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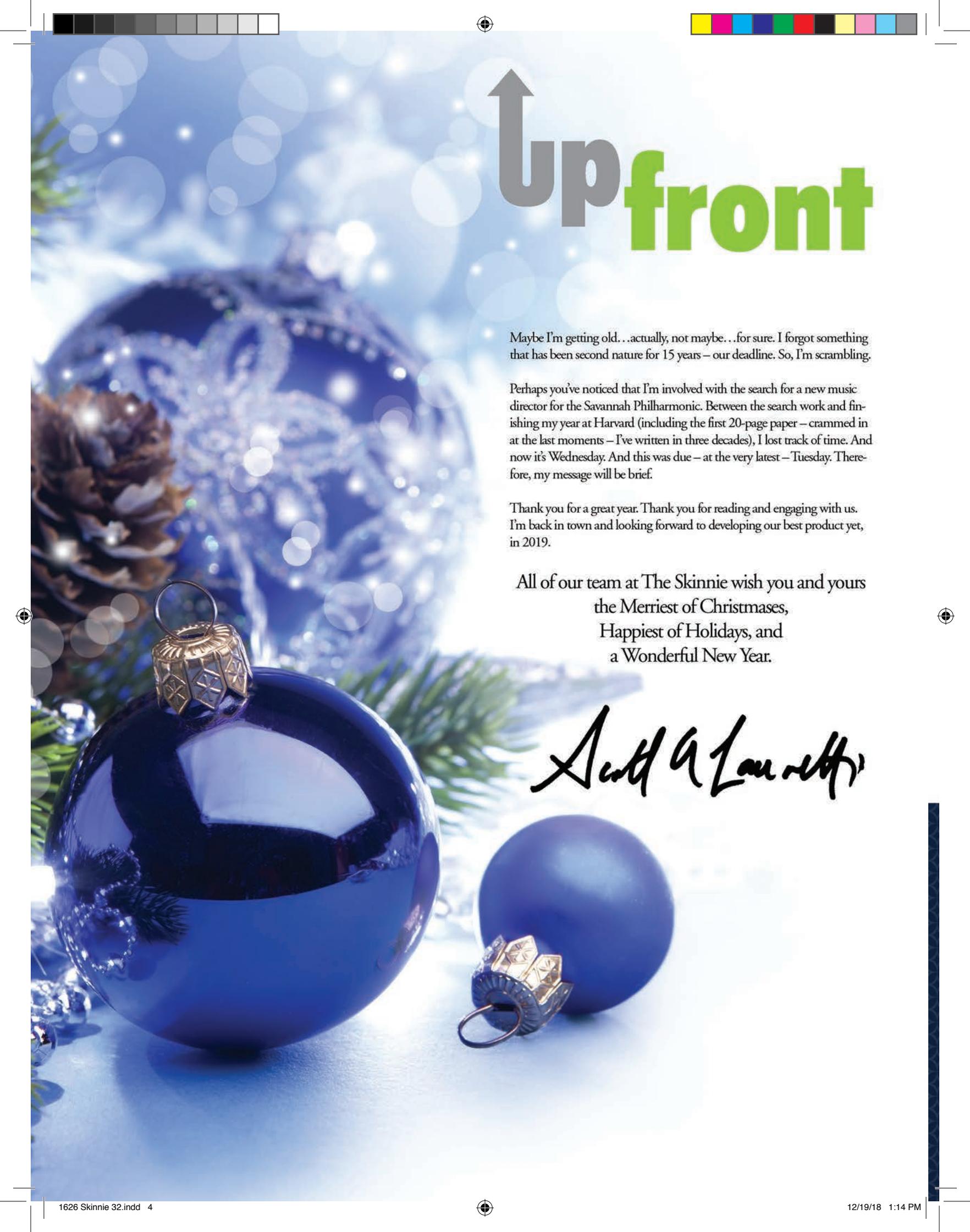


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Upfront

Maybe I'm getting old. . .actually, not maybe. . .for sure. I forgot something that has been second nature for 15 years – our deadline. So, I'm scrambling.

Perhaps you've noticed that I'm involved with the search for a new music director for the Savannah Philharmonic. Between the search work and finishing my year at Harvard (including the first 20-page paper – crammed in at the last moments – I've written in three decades), I lost track of time. And now it's Wednesday. And this was due – at the very latest – Tuesday. Therefore, my message will be brief.

Thank you for a great year. Thank you for reading and engaging with us. I'm back in town and looking forward to developing our best product yet, in 2019.

