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# upfront

It's St. Patrick's Day. I'm downtown. It's quiet...very quiet, indeed.

I'm writing this from my home office inside my carriage house. Moments ago, after careful consideration, I typed "showtunes" into my Spotify search box. When the system responded with a page of icons, I clicked on "The London Theater Orchestra and Singers: The Greatest Showtunes Ever." I promise, this is not normal for me, but these are strange times, and extraordinary measures are required.

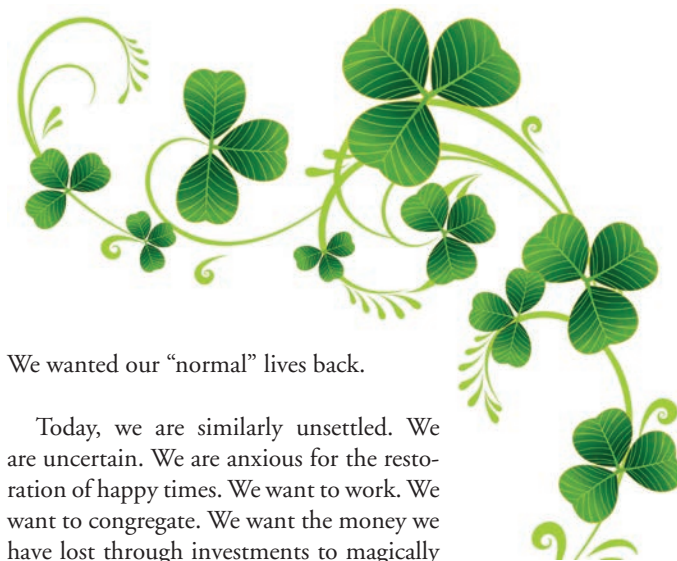
I don't need my usual playlist of angst-y tunes today. But "You'll Never Walk Alone" feels right. So does the wide-eyed optimism of "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'." And "People (Who Need People)," the loners among us are reminded of a source of untapped strength.

It's difficult to avoid seeming tone deaf when speaking or writing publicly during a panic-inducing crisis. So, I'll simply share honestly: I am both scared and not. It oscillates, seemingly minute to minute. Last night, half-awake, half-asleep for most of it, in my semi-conscious moments I tried to evaluate my breathing, dreading it had grown labored since I first closed my eyes. I wasn't lucid enough to determine if the feeling was psychosomatically induced or real. Counting the seconds as I held my breath, my lung capacity seemed to shrink. Groggily, desperately, I willed myself to return to slumber each time I awoke. If the virus was overcoming me, I'd deal with it after sunrise. If not, I'd arise and celebrate the reprieve.

I moved to Savannah in August of 2001. Three weeks after arriving, I made my first trip back to New York City on September 10, and my family stayed here to tend to school and our unremarkable lives. The next day, the world was in chaos, and I was unmoored from my new footings, wandering the burning city's streets with my friend, Larry, my mouth agape and tears in my eyes.

Gradually, we (all of us) stemmed the crying. It didn't happen immediately – I have precise memories of myself using workout equipment at the Oakridge Fitness Center, watching TV, listening through headphones, suddenly giving way to unstoppable waves of despair. Then, one day, I can't pinpoint when, I didn't weep.

This is like that, in a way. Back then, an unexpected enemy seized our shared sense of security. We craved leadership, stability, revenge.



We wanted our "normal" lives back.

Today, we are similarly unsettled. We are uncertain. We are anxious for the restoration of happy times. We want to work. We want to congregate. We want the money we have lost through investments to magically come back. We want to find toilet paper on a grocery store shelf.

Yet, we have subtle things to celebrate, if we are willing to recognize them. We have opportunities to deeply connect in ways that everyday hustle prevents. There is simple joy in preparing and sharing a family meal. And we get to stop being angry at one another for a while. Have you noticed that the yelling has quieted? When we all face a common foe, we highlight our innate common sensibilities and ignore our manufactured or self-amplified differences, if only for an instant in the span of generational time. Cherish that this is such a moment, that the human spirit is a powerful and beautiful collective force.

People will die, sadly, as they do and have done every day since man began walking the earth. And people will continue to live, shelving their darkest fears and deepest regrets in order to serve others and themselves. There will be bad days and better days and, eventually... just...days, one as unremarkable as the next.

For today, I have showtunes:

"Walk on, walk on, with hope in your heart...and you'll never walk alone."

*Staci Donegan*

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#### on the cover:

George Schmink shared this close-up of a green leaf, the perfect image for our special Green issue, spotlighting nature conservancy and responsible stewardship of our natural resources.

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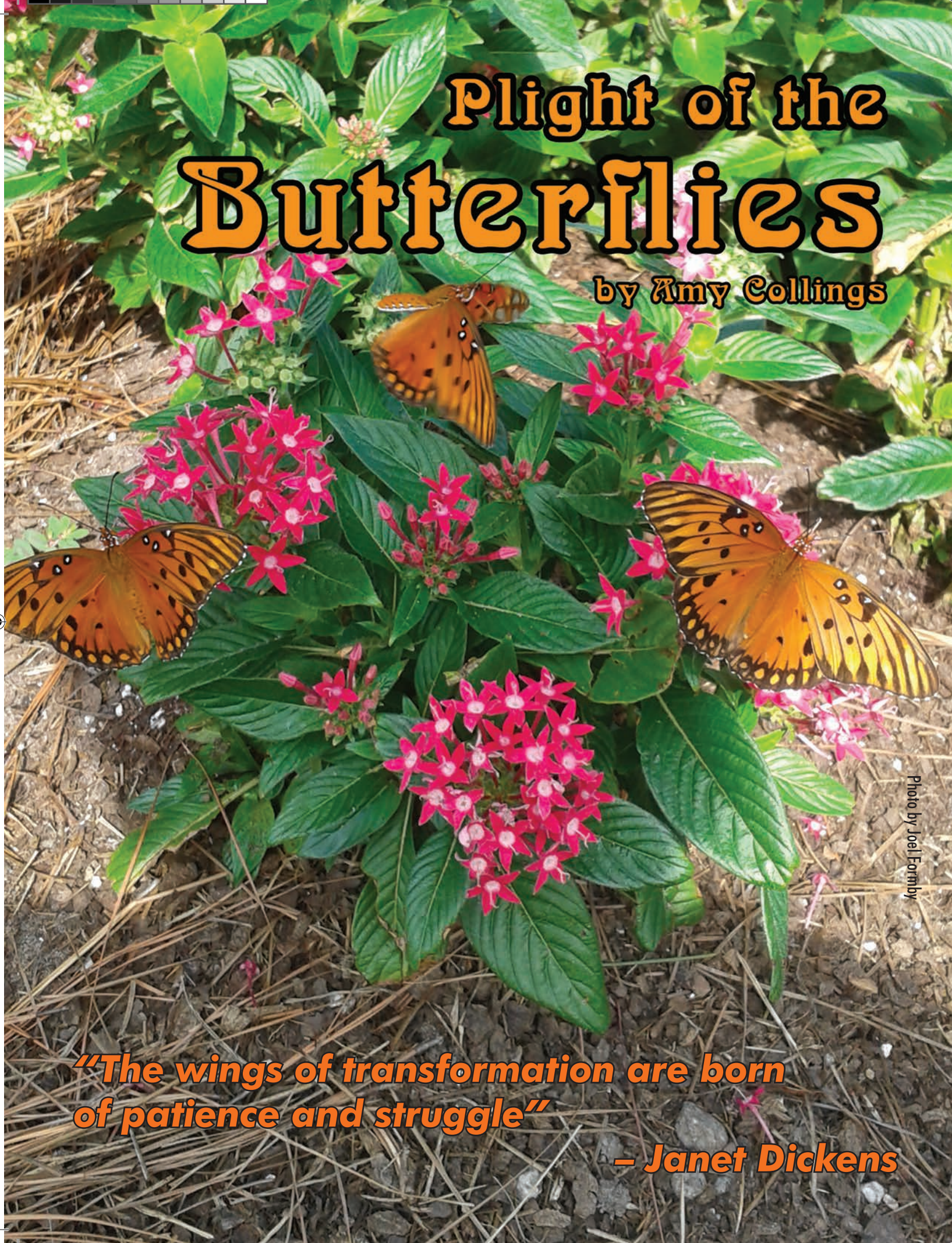
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# Plight of the Butterflies

