Savannahs is a group of artists who share inspiration and techniques using a wide variety of fiber-related arts. Spinning, weaving, dyeing, quilting, knitting, basketry, rug-making, paper manipulation, needle-felting, and crocheting are some of the crafts our members explore. Everyone - beginners, amateurs and professional fiber artists - are all welcome to join the guild.

GOOD TO THE LAST DROP

WHAT: Kiwanis Club of Skidaway Red Cross Blood Drive

WHEN: Monday, Dec. 13, 2 to 6 p.m.

WHERE: Skidaway Island United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall

CONTACT: Please visit: RedCrossBlood.org and enter SIUMC to schedule an appointment

BLUE CHRISTMAS

WHAT: Coastal Conservation Association of Skidaway December meeting - "The Blue Crab"

WHERE: St. Peter's Church

WHEN: Monday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.

CONTACT: Paulette Hamilton, 610.509.0279

WHAT ELSE: Hope Meeks, owner of Southside Shellfish, will discuss the life cycle of the blue crab, the importance of meeting the needs of the present without compromising those of future generations. At the conclusion of the presentation, Hope will share a sampling of her signature crab stew and crab cakes. The CCA of Skidaway's December raffle prize will be gift certificates to Southside Shellfish.

POWER PLANTS

WHAT: Landlovers Plant Strong of Skidaway Island/Ladies Holiday Celebration

WHEN: Dec. 14, 6 p.m.

WHERE: Simone Heyman's home

HOW MUCH: No cost

CONTACT: Simone Heyman at 609.923.3599 or simoneheymanwfpb@gmail.com to be added to the guest list

WHAT ELSE: Open to all Landlovers Skidaway Islanders, not just Landings residents. Guests will prepare a WFPB (whole food plant based) or Vegan Mediterranean/Middle Eastern dish for dinner. Simone organized Plant Strong to support individuals who are interested in discovering the benefits of a WFPB or Vegan lifestyle, and to

provide a network of like-minded individuals with information, ideas and activities. Limited capacity, so sign up soon!

RIGHT ON

WHAT: Ladies on The Right (LOTR) luncheon meeting

WHEN: Thursday, Dec. 16, 12 noon - 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Club at The Landings

HOW MUCH: \$25 for LOTR members; \$35 for non-members; all who are interested are welcome

CONTACT: For more info or to register (deadline: Dec. 13): ladiesontheright.org

WHAT ELSE: Speaker is Bob McEwen, executive director of The Council for National Policy, and former six-term U.S. Congressman who served on the House Committee on Rules and the House Select Committee on Intelligence. LOTR is a greater-Savannah community leadership organization based on Skidaway Island that comprises over 235 members. Founded in 2020, its mission is to inform, educate and inspire members to take leadership roles on issues that impact our community, country and lives.

PET PROJECT

WHAT: Holiday donation drive for the Humane Society of Greater Savannah

WHEN: Ongoing

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

WHAT ELSE: Help make this holiday season

merry and bright for the animals at the Humane Society of Greater Savannah by donating Purina pet food, canned kitten food and formula, dog and cat toys, and treats.

WHERE ART THOU?

WHAT: The works of Courtney Trowman

WHEN: Jan. 2 through 30; Artist's reception January 6, 5 to 7 p.m. (masks required)

WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St. Savannah, GA

CONTACT: Vicky Lunick 912-355-8111

WHAT ELSE: Courtney Trowman's mixed-media collage is born out of an inherent need for expression, her passion for art, and her love of repurposing. Self-admittedly, her strength is not drawing/painting, and she became intrigued by collage and mixed media after being inspired by pop artist Robert Rauschenberg's work.

INSIDE INFORMATION

WHAT: Landlovers Coastal Georgia Living - "Interior Landscaping (aka house plants)"

WHEN: Wednesday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m. - 12 noon

WHERE: Fellowship Hall at Messiah Lutheran Church

HOW MUCH: Annual CGL club dues are \$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family; Guests are welcome for a \$5 fee

CONTACT: Donna Bunn, donnabunn@gmail.com or Deb Werner, debk.werner@yahoo.com

WHAT ELSE: Allan Bradham, president of Fancy

Plants, Inc, will discuss the indoor landscaping trend and how to enjoy plants that make our homes special. Formerly known as the Green Thumb Club, Coastal Georgia Living focuses on gardening, wildlife and the Georgia coastal lifestyle.