All of our team at The Skinny wish you and yours
the Merriest of Christmases,
Happiest of Holidays, and
a Wonderful New Year.

Scott A. Lauretti



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on the cover:

The Skinnie would like to wish all of our readers and advertisers the happiest of holidays.

Heavenly Peace

BY JEFF GARRISON

*Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright...*

Of all the Christmas Carols, “Silent Night” is, perhaps, the best known. Often sung in candlelight at the end of Christmas Eve services, the song turns 200 years old this year.

On Christmas Eve, 1818, at St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria, pastor Joseph Franz Mohr was frantic. Waters from the flooding Salzach River had seeped into the church organ. With his evening service approaching and no musical accompaniment, he wasn't sure what to do. Recalling a Christmas poem he'd written a few years earlier, he approached his friend, Franz Xavier Gruber, the church organist and choir director. In a few hours, Gruber was able to set the poem to music. That evening, Mohr and Gruber, accompanied by a guitar and a local choir, sang “Stille Nacht,” as it's known in German, for the first time.

After Christmas, the church hired Karl Mauracher to repair the organ. Obtaining a copy of the song, Mauracher shared the carol with other churches as he traveled around maintaining organs. Slowly, the carol grew in popularity. In 1831, the song was performed at the Leipzig fair, where it received wider attention. In time, minor changes were made to the words and composition to create the arrangement we know today. The music was first published in 1838.

Mohr died in 1848, before the carol became known worldwide. German-speaking immigrants brought it to America, where it was published in the 1849 Methodist hymnal. The translation that is most popular today was made by John Freeman Young, an Episcopal priest, while at Trinity Church in New York City. He published his version in 1863 in a collection of Sunday School songs.

As the carol became more popular, no one seemed to know who had written it. It was often thought of as an unknown work by one of the great composers, perhaps Mozart or Beethoven. Shortly before his death in 1863, Gruber shared the story of the carol's history. Many doubted his narrative at first, but it was authenticated decades later when a hand-writ-

ten copy of the hymn was discovered. Extensive examination found the document to be written by Mohr, and on the top right of the page he'd written “Melodie von Fr. Xav. Gruber.”

“Silent Night” grew in popularity around the time that Christmas celebrations, as we know them today, became popular in the English-speaking world. Two centuries earlier, the Puritans banned Christmas in both England and the Massachusetts Bay Colony, but the ban was lifted with the restoration of the British monarchy in 1661. However, for decades, it was seen as an opportunity for drinking and revelry, rather than a religious holiday.

One of George Washington's great victories in the Revolutionary War can be credited to the Colonists' resistance to celebrating the holiday. On a cold Christmas night in 1776, Washington was able to move his army across the Delaware River to Trenton, New Jersey. German Hessian troops, fighting for the British, had spent the evening celebrating, and were taken by surprise.

In the 19th Century, things began to change on both sides of the



Atlantic. In America, the publication of Clement Clarke Moore's, "The Night Before Christmas," along with the writings of Washington Irving, brought Christmas customs back into the minds of the people. In England, Charles Dickens A Christmas Carol linked the holiday with doing good for the less fortunate. About that time, large numbers of German immigrants began to flow into the U.S., bringing their native yuletide customs with them. Christmas trees, which were first noticed in the homes of the Pennsylvania Dutch in the early 1800s, became a part of the holiday by mid-century.

In 1914, almost a century after the carol was first performed, much of the world was bogged down in a war that had begun in August. In the trenches on the western front, German and English soldiers huddled inside cold and wet tight quarters, sniping at each other whenever someone raised a head. Both sides would charge the other line, only to be cut down by machine gun fire and mortar barrages. Between them was no-man's land, where barbed wire had been strung and corpses laid on the frozen ground. As Christmas Day approached, a storm brought more freezing rain and snow. Pope Benedict XV



All is calm, as German and British soldiers share a Christmas truce in 1914 in this painting from the Illustrated London News. The brief respite from the war was the result of singing 'Silent Night' across the battlefield.

called for a Christmas truce, an idea ignored by the leaders of both sides. It was looking to be a bleak Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, however, the weather changed. The clouds disappeared and the moon lit the darkened landscape. Then, at

various places along the lines, German soldiers decorated and lighted trees and placed them along their trenches as they began to sing "Stille Nacht." While the language may have been foreign, the tune was familiar to many of the British, who sang "Silent Night" back to the Germans. Other carols were sung,

Happy Holidays From Four Seasons Travel



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Back Row l-r: Becky Morales, Margaret Valente, Heidi Wohler, Barbara Hargrove, Susan Ragland,
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In places along the trenches, soldiers called for an informal truce and began to move out onto the battlefield, greeting those they tried to kill only hours earlier. They shared drinks and exchanged candy and food. On Christmas Day, a couple of impromptu soccer matches occurred. The dead were able to be retrieved and buried. Sadly, this truce didn't occur for the entire line, but was common along the section where the British faced the Germans.