by Amy Collings

**“The wings of transformation are born of patience and struggle”**  
– Janet Dickens

Photo by Joel Formby

For the monarch butterfly, the struggle for survival is getting harder. Researchers estimate the population of monarch butterflies has dropped 90 percent in the last 20 years. By the end of 2020, the “King of the Butterflies” may be added to the threatened or endangered species list.

Extensive studies show the primary cause of the declining numbers is habitat loss. Milkweed is the monarch caterpillar’s main food source, but herbicides and development have wiped out much of the milkweed along the butterfly’s migratory paths.

As a large and visually striking butterfly, monarchs have been treasured far and wide. Monarchs were reared on the international space station, and are the state butterfly of Illinois, Minnesota, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia, Alabama and Idaho. They are not to be confused with the gulf fritillary butterfly, which is similar in color and size, but the patterns are different, especially on the underside of the wings. In addition, the giant gulf has a strong preference for lantana, not milkweed.

For those who don’t remember their grade school science lessons, monarchs are both amazing and mysterious. In spring, tiny cream-colored eggs are laid on the milkweed and, five days later, a caterpillar emerges and eats voraciously.

Milkweed fuels the monarch caterpillar, but the plant is toxic to birds. By eating it, the yellow-and-black caterpillar becomes toxic, and predators learn to avoid eating the appropriately hazard-tape striped caterpillars.



Left: A monarch caterpillar at Sparrow Field on Skidaway Island. (Photo by Amy Collings)

Right: A marvelous adult monarch butterfly samples lantana at Sparrow Field. (Photo by Fitz Clarke)



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After about two weeks of feeding, the caterpillar forms a blue-green chrysalis, and approximately 12 days later a new monarch emerges. The whole metamorphosis, from egg to butterfly, takes about a month. The butterflies live about 20 days, and each successive generation repeats the same transformative process as it migrates from Mexico to Canada.

Monarchs are the only insects that migrate thousands of miles like birds, in a kind of a relay race for survival. Along the journey, they feed on nectar from a variety of flowers, including milkweed, asters, lilies, verbenas, clover and butterfly bush. With this sweet fuel, they travel an average of 25 to 30 miles a day. It takes about four generations of monarchs to reach Canada, each one traveling a little further north than the last.

How they know when and where to migrate remains a bit of a mystery. Sunlight and temperature are considered contributing factors. Additionally, researchers have found that without their large antennae, they are unable to navigate.

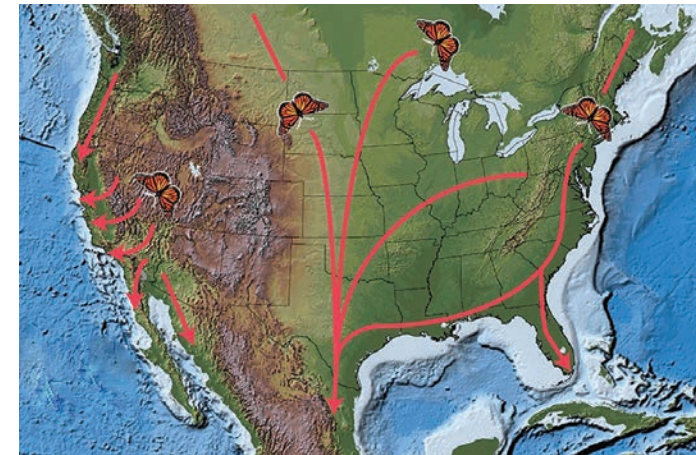
The last generation of the year will live

about seven months, flying about 2,500 miles south to Mexico for the winter, where they cluster in massive numbers in a colony of rare oyamel fir trees. Years ago, when there were millions more coloring the trees bright orange, it was said that their fluttering wings sounded like gently flowing water.

Because they overwinter in the same place each year, monarch numbers and trends can be determined. Among the organizations providing much of this data are the World Wildlife Fund, the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project, the Cape May Migration Monitoring Project, the North America Butterfly Association and numerous state agencies, including the University of Georgia.

Georgia is well positioned to help bring monarchs back to abundance. The butterflies migrate through the state, and it is during this critical spring migration that the butterflies propagate.

Skidaway Audubon is joining a nationwide initiative to increase habitat for monarchs by planting milkweed throughout the island, forming a Monarch Butterfly Trail. Working in partnership with the Landings Club and



Monarch migration paths. Monarchs are the only known butterflies that migrate like birds. (Credit: US Fish & Wildlife Service).

the Landings Association, Skidaway Audubon will plant milkweed in out-of-play areas along the golf courses, and will partner with the National Wildlife Federation and the Garden Club of Georgia to encourage residents to plant milkweed in their gardens.

### ABOUT SKIDAWAY AUDUBON

Skidaway Audubon is an all-volunteer organization, maintaining the largest network of bluebird houses in the Southeast, the largest Diamondback Terrapin rescue project in the Southeast, a state-of-the-art bird cam, an invasive tree removal program, a garden to help reverse

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# TEE OFF FOR WILDLIFE

Are you FORE wildlife? Sign up today for Skidaway Audubon's FUNdraiser, a very special golf tournament benefiting critically important wildlife initiatives on Skidaway Island. The event is set for May 11, and promises fun for all players, with wild-life-themed chip-and-putt challenges, "Tee off from the Turtle" markers on all par-5 holes, lots of mulligans, unique raffle prizes, and a buffet at the clubhouse with specialty drinks and presentations. A highlight is the hole-in-one grand prize of \$10,000! If a player is fortunate enough to get a hole-in-one on any other par-3 hole, he or she will win a set of Callaway irons, a Sharp LED Smart TV, or two round-trip domestic airline tickets. The all-inclusive entry fee is \$145, which includes five raffle tickets, five "Monarch Mulligans" (three normal mulligans and two "Oh No!" mulligans), the chip-and putt challenges and associated prizes, and a delicious

happy hour buffet. Players will have an opportunity to "spin the wheel" to purchase additional raffle tickets at check-in and during the after-play festivities. Audubon's raffle committee has gathered more than 20 great gifts and adventures, including an ultra-light flight over the treetops, a three-day/two-night vacation on Tybee, a three-hour boat trip/walk on Wassaw Island, plus a variety of gift certificates from local restaurants and vendors. While the day promises great fun and prizes, the real winner will be Mother Nature. With proceeds from the event, Skidaway Audubon will join a nationwide initiative to help bring the monarch butterfly back from the brink of extinction. To register for the tournament or become a hole sponsor and help return the monarch, the "King of the Butterflies," to the Coastal Empire, visit [skidawayaudubon.org](http://skidawayaudubon.org).

the worldwide loss of pollinating insects, bat houses to reduce mosquito populations, and weather stations to promote water-saving irrigation practices. The group offers a speaker series and special events, such as the recent raptors presentation, and partners with the "Bottle Brigade" litter patrol, Skidaway Farms, and Sustainable Skidaway to promote environmental awareness and stewardship. Membership in Skidaway Audubon is just \$35 a year, available through Friends of Skidaway Audubon. To join, or for more information, visit [skidawayaudubon.org](http://skidawayaudubon.org). Questions? Contact [friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com).