NEEDLING YOUR FRIENDS

WHAT: Landlovers Stitch and Bead, open to all Skidaway Island residents, not just the Landings

WHEN: Tuesdays, Jan. 11 and 25, 2 - 4 p.m.

WHERE: Members' homes; location announced by email

CONTACT: Leslie Matthews, 616.550.7057 or lmatews50@gmail.com for more information and to be added to the list

WHAT ELSE: All types of needlework is featured, from knitting to needlepoint, crewel, beading, etc. We enjoy sharing our projects and tips on techniques and resources.

VOICES UNITED

WHAT: Glorious music in a glorious place

WHEN: Sunday, January 16, 5 p.m.

WHERE: Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

HOW MUCH: \$25/\$15/\$10

CONTACT: Eventbrite.com

WHAT ELSE: The choirs of Wesley Monumental United Methodist and Christ Church Anglican join forces with the Savannah Cathedral Choir for an evening of spectacular music making.

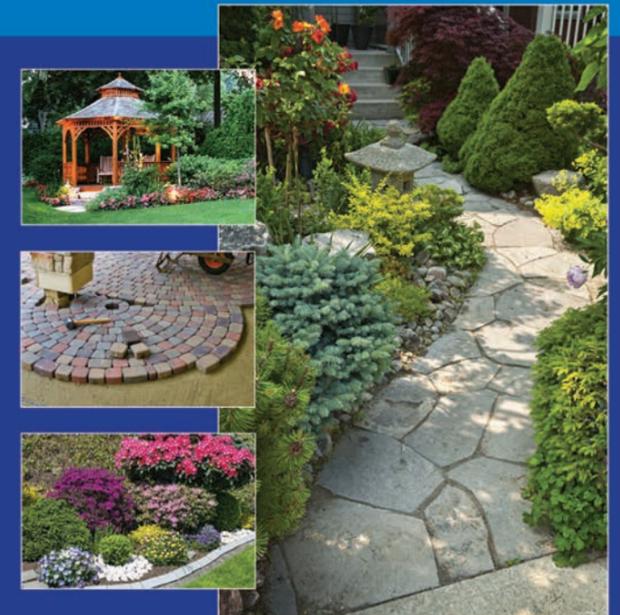
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COAST WITH THE MOST

WHAT: Coastal Conservation Association of Skidaway January Meeting – “Savannah Coastal Refuges”

WHERE: St. Peter’s Church

WHEN: Monday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

CONTACT: Paulette Hamilton, 610.509.0279

WHAT ELSE: Dr. Rick Shields, co-founder and current president of the Friends of the Savannah Coastal Wildlife Refuges, and Will Meeks, project leader of the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex, will speak. The January raffle prize includes a rod and reel, tackle box, and lithium-battery fillet knife, valued at \$270.

SORORITY SOIREE

WHAT: Sorority Sips and Savories

WHEN: Wednesday, Feb. 2, 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Clubhouse

HOW MUCH: \$40

CONTACT: Allison Smith, allisonsmith@comcast.net

WHAT ELSE: This event is open to all sorority women in the greater Savannah area. Contact Allison to request a reservation form. Deadline is January 25.

BOOK IT

WHAT: Savannah Book Festival volunteers needed

WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 19

HOW MUCH: Free, with appreciation

WHAT ELSE: Savannah Book Festival hosts its 15th annual Festival Saturday. As many as 10,000 people will gather across historic downtown Savannah to listen, learn and engage with world-renowned authors from across the country. This happens through the participation of an amazing group of volunteers. Add your time and energy to one of the best book festivals in the country by registering to volunteer at savannahbookfestival.org/support/volunteer/

SPEAK EASY

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

WHEN: Every Friday morning from 10 to 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: A 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. Due to Covid-19, masks are currently required.

ANIMAL ATTRACTION

WHAT: Call for volunteers

WHEN: Flexible hours to meet your needs and schedule, various tasks

WHERE: The Humane Society Thrift Shop, 7215 Sallie Mood Dr.

CONTACT: Volunteer coordinator, Yvonne Hemphill, 603.502.6906

WHAT ELSE: No experience necessary. All proceeds from the thrift shop go to supporting the care of the shelter’s animals.