The Christmas truce of 1914 was a brief respite in a terrible war, partly facilitated by a popular carol that both sides knew. Sadly, it would be the only such truce during the war. Most were still hoping for a quick victory, but by Christmas of 1915, there were millions more dead soldiers and civilians. As the war raged on, it grew uglier as new weapons – tanks, airplanes and poisonous gas – were utilized, each side trying to gain an advantage.

This beloved carol still brings peace to the hearts of those who sing it. Its beginning reminds us of how that which rises from difficulty, such as St. Nicholas Church having no organ, can have a profound impact on the world. The carol, as it brought together the soldiers of two warring sides during the first world war, reminds us of the possibilities for peace that come when foes make the effort to recognize the humanity in their rivals. This holiday season, when you hear or sing this carol, perhaps while holding a flickering candle in church, please share that feeling of peace.

Jeff Garrison is the pastor of Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church. He blogs at www.thepulpitandthepen.com.



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SKIDAWAY ISLAND CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

- Messiah Lutheran Church 6 p.m.
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church 5 and 10 p.m.
- Skidaway Island Baptist Church 6 p.m.
- Skidaway Island Methodist Church 5:30 p.m.
- Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church 5:30 p.m.

Prelude carols starting 30 minutes before the services.

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Making Friends

*Skidaway Audubon
launches new initiative*

By Carolyn McInerney

Every individual leaves a lasting mark on our environment. Let's strive to make that mark as positive as humanly possible. Educate...Engage...Enhance our world!

Skidaway Audubon was founded in 2008 as Audubon Cooperative Environmental Sanctuaries, to support the Landings Club in its efforts to seek certification renewals of all six golf courses. The Landings Club works diligently, in cooperation with Audubon International, to improve and expand on its commitment to sustainable resource management.

Over the years, the focus of Skidaway Audubon has expanded to encompass a va-

FRIENDS OF SKIDAWAY AUDUBON ONGOING PROJECTS

- Sustainable Skidaway
- Pollinator Berm Garden
- Blue Bird Trail
- Bird Cam
- Tallow Tree Removal
- Diamondback Terrapin Rescue
- Bat Abodes
- Read and Learn Program
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riety of projects. The organization is currently comprised of 11 board members. The annual Audubon Golf Tournament, which will be held on March 18, is the major fundraiser that provides financial support for its many initiatives.

This year, more than 500 folks joined the Terrapin Volunteers for hatchling releases at Sunset Park. The Pollinator Berm Garden toured groups large and small, while the Owl/Osprey Cam generated interest from around the globe.

During these presentations, the most common questions were “How do we join Skidaway Audubon?” “How do we get involved in Skidaway Audubon?” and “How do we support the work of Skidaway Audubon?”

To address these inquiries, the board formed a sub-committee and initiated a program to encompass non-voting members that will become Friends of Skidaway Audubon. Your tax-deductible contribution to become a Friend will allow the organization to raise the level of environmental awareness within the community. The mission of the program is to educate and engage residents in programs designed to protect, as well as conserve and enhance, the island’s natural resources. The initiative will offer topical programs, family and youth excursions, nature nights, newsletters, and partnerships with other organizations to attract nationally recognized speakers on conservation, sustainability and our natural world.

The introduction to the Friends program will be an exciting venture into the world of raptors on January 12 at TLA Athletic Field at 1 p.m. The program will consist of a raptor flight demonstration and an



interesting presentation to help understand these magnificent birds of prey – and the opportunity for a personal introduction to some of the participants. The Center for Wildlife Education from Georgia Southern University will join us, with special guest “Freedom,” the very well-known bald eagle mascot of GSU. Please note – dogs will not be permitted at this event. If a dog of any size is present, the demonstration will not include the birds in flight. Out of consideration for others, please keep your pets safe by leaving them at home.

During the event, we hope you will take the opportunity to meet our committee members, give us your suggestions on programs of interest to you and your family, and sign up to become a founding member of the Friends of Skidaway Audubon.