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# WILDTHINGS

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Mark mcGarity and his family moved to Skidaway Island about four years ago, mainly because they love the outdoors, he says. "Our kids decided to start an Instagram page last year to help educate people about the animals living on the island, especially the reptiles. There seems to be a lot of fear about the snakes and alligators so we thought a page to help with identification and education would be very helpful for residents."

*"Wild Things" is a regular feature in The Skinnie, featuring your photographs of our beloved island. Email your high-resolution photos to [production@theskinnie.com](mailto:production@theskinnie.com). Please include your name and a little info about where the photo was taken.*

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# What You Need to Know About COVID-19

*St. Joseph's/Candler is prepared for and actively monitoring the spread of the coronavirus*

St. Joseph's/Candler infectious disease doctors and nurses are in close contact with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH), and our local health department in monitoring the development of CoVID-19 in our area.

Joseph's/Candler has implemented several visitation restrictions to avoid the spread of respiratory illness.

Currently, we have visitor restrictions in place that prohibit those with flu-like or other respiratory symptoms from visiting our facilities. For the safety of our patients and for the safety of your children, children under the age of 18 are not permitted to visit any patients at St. Joseph's/Candler. Additionally, only one visitor at a time will be allowed to accompany a patient. Patients and visitors to the LCRP will be screened through a written questionnaire asking about your travel history and possible contact with an ill traveler, or if you are experiencing any respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) or a fever.

At St. Joseph's/Candler, our co-workers are prepared year-round to handle infectious diseases and an influx of patients, should that occur. At both St. Joseph's and Candler Hospitals, we stock PPE – head covers, masks, eye protection, gowns, gloves, coveralls and disposable boots – specifically designed to treat patients suspected of having an infectious virus. The emergency room staff is trained regularly on guidelines for putting on and taking off PPE.

There are 20 negative pressure rooms between the two hospitals that are always prepared for use. These rooms are intended for patient isolation. When the door opens to such a room, air goes in and does not escape.

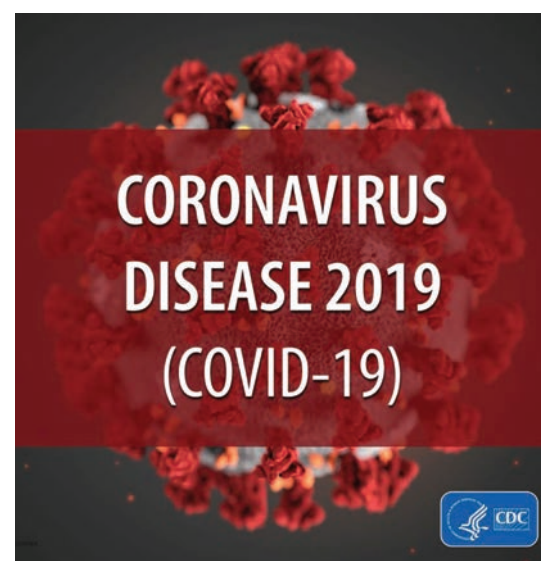
## WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. It's officially named SARS-CoV-2, and the disease it causes has been named coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19 for short.

## WHAT IS ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER DOING TO PREPARE FOR COVID-19?

- St. Joseph's/Candler is following the CDC's recommended infection prevention and control practices including
- Minimizing the chance for exposure
  - Placing any patient with suspected or known COVID-19 in a separate location
  - Providing personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves, masks and gowns, to our co-workers
  - Educating staff, patients and the community on proper hand hygiene

We are screening patients for COVID-19 by asking about recent travel history, exposure to others who have traveled, and determining if the person is experiencing typical symptoms of the virus. Because many of our patients are vulnerable to COVID-19, St.



## HOW WILL ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER TEST AND TREAT A POTENTIAL COVID-19 PATIENT?

St. Joseph's/Candler is in close contact with the CDC as well as the GDPH. The hospital system is following the most current guidelines from those agencies. If a patient comes through one of the emergency departments with respiratory symptoms, he or she will be masked by an intake nurse. The patient will be asked about travel history, exposure to others who have traveled recently, and symptoms will be assessed. Examining personnel rule out other potential causes for symptoms first, like the flu.

If a patient is symptomatic enough for hospitalization, then he or she will be a candidate for testing. After consultation with public health officials, testing will proceed, if indicated. The results can take three to four days to return. During this time, the patient is in isolation and treatment for symptoms is provided. Family members and those who have been in contact with the patient are asked to self-quarantine at home pending the results of the test.

Patients who come to the health system's primary care offices who meet the criteria will be evaluated by their physician on an individual basis. If symptoms are mild, the patient will be advised to self-quarantine. If

## How Does COVID-19 Spread?

COVID-19 is a new disease and experts are still learning how it spreads. However, experts believe it mainly spreads from person-to-person by:

- People who are in close proximity with one another (about six feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; These droplets may land on people who are nearby, or possibly inhaled into the lungs.

People are thought to be most contagious when they are the sickest. There also are indications the virus can spread before someone shows any symptoms, and some people may

the symptoms progress, then they may be a candidate for testing. This will be determined by the physician's judgment in consultation with our infectious diseases team.

be asymptomatic but still spread the virus. It may also be possible that someone gets COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching the face. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

While experts are still learning about COVID-19, it appears this virus spreads easily and sustainably in affected communities, according to the CDC. Community spread means people have been infected with the virus in an area, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected.

## What Are the Symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms of COVID-19 have ranged from mild to severe illness and death for confirmed cases. The following symptoms may appear two to 14 days after exposure

- Fever
- Cough (lower respiratory illness)
- Shortness of breath

- China
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- South Korea

Call your doctor if you develop these symptoms, have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19, or have recently traveled to an area with widespread or ongoing spread of COVID-19 including

If you experience any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19, your healthcare provider can recommend you stay home, or go to the emergency room. If you are experiencing severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing, call 911 immediately.

## Who's most at risk of getting COVID-19?

According to the CDC, most people in the U.S. currently have little immediate risk of exposure to the virus. At this time, the virus is NOT spreading widely in the U.S.

Some people are at higher risk of getting very sick from this virus, including

- Older adults
- The very young
- People with serious chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes or lung disease
- People with compromised or weakened immune systems

## How Can You Prevent Getting COVID-19?

For the general population, your risk of getting COVID-19 is low. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid exposure to the virus. There are simple, everyday preventative steps you can take to help prevent the spread of any respiratory virus:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- If you are sick, stay home
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available
- Clean frequently-touched surfaces regularly – door knobs, light switches, toys and other items
- Always cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or the sleeve of your arm
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hand



The circumstances with COVID-19 are constantly evolving, and St. Joseph's/Candler continues to monitor and consult with the CDC and state public health authorities to adjust to changes that are appropriate for the protection of patients, visitors and co-workers.



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Gilbert & Sullivan)*

# MAJOR ISSUES

The term "grand slam" has been around since the early 19th century, when Edmond Hoyle was formalizing the game of bridge. Eventually, it was applied by sportswriters to baseball, golf and tennis, and was always associated with the number four. The feats of Bobby Jones in 1930 and Don Budge in 1938 were dubbed "grand slams" by the media because of their domination in their respective major championships. Golf and tennis are unique in the world of sports in that they stage major events during each calendar year, rather than playoffs culminating in a final championship game. A golfer or tennis player's place in history is defined, in large measure, by the number of majors won in a career.