FERAL FRIENDSHIP

WHAT: Skidaway Cat Alliance Team

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Skidaway Island and surrounding

CONTACT: skidawaycats@gmail.com or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/skidaway-catallianceteam

WHAT ELSE: The Skidaway Cat Alliance Team is a group of dedicated animal lovers who provide food, population control (spay/neuter), medical care, and shelter for free-roaming cats in the Skidaway area. We have cats and kittens currently being fostered that are available to new, loving homes.

PI SERVING

WHAT: Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club of Savannah

WHEN: October through April

WHERE: Skidaway Island and beyond

CONTACT: Beth Holmquist at bholmquist@comcast.net for membership information

WHAT ELSE: This active group of Pi Phi alums enjoys four to five gatherings a year. Plans are underway for a tour of Benedetto Guitars on Oct.

15; a holiday cocktail party on Dec. 3; a Panhellenic Cocktail Party on Feb. 2; and a Founders Day luncheon at Vic’s on the River on Apr. 30, featuring popular local speaker, Roger Smith.

WORLD TRAVELERS

WHAT: Landlovers Marco Polo

WHEN: Third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Members’ homes

HOW MUCH: An appetizer

CONTACT: Please email Deb Wilson and Sue Souls at llmarcopolo100@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: If you were born in or have lived for at least one year (including an academic year) outside the U.S., you are eligible to join. Attendees are asked to bring an appetizer to share as well as their own beverages. Open to all Landlovers members.

SOUL SISTERS

WHAT: JWOL Membership

HOW MUCH: Annual membership is \$20

CONTACT: Sherri Brecker

WHAT ELSE: Mail or tube check to Sherri at 18 Cricket Court. Membership entitles each member to share in the many wonderful programs and social events JWOL offers.

CAN YOU CANASTA?

WHAT: Landlovers Canasta

WHEN: Every Wednesday, 1-3 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Clubhouse, main dining room

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Patti Heleva at landloverscanasta@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

WHAT ELSE: Maximum 24 players and must have basic knowledge of the game. Because we play in the Palmetto Clubhouse, Landings Club and Landlovers memberships are required.

ALL ABOARD!

WHAT: Mexican Train Dominoes

WHEN: Tuesdays 3:30-5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Palmetto Clubhouse’s Byrd Room

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Laurie Milano at 914.474.4943 or lamilano@aol.com

WHAT ELSE: Landlovers and Landings Club memberships required. Please bring a set of dominoes, if you have one.

SHUTTERBUGS

WHAT: Landlovers Digital Photography Club, open to all Skidaway Island residents, not just the Landings

WHEN: Monthly field trips TBA

WHERE: Somewhere outdoors

COST: Free, but Landlovers membership is required

CONTACT: Amy Collings, landloversphoto-club@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Visit www.landingslandlovers.com/activities for more information regarding the Photography Club.

BE A DECENT DOCENT

WHAT: Become a historical interpreter

WHEN: Part-time – Monday thru Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; or Sundays, 12 noon -4 p.m.

WHERE: The Andrew Low House Museum, 329 Abercorn St. on Lafayette Square

HOW MUCH: \$9.50 per hour

CONTACT: Chris Sergi, Education and Programs Manager Andrew Low House csergi@andrewlowhouse.com or 912.233.1828 ext.102

WHAT ELSE: The Andrew Low House is searching for enthusiastic and dedicated individuals with a love of history to serve as guides and educators to represent our museum.

BUNCO SQUAD

WHAT: Landlovers Bunco, open to all Skidaway Island residents, not just the Landings

WHEN: Second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Landings Association meeting room

HOW MUCH: \$6 in singles to be used as prizes and to cover the room fee

CONTACT: Eileen Yost, eileenyrn@gmail.com.

WHAT ELSE: Landlovers membership is required but Landings Club membership is not required. TLA reserves the right to reschedule and will try to give a 24-hour notice. Unless you hear otherwise, meet at 6:30 p.m. to set up and socialize before the games begin. Drinks in covered containers are allowed.

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WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER
Keynote Address.....2.18

FRIENDS & FICTION
Closing Address.....2.20

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TheSkinnie VOL. 19 ISSUE 25 – 29

CHALLENGER CLUES*

"Up on the rooftop, click, click, click..."