Please visit the Skidaway Audubon website at www.skidawayaudubon.org to learn more.



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For more information or to purchase your special holiday wellness gifts, please call the Wellness Center at 912.819.8800.

Teens Should Focus on the Big (and healthier) Picture

Smart choices are more crucial for a young person's health than their body fat measurements

Teenagers can get obsessive about the thing that's most often on their minds – themselves. This self-focus, while exasperating to parents, is fairly natural and usually part of finding your identity as you grow into adulthood. It can become a concern, however, when it leads to unhealthy perspectives or harmful behaviors. One example observed in young athletes is a misperception about body fat.

BMI

Body fat is essential to the health of vital organs and body regulation, and having too little could actually be fatal. It makes up the body's composition along with lean body mass – the combined weight of water, tissues, organs, bones and muscle. A common problem that physicians see is people who have more body fat than they should.

“Too much body fat can be a significant risk factor for a multitude of pathologies, including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and cholesterol issues,” says Fred Harold, DO, of St. Joseph's/Candler's Medical Group – Richmond Hill.

One quick way that physicians estimate a patient's body composition is the Body Mass Index, or BMI. This is, basically, a calculation of a person's weight to height ratio.

“A higher body mass index frequently indicates a patient's weight is disproportionate with his or her height, which suggests a higher percentage of body fat than is recommended,” Dr. Harold says. “It may indicate a risk



Dr. Fred Harold

of becoming obese, which is a problem for many teenagers in this country.”

THE WHOLE STORY

Dr. Harold notes that while BMI serves an excellent role for general assessment,

it does not always provide the full picture of certain individuals, including athletes who do a significant amount of weight training for their sports.

“BMI and other body fat measurements serve as barometers for level of fitness, however they often don't tell the whole story,” he says. “Also, some aspects of BMI, such as our gender and family genetics, are beyond our control.”

For this reason, Dr. Harold advises teen athletes – and really anyone who is concerned about BMI – not to worry too much about one number.

“Instead, target the constituents that, if done correctly, almost always lead to a healthy BMI or body fat percentage,” Dr. Harold says. “Healthy food choices, physical activity, and adequate sleep – collectively, these offer a much better reflection of one's health.”

HEALTHY SELF-AWARENESS

For athletes, a drive for better performance coupled with pressure from peers, parents

A Grain of Salt

Some people hear the term “sweet tooth” when discussing food cravings, and roll their eyes. “Sugar is nothing...what about those of us with a ‘salt tooth?’”

We see you, and we just want you to be aware of a few things - particularly the risk of high blood pressure - before you indulge.

Take our quiz to learn more:

1. A common cause of a craving for salty foods is _____.
A. Stress
B. Exhaustion or lack of sleep
C. Dehydration
D. Boredom
E. All of the above
2. Sudden cravings for salt can also be caused by Addison’s disease, a hormone insufficiency in the body’s adrenal glands.
A. True B. False
3. Salt is just for taste and has no health benefits.
A. True B. False
4. Too much sodium can cause high blood pressure (also known as hypertension), which is dangerous because it _____.
A. Prevents you from burning calories
B. Causes stress and sleeplessness

- C. Damages arteries
D. All of the above
5. A food item that doesn’t taste salty but actually contribute a lot of sodium to our diets is _____.
A. Bread
B. Pizza
C. A burrito or taco
D. All of the above

6. Sea salt is better for the body than table salt because it is less processed.
A. True B. False

ANSWERS:

1. **E. All of the above.** Cravings can not only be physically-based but emotional as well. And if you are tired, you’re more likely to give in to cravings.
2. **A. True.** Other medical conditions known to cause salt cravings include premenstrual syndrome and a genetic condition called Bartter syndrome, which prevents people from reabsorbing sodium in their kidneys.
3. **B. False.** Salt contains sodium, a mineral your body needs to keep its fluid balance. Sodium also helps with nerve and muscle function. The problem is that too much sodium can lead to high blood pressure, and most Americans consume too much. On average,



Americans eat more than 3,400 milligrams of sodium a day, when they should not be having more than 2,300 milligrams a day.

4. C. Damages arteries. The friction and force of high blood pressure damages blood vessels and increases the workload of your heart. The damage could eventually cause a heart attack or stroke.