In 1860, there was just one major in golf, the British Open, more formally known as "The Open Championship." The event featured only eight players – no cause for hoopla and international headlines. It took 25 years for the group of contestants to grow to 60 players. Not until the 1890s and the arrival of the "Great Triumvirate" of Vardon, Taylor and Braid, did the Open truly become a major. After Bobby Jones' retirement in 1930 and a hiatus during the war years, the Open began to lose its prestige, at least on the west side of the pond. Then, in the Championship's centenary year, Arnold Palmer journeyed to St. Andrews and nearly won. He won back-to-back in 1961 and '62, and the Open was reborn.

In 1885, a second major, the British Amateur, was established. It was followed 10 years later by the U.S. Open and U.S. Amateur. The 1895 U.S. Open was played on a nine-hole course, over 36 holes, in one day, with a field of 11. The cachet of a major was certainly absent, yet Horace Rawlins will forever be known as a major winner.

In 1899, the Western Golf Association founded its open championship; and, for three decades, it was accorded major status by players and sportswriters. Walter Hagen won five

times between 1916 and 1932, yet his victories are not included as majors in his record. After World War II, the Masters supplanted the Western as a major. After all, we can't have more than four, now can we? The Western's prestige persisted into the eras of Snead, Hogan, Palmer, Casper, Nicklaus and Watson, as each won multiple times. Now, the event is no more, a victim of the FedEx Cup playoffs.

National championships have always had an innate aura of significance, although the Canadian and Australian Opens, both initiated in 1904, have never risen to the highest level of prestige. Bobby Jones, at 17, played in the 1919 Canadian Open and finished second, 16 strokes behind the winner. In 1971, the Canadian inadvertently became part of golf's "Triple Crown," thanks to Lee Trevino. That year he won the British Open, the U.S. Open, and the Canadian Open, thus holding three national championships, and the Tour's three oldest events, simultaneously. Tiger Woods repeated the feat in 2000.

The Australian Open may not be a major, but the list of hall-of-fame winners is long, and goes back to 1936, when Gene Sarazen won. Gary Player won seven times between 1958 and 1974. Jack Nicklaus won six times between 1964 and 1978. Greg Norman won five times between 1980 and 1996. Peter Thompson won three times between 1951 and 1972. Arnold Palmer and Tom Watson each won once. The purse was paltry by American standards; the 2018 winner won the equivalent of \$150,000. The fields were never strong enough to qualify for major status, and the entry of many big name players had much to do with appearance money and the off-season on the American tour. Clearly, Nicklaus didn't show up for the chance to win a pittance, but was paid handsomely if he deigned to do so.

In 1916, the golf landscape changed when American professionals created their own organization and tournament schedule. The first PGA Championship was held that year, exclusive for professional golfers. The match-play format made it unique among the four majors, but was not ideally suited to the age of television. In 1958, the format was abandoned for stroke play so viewers would be guaranteed to see stars on Sunday. The PGA lost some of its stature at that point and has

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since been considered the least prestigious major.

The Masters, first played in 1934, was a quaint affair for 60 assorted professionals. The winner was awarded \$1,500, and only the top 10 finishers received any prize money. In 1935, Sarazen's final round double-eagle on the 15th hole helped create the Masters' mystique, but was witnessed by a only a sparse crowd. The Masters wouldn't attain major status until after World War II.

The British PGA Championship commenced in 1955, but Arnold Palmer's victory in 1975 did not do for that event what his victories in 1961 and '62 did for the Open Championship. Perhaps, by 2055, after Brexit is sorted.

In the 160 years since the first Open Championship, the major status of golf tournaments has waxed and waned. Before 1916, the majors were the two Opens and the two Amateurs. If you were a professional, your opportunities for glory were half those of an amateur. Bobby Jones' hall-of-fame career is based on his fabulous record in those events. Today, amateur championships are merely springboards to the big show. A nice trophy for the den and a bargaining chip to bolster endorsement deals as a professional.

Major status is a combination of history, tradition, purse, coverage and the importance placed upon it by players, fans and media. If everyone agrees it's something special, then it's something special. Sociologists call this "collective obsessive behavior," sometimes known as mass hysteria.

Now, the PGA Tour wants to have it both ways – majors and play-

offs. It doesn't control three of the four majors, and that rankles. In 1974, the Tour created the Players Championship, which seemed to undermine the value of the PGA Championship. Jack Nicklaus won the inaugural event, a boon to the debut. Today, the Players is an enormous event with a stellar field, and there is much conversation about its major status. But that would make five...Oh no! Not satisfied with that success, the PGA Tour instituted a playoff system for the Tour Championship and the FedEx Cup in 2007. After a dozen years, they finally got the format right, leading to an exciting finish. The Players Championship and the Tour Championship are now firmly entrenched as big-time events, and they desperately want to join the major club.

But why wait for history, tradition and the collective consciousness to decide what will be deemed a major? Simply do what the LPGA did and designate majors by edict. One day, it declared the Dinah Shore and the du Maurier Classic were majors, adding them with the U.S. Women's Open and the LPGA Championship, to get to the magic number of four. In hindsight, associating majors with a daytime talk show host and a cigarette manufacturer might not have been the wisest moves to ensure the elite status of the two tourneys. In 2001, du Maurier withdrew its sponsorship, so the LPGA said, "Okay, Women's British Open, you are now a major! You've earned it." Then, in 2013, the LPGA did the unthinkable: It created a fifth major! Evian Championship, welcome to the club, even if you are held in France and the French have as much disdain for golf as they do for, well, just about everything not French. The LPGA's rationale seems to be that because the majors – designated or traditional – are qualifications for its Hall of Fame, the players will want to win them more than any other tournament, and that is the very definition of a major, after all.

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The calendar year contains a natural limit to the total number of possible majors. It shouldn't be more than one per month, although the LPGA has chosen to schedule majors back-to-back. Players need time off, and fans need time to anticipate the big events. When the PGA Tour chose to end its season in August with the Tour Championship, it relegated all majors to January through July. The Players is clearly a major, and that leaves future fans with two more events to add to the total. If the Memorial and the Arnold Palmer want consideration, they will have to adjust their schedule to comply with the one-a-month guideline.

Of course, all hopes for fame-in-perpetuity are doomed to fail from the outset. Assuming that life on this planet survives the Corona virus, will golf even exist in 500 years? Linksland will have become seabed and we'll bid a fond farewell to the fairways of St. Andrews and Pebble Beach. In the year 2950, will anyone care about Super Bowl LIII when they play Super Bowl MMCMLXXXIV?