ACROSS

- 1. Elbow bender
- 6. Combining form : mountain
- 9. Foe of El Cid
- 13. 3-Down, in Metz
- 14. The ___ Eagle (Lindbergh)
- 16. Buffalo Bill Cody's daughter
- 17. "But I ___,"
- 20. Lao-tzu's ideal
- 21. Conferred
- 22. Whitewashes
- 23. Secant reciprocal
- 24. "Judith" composer
- 25. "___ sight,"
- 32. Former U.S. Senator from California
- 33. Inventor of the crescograph
- 34. Flamenco cry
- 35. They can be wild
- 36. America's Cup competitors
- 38. Busy
- 39. IBM rival
- 40. Phyllis Curtin number
- 41. École denizen
- 42. "___ to all,"
- 46. Altar site
- 47. Prefix for therm or morph
- 48. Band for 1-Across
- 51. Geppetto's goldfish
- 52. Daughter of Hyperion
- 55. "and ___."
- 58. Drink with mezes
- 59. Hawaiian flower?
- 60. Nobel Prize winner Curie
- 61. Squint at
- 62. Kind of jacket
- 63. National Inventors Hall of Fame site

DOWN

- 1. One hundred satang
- 2. Beansprout?
- 3. 13-Across, in Leghorn
- 4. Ending for car or sights
- 5. Less svelte
- 6. Best Movie Oscar of 1968
- 7. Composer of Broadway's "Fanny"
- 8. Single or married
- 9. Environment
- 10. Setting for "The Plague" (Camus)

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61						62				63			

- 11. Elide
- 12. Philadelphia University athletes
- 15. Articulate
- 18. Grapes: bunch / bananas: ___
- 19. Men's fragrance by Dana
- 23. Swan pens
- 24. Maintain
- 25. "with ___-tipped flutes..." (Keats, "Endymion")
- 26. ___ Motel
- 27. Hollywood mob member
- 28. Voodoo
- 29. Sacred symbol
- 30. 1964 AL Rookie of the Year
- 31. Big dos
- 36. Limpid
- 37. Vampire Lestat's creator
- 38. Type of flute

- 40. Noted Dutch muralist
- 41. Country with a blue, black and white flag
- 43. Opposite of ruddiness
- 44. Renew a magazine, in a way
- 45. Like a birthday cake
- 48. On
- 49. Louis Jordan, in "Gigi", e.g.
- 50. Minotaur's home
- 51. Concave molding
- 52. The "Rome of Hungary"
- 53. Olympic speed-skating champion from Seattle
- 54. Bren derivative
- 56. Yak
- 57. Vex

Puzzle answers, page 29

*For each puzzle a relatively difficult set of clues (Challenger) will accompany the first printing. In the subsequent issue, the same puzzle will appear with an easier set of clues (Standard) Email questions/comments to puzzler@theskinnie.com

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Marilyn Brady snapped this gator near the lagoon off Bartrum Road.

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This cancer produces a protein that interferes with blood clotting, contributing to the extensive nose bleeds. Dr. Luskey

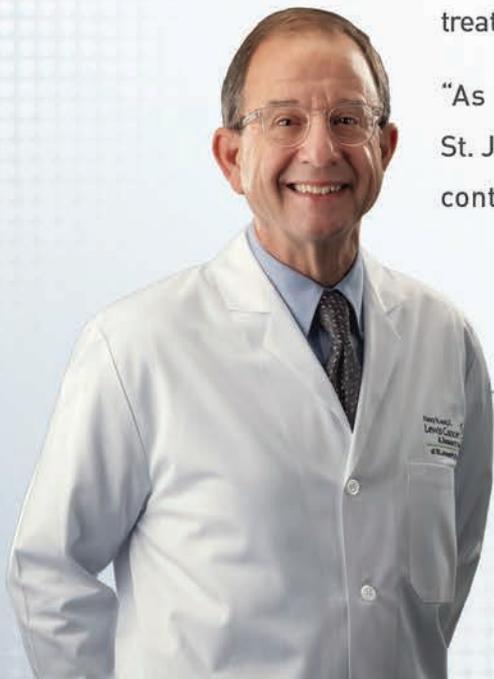


worked closely with the Nancy N. and J.C. Lewis Cancer & Research Pavilion to treat this rare disease with chemotherapy and communication every step of the way. Wilmer is receiving a recently developed protocol for treating this lymphoma and has remained active restoring his collection of old boats.

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