5. D. All of the above. These foods are part of the Salty Six, a list created by American Heart Association/American Stroke Association to warn consumers about hidden high amounts of sodium. Others on the list are cold cuts and cured meats, soup, and fast food sandwiches. Always compare nutrition labels for the lowest sodium amount per serving.

6. B. False. By weight, the sodium content of both types is the same - about 40 percent. Because of the larger crystals of sea salt, there may be less sodium by volume, for instance per teaspoon. But there is little nutritional difference – it is more a matter of your preferred taste and texture.

and coaches could lead to an unhealthy obsession.

“Excessive worry about body fat is a particular concern in female teenage athletes,” Dr. Harold says. “When an athlete’s workload exceeds nutritional intake required for recovery, it predisposes them to disruption of the body’s hormonal signaling. This leads to what is known as the female athlete triad, commonly defined as disordered eating, menstrual irregularity and alterations in bone density.”

Further problems that arise from the female athlete triad include depression, poorer performance and healing time, and even stress frac-

tures. Besides being unhealthy, this can also hinder the athlete from playing the sport they were hoping to excel in. Dr. Harold reminds patients that discussions about their body fat are designed to help them make healthy choices, whether the issue is too much or too little.

“The BMI/body fat discussion is not meant to be discouraging to teenagers,” Dr. Harold says, “but rather a lesson in self-awareness. We want to intervene and help before the consequences of an unhealthy lifestyle occur. By recognizing at-risk teenagers and promoting smarter choices, we can hopefully create a brighter future for all kids.”



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They Served Annual Review

DR. RICHARD LEIGHTON

After 63 years, this former Navy flight surgeon continues to practice medicine. Leighton graduated from Western Maryland University and University of Maryland School of Medicine, followed by a one-year civilian medical residency. In 1955, he chose Naval flight surgeon as his military occupation, reporting to Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, for comprehensive training. Graduating near the top of his class in 1956, he reported to VW-1 Airedale Squadron at Naval Air Station, Hawaii, where he provided medical treatment for more than 700 naval personnel. He also flew a minimum of six long-range missions monthly – missions that would provide early warning to the Seventh Fleet in the Pacific, concerning threatening Russian activity. As flight surgeon, he did clinical research and set up physical exams of flight engineers that led to the significant reduction of in-flight accidents. In 1958, he returned to civilian medical practice, completing his internal medicine residency and a fellowship in cardiology at Ohio State University. This was followed by selection as chief of cardiology in 1974, and vice president for academic affairs and dean of the School of Medicine in 1990 at the Medical College of Ohio. In 1997, he and his wife Frances (now deceased) moved to Skidaway Island. Still professionally active, he chairs the Institutional Review board at Memorial Health University Medical Center, Savannah, and teaches at Mercer University School of Medicine. He is the author or co-author of multiple publications in cardiovascular medicine, as well as two other non-fiction narratives.



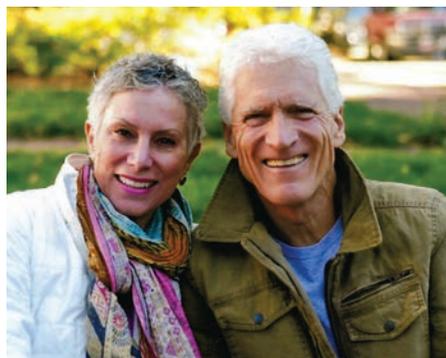
LCDR. JAMES FENNO

LCDR James Fenno is the flight surgeon and public health service senior staff medical officer stationed at U.S. Coast Guard Air Station, Hunter Army Airfield. After earning his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin and completing an emergency medicine residency at Wright State University, he worked as an emergency physician in several Wisconsin hospitals before transitioning to staff medical officer for the National Disaster Medical System, Dayton, Ohio. He also served as a tactical EMS police officer and an active SWAT team member. As combination doctor/police, he has provided operational EMS to various tactical high-risk environments. In 2015, this versatile physician received his commission in the U.S. Public Health Service. With the assistance of several highly-trained corpsmen, he currently provides medical care to six area Coast Guard stations. He has served aboard several Coast Guard vessels and participated in numerous search-and-rescue missions aboard MH-65 Dolphin rescue helicopters. Because of his affiliation with the Department of Homeland Security, he is on call for national disasters, having responded to the last couple of local hurricanes. He teaches EMS procedures to Border Patrol Special Ops paramedics and is a volunteer for the local USAF Civil Air Patrol. He and his wife, Melinda, have three teenage daughters, and are very pleased with the support of military personnel from the Savannah community. He looks forward to four more years in and around the Savannah area.