In a mere 250 million years, Earth's meandering continents will have combined into one supercontinent, Pangaea Proxima. At that point borders will be meaningless, and a true world golf tour will be inevitable. Our unified descendants should enjoy the good times while they last. In one billion years, our sun will be 10 percent brighter, and the accompanying increase in heat energy will set off a runaway greenhouse effect on Earth, like that which turned the Venus into a vicious hellscape. It's hard enough to play golf in the rain, much less acid rain, temperatures of 870°F, and atmospheric pressures of 1,350 pounds per square inch. Fore!7



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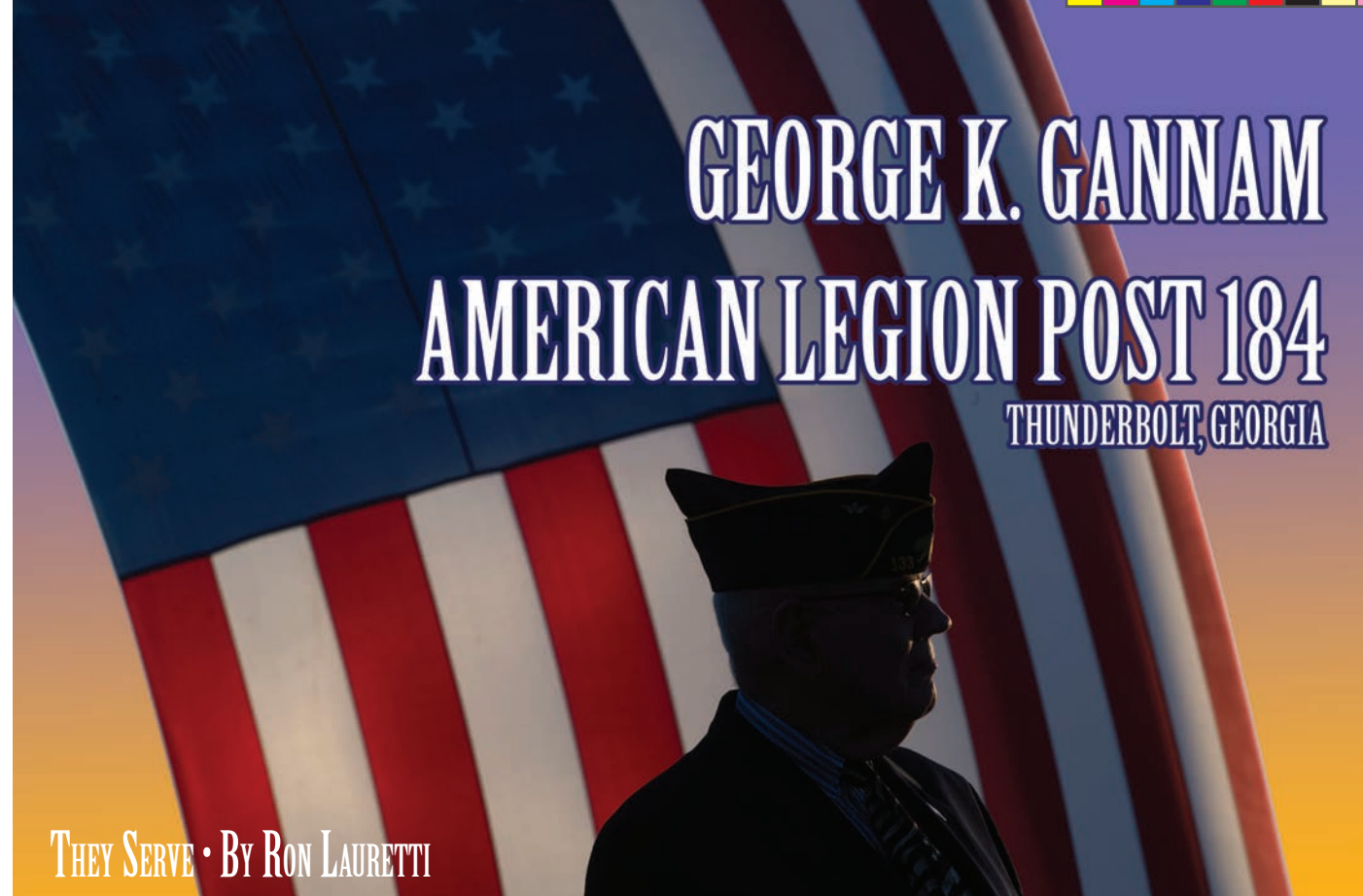


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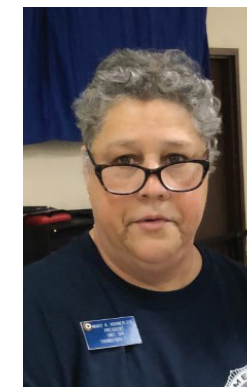
There are many military veteran organizations in the Savannah area, but perhaps none more active than the George K. Gannam American Legion Post 184 in Thunderbolt. The American Legion is the largest veteran's organization in the U.S., enabling veterans to continue serving their country and communities.

The current commander of Post 184 is Tony Atkins, and Mary Hohnerlein serves as auxiliary president. Post 184 is named in honor of the first Savannah casualty of World War II. Gannam graduated from Benedictine Military School in 1938, enlisting in the Army Air Corps the following year. The 22-year-old staff sergeant was a radio operator at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese launched their surprise attack the morning of December 7, 1941. According to official reports, Gannam was killed attempting to prevent the destruction of American aircraft at the adjacent Hickam Airfield. He was posthumously awarded, among other citations, a Purple Heart and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. In a tragic twist of fate, just prior to his death he fulfilled his aspiration of becoming a flight cadet.

With the help of Savannah's two World War I Legion posts – Posts 135 and 36 – the official charter of Post 184 was received in January of 1946. Its first location was a rented home above a restaurant at Whitaker and Congress Streets. As some of the original founding members reportedly said, a table for a bar and empty barrels for seats definitely trumped their wartime battle stations – muddy foxholes dug into the ground, the numbingly cold gun turrets of a B-17 bomber,



**Tony Atkins, current commander of Post 184, and Ladies Auxiliary president Mary Hohnerlein.**



the cramped quarters of a submarine, or the hot and muggy interior of a Sherman tank.

It did not take long for Post 184 to make its mark in the community. The group held the first ceremony in the U.S. that honored the people killed at Pearl Harbor. The ceremony garnered national attention for the local post. Another early achievement was a blood bank, as Post 184 stepped forward to secure 20,000 signatures from prospective blood donors. The post won the National American Legion Community Service Award for the establishment of a psychiatric ward at St. Joseph's Hospital, the first in the nation.

The initiative became so successful that replicating it in other communities became a nationwide project for the American Legion. Similar wards were created throughout the country, providing treatment for mentally disturbed patients, especially battle-weary veterans suffering from what is now recognized as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Continuing their efforts in healthcare, the determined members of Post 184 were instrumental in raising funds for a much-needed community hospital in Savannah. The hospital, which opened in 1955, was dedicated to the memory of all military veterans, and appropriately named Memorial Hospital. Today, the expanded Memorial Health University Medical Center contains a Level I trauma center and is a major teaching hospital, hosting a Mercer University School of Medicine campus.





Throughout its history, Post 184 has earned many awards and commendations for its leadership in various community projects. The group has worked in the areas of child welfare, national security, service to disabled veterans, academic awards, high school oratorical contests, the Boy Scouts, and many Red Cross programs.

The post is annually involved in Savannah's St. Patrick's Day parade. Its members proudly walk or ride, anchored by a remaining contingent of waving World War II veterans, the old soldiers who bravely rushed to the sound of enemy guns.

Eventually, the post established its permanent home in Thunderbolt. The building was constructed for the post at 3003 Rowland Avenue, and dedicated on June 16, 1972. The speaker at the dedication ceremony was Brig. Gen. Eugene Lynch, commanding general of the U.S. Army Flight Training Center at Hunter Army Airfield and Fort Stewart. The building features two banquet rooms, a kitchen, a bar, offices, and a comfortable lobby. The clubhouse has been in continual use for many activities. In addition to conventional events such as Bingo (every Wednesday and Saturday nights and open to the public), Post 184 holds oyster roasts, dances and special dinners on a monthly basis. There are "turkey shoots" at the backyard shooting range.

Charles' Canteen, the club bar, opens each day at 3 p.m. It is named for Charlie Hearn (*The Skinnie*, Vol. 7, #2, January 23, 2009), a Savannahian who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. For 45 days of combat in bitter cold weather, he and other paratroopers of the 101st Airborne held off numerically superior German Army forces surrounding Bastogne, France.

On the first Monday evening of each month, the post hosts a special event, near and dear to the many veterans' organizations in the area. Preceding the regular business meeting, one of the 26 local organizations comprising the Veterans Council of Chatham County serves a meal. Attendees are not required to be Legionnaires, but they do have to belong to one of the veterans groups. A strong camaraderie among this mix of proud veterans is evident throughout the banquet room.

During monthly meetings, current and future events relative to veterans are discussed, such as the selection of the annual Veteran of the Year and periodic updates on veteran's benefits and projects. The presiding chairman is elected annually. Doug Andrews, a former U.S. Army combat officer and local attorney, held that position for the past seven years. Andrews has been one of the driving forces behind the Chatham County World War II memorial – a large sculpted globe prominently displayed on River Street, featuring the name of every Chatham County veteran who served in World War II.

With the influx of the many returning veterans, Post 184's membership peaked at close to 1,000 members in the years immediately following World War II. Through good fiscal stewardship, it remains financially sound. Membership today is approximately 300 dedicated veterans, mostly from the Vietnam Era. The ladies' auxiliary is very active and an important arm of the post. Between the Legionnaires and auxiliary, Savannah's venerable George K. Gannam American Legion Post 184 is in good hands.



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Deadline is the Friday prior to publication.

## WHO NEW?

**WHAT:** New Neighbors

**WHEN:** Visit [www.landingsnewneighbors.com](http://www.landingsnewneighbors.com) to see our calendar

**CONTACT:** Visit our website or contact Milli at [nnnewmember@gmail.com](mailto:nnnewmember@gmail.com)

**WHAT ELSE:** The club offers more than 250 different activities from biking, golf, pickleball, walking groups or fishing to Mahjong, Bridge, Needle-arts and Canasta. We have exciting military tours and special events for you to enjoy right here on Skidaway Island.

## GOTTA LOVE IT

**WHAT:** Landlovers membership now open to all island residents

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

**CONTACT:** Cec Calcatera, [Landloversmembership@gmail.com](mailto:Landloversmembership@gmail.com) or 803.309.5883

**WHAT ELSE:** Landings Landlovers is a philanthropic and social organization now open to all island residents. More information and details can be found at [www.landingslandlover.com](http://www.landingslandlover.com). Our membership year runs from Sep. 1, 2019 through Aug. 31, 2020.

## CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

**WHAT:** Landlovers Foundation Grants

**WHEN:** Accepting applications until April 6

**CONTACT:** Bonnie Kelly, 1 Caisson Crossing

**HOW MUCH:** Free application

**WHAT ELSE:** Landlovers provides philanthropic support for nonprofit groups and service organizations that provide cultural and educational programs for residents of Skidaway Island. Application forms can be found on [landingslandlovers.com](http://landingslandlovers.com) under the heading "philanthropy."

## STILL WATERS

**WHAT:** Watercolors by Debbie Redden

**WHEN:** April 1 through 30

**WHERE:** The Landings Company Real Estate and Welcome Center, 1 Landings Way North

**CONTACT:** 912.598.0500

**WHAT ELSE:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## HISTORY LESSON

**WHAT:** "We Remember" exhibit to remember the Holocaust

**WHEN:** Opens Thursday, April 2

**WHERE:** Jewish Educational Alliance, 5111 Abercorn St.

**HOW MUCH:** Free

**CONTACT:** Jamie Richman, [jamie@savj.org](mailto:jamie@savj.org), 912.355.8111

**WHAT ELSE:** A new exhibition, curated by Marlene Seidman-Robinowich, of photographs by Savannah delegates to the 2019 International March of the Living, with writing and art from local high school and middle school students, and butterflies decorated by the community.

## RAISE A RACQUET

**WHAT:** Special Pops Tennis and Beyond

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 4, at 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Franklin Creek Sports Complex

**CONTACT:** 404.395.8691 or visit [Specialpopstennis-savannah.com](http://Specialpopstennis-savannah.com)

**WHAT ELSE:** Enriching the lives and well being of athletes with different abilities, this program focuses on tennis and pickleball instruction, health/nutrition, and socialization.

## PORSCHE PARTY

**WHAT:** Porsche Club of America event to benefit Savannah/Chatham CASA

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** The Westin Savannah Harbor Golf Resort and Spa, 1 Resort Dr.

**HOW MUCH:** \$85 per person

**CONTACT:** Visit [savannahcasa.org/grandprixde](http://savannahcasa.org/grandprixde) to purchase tickets or learn about sponsorship opportunities

**WHAT ELSE:** This event's ticket sales and silent auction will support Savannah/Chatham Court Appointed Special Advocates' mission of recruiting and training community volunteers to advocate for permanency in the lives of children who have experienced abuse and neglect, and the opportunity to thrive in a safe and loving home.

## RED ALL OVER

**WHAT:** Kiwanis Blood Drive

**WHEN:** Monday, April 6, 2 to 6 p.m.

**WHERE:** Skidaway Island United Methodist Fellowship Hall

**WHAT ELSE:** Visit [RedCross.org](http://RedCross.org) to schedule your appointment – use the keyword SIUMC.

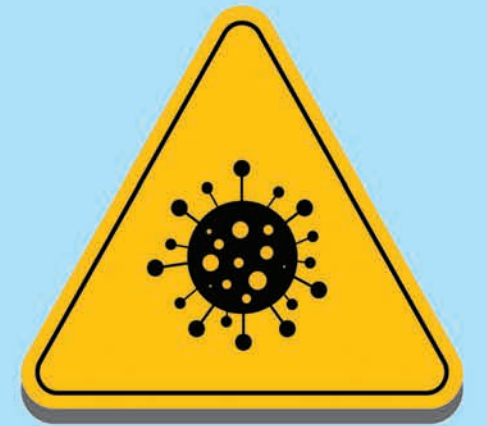
## GENERALLY SPEAKING

**WHAT:** James Edward Oglethorpe: A Life lecture series presented by The Learning Center of SCI

**WHEN:** Mondays, April 6 through May 1, 2 p.m.

**WHERE:** Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church, 50 Diamond Causeway

**HOW MUCH:** series: \$60 TLC members, \$90 visitors; individual lectures: \$10 TLC members, \$15 visitors



*In accordance with White House guidelines for nationwide behavior patterns for (at least) the 15 days beginning March 16, we have omitted entries that promote gatherings before April 1.*

*To those of you who submitted such entries, we look forward to helping you promote your rescheduled events.*

*To all of our readers, advertisers, families and friends: We wish you safety and health, and a speedy return to normalcy.*



**CONTACT:** Debbie Hornsby, 912.236.0363 or dhornsby@seniorcitizens-inc.org  
**WHAT ELSE:** Lecturer - Roger Smith.

## A CENTURY OF PROGRESS

**WHAT:** 19th Century American Experience lecture series presented by The Learning Center of SCI  
**WHEN:** Mondays, April 6 through May 11, 3:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church, 50 Diamond Causeway  
**HOW MUCH:** series: \$60 TLC members, \$90 visitors; individual lectures: \$10 TLC members, \$15 visitors  
**CONTACT:** Debbie Hornsby, 912.236.0363 or dhornsby@seniorcitizens-inc.org  
**WHAT ELSE:** Various lecturers.

## COOK'S TOUR

**WHAT:** Captain Cook in Life and Explorations lecture presented by The Learning Center of SCI  
**WHEN:** Monday, April 6, 5 p.m. reception followed by 5:30 p.m. lecture  
**WHERE:** Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church, 50 Diamond Causeway  
**HOW MUCH:** \$15 TLC members, \$20 visitors; add \$5 within one week of lecture  
**CONTACT:** Debbie Hornsby, 912.236.0363 or dhornsby@seniorcitizens-inc.org

## FIRST IMPRESSIONS

**WHAT:** Telfair Academy Guild (TAG)  
**WHEN:** Monday, April 13 - Coffee reception - 10 a.m., Presentation - 10:30 a.m.  
**WHERE:** Jepson Center, Neises Auditorium  
**HOW MUCH:** TAG members and their guests are welcome to attend  
**CONTACT:** Non-members wishing to attend, please contact Betsy McCullar, betsy2mccullar@gmail.com or 917.566.9101  
**WHAT ELSE:** SCAD professor, Andrew M. Nedd, PhD will present "The Impressionist: Diversity and Controversy." The artists who exhibited as part of the group that came to be called the Impressionists is a much larger, more diverse and divided association of personalities than many realize.

## DOMESTIC HELP

**WHAT:** Shredding event to benefit SAFE Shelter Center for Domestic Violence Services  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 18, 9 a.m. to noon  
**WHERE:** Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church  
**HOW MUCH:** a tax-deductible donation to Safe Shelter is appreciated  
**WHAT ELSE:** Bring your sensitive documents to be shredded on site at this annual event, to benefit

local efforts to curb domestic violence.

## EARTHLY DELIGHT

**WHAT:** The Savannah Earth Day Festival, 20th anniversary  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 18, 12 noon to 4 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Daffin Park  
**HOW MUCH:** Free  
**CONTACT:** Lisa Goodman, earthdaysavannah@gmail.com  
**WHAT ELSE:** This year marks the 20th anniversary of Savannah's Earth Day Festival, as well as the 50th anniversary of Earth Day worldwide. To celebrate this milestone, we are reaching out to the youth in our community to add their voices to the global, youth-led environmental movement happening right now. We will be gathering and featuring the work of these youth through a student showcase and competition called "Our Earth, Our Future."

## GETTING YOUR PHIL

**WHAT:** Savannah Philharmonic: Saturday Night's Fever concert  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Lucas Theatre for the Arts, 32 Abercorn St.  
**HOW MUCH:** Tickets are \$35; To purchase tickets, please visit www.savannahphilharmonic.org  
**CONTACT:** Please visit www.savannahphilharmonic.org, call 912.232.6002, or e-mail info@savannahphilharmonic.org  
**WHAT ELSE:** Saturday Night's Fever is an energy-packed concert featuring songs of the decades, from Gershwin to Coldplay.

## MASS EXHIBITION

**WHAT:** Landings Art Association Annual Spring Show and Silent Auction  
**WHEN:** Monday, April 20, 5 to 8 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Plantation Club Ballroom  
**HOW MUCH:** \$5 per person at the door  
**CONTACT:** www.landingsartassociation.com  
**WHAT ELSE:** A juried show of over 100 works by local artists in all media, and a silent auction of original art from 35 artists to benefit Savannah schoolchildren through LAA's Arts in Education programs. Live jazz and complimentary hors d'oeuvres. All artwork on display is for sale. Come marvel at the talent that surrounds you.

## MOSTLY MOZART

**WHAT:** Savannah Philharmonic: Mozart's Requiem concert  
**WHEN:** Saturday, May 2  
**WHERE:** Johnny Mercer Theatre, 301 W. Oglethorpe Ave.  
**HOW MUCH:** Tickets start at \$25, with VIP

tickets available for \$80  
**CONTACT:** www.savannahphilharmonic.org, call 912.232.6002, or e-mail info@savannahphilharmonic.org  
**WHAT ELSE:** Mozart's Requiem will feature artistry from conductor Keitaro Harada, four esteemed soloists, and the Savannah Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus.

## TEE TIME

**WHAT:** Skidaway Audubon FUNdraiser golf tournament  
**WHEN:** Monday, May 11  
**WHERE:** Plantation and Palmetto, The Landings Club  
**HOW MUCH:** \$145 all-inclusive entry fee  
**CONTACT:** friendsofskidawayaudubon@gmail.com or visit skidawayaudubon.org  
**WHAT ELSE:** Benefits critical wildlife initiatives on Skidaway Island, including a new project to bring the monarch butterfly back from the brink of extinction. The event features wildlife themed chip-and-putt challenges with prizes, lots of mulligans, 20 great prizes to be raffled, plus a hole-in-one grand prize of \$10,000.

## CERVUS WITH A PURPOSE

**WHAT:** Bingo at the Elks Lodge  
**WHEN:** Sundays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** 183 Wilshire Blvd  
**WHAT ELSE:** \$1,500 in prizes. All proceeds benefit Elks charities.

## HOCUS POCUS!

**WHAT:** Landings Magic Society  
**WHEN:** 7 p.m., second Thursday of the month, Oct. through May  
**WHERE:** Plantation Club card room  
**CONTACT:** Jim Ruhl, 912.856.3948, jsruhl@gmail.com or Bill Sickels, 912.598.9123 or wsickels@gmail.com  
**WHAT ELSE:** Anyone with an interest in magic is welcome. Every meeting is instructional, entertaining and enlightening.

## WELCOME MAT

**WHAT:** Learn to create sleeping mats for the homeless from discarded plastic bags  
**WHEN:** Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon at Oakridge Club; Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon at JEA  
**CONTACT:** Please RSVP to Carol Greenberg at 912.355.1238 or MStarArts@gmail.com  
**WHAT ELSE:** Help divert plastic bags from landfills and waterways while providing comfort to the homeless. Completed mats will be on display the first week in February at the JEA Art Gallery.

## EN GARDE

**WHAT:** Savannah Fencing Club  
**WHEN:** Monday and Wednesdays, 6 to 9 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Susie King Taylor Charter School Gym (formerly Sacred Heart), 1709 Bull St.  
**CONTACT:** Patricia Wilkens, 843.816.0756  
**WHAT ELSE:** Beginners and experienced fencers welcome. We are a USFA member club.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

**WHAT:** Kiwanis Club of Skidaway  
**WHEN:** Thursday mornings at 7:45 a.m.  
**WHERE:** Plantation Club  
**HOW MUCH:** Free to attend; Breakfast - \$13, Coffee only - \$2.50  
**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.

## BODY AND SOUL

**WHAT:** Skidaway Island United Methodist Church (SIUMC) Exercise Classes  
**WHEN:** Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays, times are below  
**CONTACT:** For more information or to register

for January session, visit siumc.org/exercise or call 912.598.8460

**WHAT ELSE:** Mat Pilates from 9:15-10:15 a.m.; and Sit-Fit from 10:15-11:15 a.m. Classes are led by Elena Bennett, an ACSM-certified exercise instructor. SIUMC has added Friday classes to its offerings for church- and non-church members alike.

## STUCK IN BETWEEN

**WHAT:** Middle Aged Tweens of Skidaway (MATS).  
**WHERE:** Usually in private homes.  
**CONTACT:** matskidaway@gmail.com or call Ann Nash at 203.856.8927, or visit www.matskidaway.com  
**WHAT ELSE:** MATS was formed to create social activities for people in their 'tween years. There are monthly socials, book club groups, business group, Ladies Night Out, Men's Poker Night and more! Many of us are empty nesters or semi-empty nesters. We may find ourselves in the later stages of our careers, working part-time or navigating issues of early retirement. Some of us are still responsible for raising children.

## CAUSEWAY CLEAN-UP

**WHAT:** "Shine Bright like a Diamond (Cause-

way)," litter pickup along Diamond Causeway  
**WHEN:** 1 or 2 times per month, as trash amount deems necessary  
**WHERE:** Meet in the parking lot of Butterbean Beach  
**CONTACT:** Courtney Fowler, causewayclean-up@gmail.com or 912.313.6040  
**WHAT ELSE:** Please bring work gloves and a safety vest if you have one; a trash-picker works wonders as well. We will provide trash bags. Water is recommended to avoid dehydration.

## SAFE AND SOUND

**WHAT:** Women's support group for people going through or having experienced domestic or family violence  
**WHEN:** Third Wednesday of every month, 12 noon - 1 p.m.  
**WHERE:** SAFE Shelter Center for Domestic Violence Services Outreach, 7373 Hodgson Memorial Dr.  
**CONTACT:** Outreach office, 912.651.0004  
**WHAT ELSE:** SAFE Shelter's mission is to prevent domestic violence, protect victims and promote change in lives, families and our community. This is an opportunity to meet with women experiencing similar challenges. Light refreshments will be served.



**WE WANT YOU**  
**To Share Your Story!**

There's a lot of military service among our readers, active and retired, from all branches of the military, as well as police, fire and other first responders. Help us recognize their service by nominating them to be featured in an upcoming **He Served.**

**Send your nominee's name and contact info to ronl35@comcast.net**

Complete Island Hopping listings are now online! Just visit [www.theskinnie.com](http://www.theskinnie.com) and click "Read."



STANDARD CLUES\*

ACROSS

- 1. Mary's was little
- 5. Truckers with 'handles'
- 10. British Uzi
- 14. Poet \_\_\_ Khayyam
- 15. Impresario who brought the Bolshoi Ballet to America (anagram for HROKU)
- 16. Asked
- 17. (1976) Star-studded cast bumbles around at the Beverly Hills Hotel
- 20. Pronghorn, e.g.
- 21. Group of eight
- 22. \_\_\_ Vegas
- 23. Heading of 112.5°
- 24. Wile E. Coyote's TNT supplier
- 26. (1966) Musical with a title role for Gwen Verdon
- 31. Jazz combo, often
- 34. Israel's airline
- 35. Exclamation of surprise
- 36. Bottoms of boats
- 38. 1st Lady L. Bush is an alumna
- 39. Prefix for 'collegiate' or 'national'
- 41. "\_\_\_ Lay Dying" (1930 William Faulkner novel)
- 42. The Miners of the NCAA
- 44. American, to an Aussie
- 45. (1974) Order versus chaos
- 50. Archaic second person form of do (anagram for DOTS)
- 51. Yasir Arafat's org.
- 52. \_\_\_ Wednesday (first day of Lent)
- 55. 2001 Pontiac "crossover" that was a massve failure (anagram for KATEZ)
- 58. In a cowardly manner
- 60. (1972) Awkward reunion of two veteran vaudevillians
- 63. Charged particles
- 64. Ouzo flavoring
- 65. Combining form meaning 'idea'
- 66. It's called 'ahi' in Hawaii
- 67. "Water Lilies" painter
- 68. Relative of a seagull

DOWN

- 1. In the neighborhood
- 2. Home appliance company located in Iowa

America's most celebrated playwright

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
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55	56	57						58				59		
60					61	62								
63					64						65			
66					67						68			

- 3. Beer ingredients made from barley
- 4. Popular French cheese
- 5. Select
- 6. Big name in garden seeds
- 7. Sea eagle of crosswords
- 8. The king, in France
- 9. Jamaican precursor to Reggae
- 10. Some say it flies
- 11. Dolt
- 12. Romain de Tiroff (noted Art Deco artist known by his initials)
- 13. Putin's refusal
- 18. Took off
- 19. Man from Mogadishu
- 24. Civil rights legal org.
- 25. When doubled, a dance
- 26. Roman god of the sun
- 27. Musical pace
- 28. Between theta and kappa
- 29. "\_\_\_ what happened?"
- 30. USA Weightlifting Hall of Fame site (Pennsylvania city)
- 31. Not this
- 32. Hurry

- 33. "Would \_\_\_ to you?" (two words)
- 37. Japanese puzzle that became a rage
- 38. Religious splinter group
- 40. PBS host, "Bill \_\_\_ the Science Guy"
- 43. Football 6-pointers
- 46. Texas oil city with a Russian name
- 47. Take to the streets
- 48. Mars, Venus, or Earth
- 49. Zero, in tennis scores
- 52. Negative battery terminal
- 53. Foxier
- 54. Lucky Dragon Tea (anagram for NOSHY)
- 55. Working hard
- 56. \_\_\_ En-lai (first Premier of Communist China)
- 57. Neighbor of NCar.
- 58. Boxer's target
- 59. Operating profit, to a CPA (anagram for BITE)
- 61. "Platoon" setting, for short
- 62. \_\_\_-Cat

Puzzle answers, page 31

\$20 each, with a maximum of 50 words • \$5 for each additional 10 words • Contact Teri Grayson at 598.9715 or email classifieds@theskinnie.com

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\*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



cell: 656.8842.

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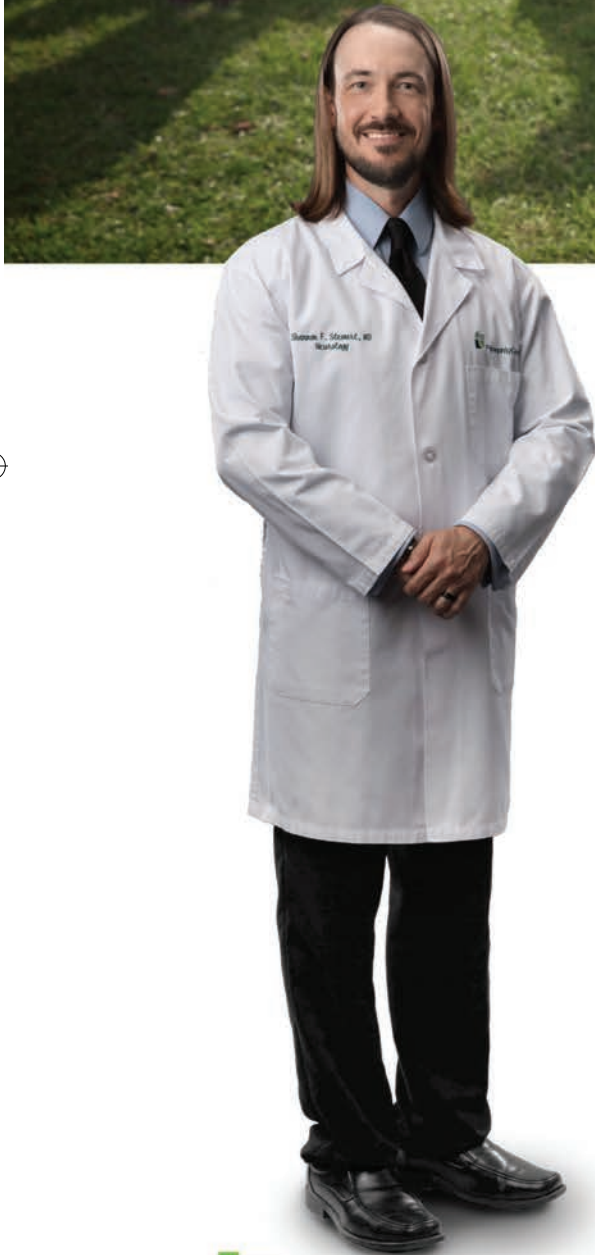
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**THAT'S WHY I CHOOSE  
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