RANDY and DEBBI GASTON

After graduating from the University of South Florida in 1971, Randy joined the Air Force and earned his pilot wings the following year. Originally an air-to-air fueling pilot, he transferred to jets, first as an instructor, then as test pilot for a laser laboratory anti-missile experimental plane. He was chosen as test pilot for B1B Lancer supersonic bomber and helped develop its hands-free, low-level navigation system, for which he received a prestigious award. In 1991, he resigned from the Air Force and accepted a position with Northrop-Grumman to test its B2 stealth bomber, then with the Federal Aviation Administration as a project test pilot. Three years later he joined Gulfstream, becoming chief test pilot for its newest airliner, the G-V. He remained with Gulfstream for 22 years, advancing to vice president of flight operations in charge of almost 100 pilots, and leading the company through certification of new business-class airliners, up to the G650 mod-



el. He also was chief developer of a computer tablet which streamlined the overwhelming cockpit information that pilots require. He is a recipient of the Doolittle Award from the Society of Test Pilots. Debbi Gaston, also a licensed pilot and now retired, began her airline career as flight attendant for Western Airlines. After joining Gulfstream, she advanced to delivery crew of the company's G650 business jets to worldwide customers.

FRANCIS HAHNE, JR.

A 1943 graduate of Benedictine Military School, Hahne volunteered for service in the Army Air Corps, reporting to Kessler Army Air Corps Base, Mississippi, for basic training in May of 1944. He remained there for training as aerial gunner of 50-caliber machine guns mounted on the B-17 Flying Fortress bombers, earning his military aviator crewman wings. He then became an aerial gunner instructor at Arizona and Texas bases on newer B-29 bombers, promoted temporarily to staff sergeant. Six months after the surrender of Japan, he was honorably discharged. Returning to Savannah, he founded a swimming pool installation company. Now 93, he continues to live independently.



Part 2 of 2 ★ By Ron Lauretti

TERRENCE POWERS

Terrence served the last two years of World War II as an infantry school instructor for the 65th Infantry Division. He graduated from West Point in 1949, and was deployed to Korea in the fall of 1950, where he spent a year as transportation officer for the 1st Cavalry Division. After his tour in Korea, he earned his master's degree in engineering at the University of Michigan. In 1968, Powers was deployed to South Vietnam, where he was responsible for distribution of supplies to combat troops. He is a recipient of the bronze star medal with oak leaf cluster. Later assignments included Turkey, the Panama Canal Zone, and head of the ROTC program at John Carroll University in Cleveland. In 1977, he retired from Army with the rank of colonel. He returned to Savannah, spending the next 12 years as manager of a private enterprise and as a volunteer for the Social Apostolate and member of the Hibernian Society and Knights of Columbus.



MICHAEL RAINEY

After graduation from Appalachian State University in 1972, this Distinguished Army ROTC student chose the Marine Corps for commissioning. Scoring high on the basic aviation written test, he was sent to Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, for flight training. Qualifying in the F-4 Phantom jet, he then reported to Marine Corps Fighter Attack Squadron 235 in Hawaii, where his exceptional flying earned him a spot at "Top Gun" fighter school, followed by a tour as an aerial gunnery and a carrier operations instructor. His next stop was Marine Corps Air Station, Beaufort, South Carolina, as an F-18 Hornet fighter pilot. Tours followed at Norfolk, Virginia; Naples, Italy; and a return to Beaufort, where he was executive officer of Marine Aircraft Group 31 as it deployed to the Middle East for the Gulf War. In 1993, after 6,000 hours flight time and 20 years in the Corps, Rainey retired as a lieutenant colonel and settled down in his adopted home of Beaufort, opening a retail antique business. He later launched Beaufort Biplane Tours, which offers open cockpit sightseeing tours in Rainey's fully restored vintage de Havilland Tiger Moth biplane.

NICK FARLEY

Too young for military service during World War II, 17-year-old British-born Farley joined the British Merchant Navy soon after the end of war. He spent the first four years of his maritime career aboard the MS Chindwara, a combination training and cargo ship, with full duties as able seaman, helmsman, watch keeper and navigator, before reporting to Nautical College in London for junior officer certification. More training followed aboard long-voyage passenger ships. By 1958, he was a certified first officer, and two years later he earned his masters certificate from South Hampton Nautical College, qualifying him to captain any merchant ship worldwide. Though retired from active sea service since 1964, he has been an active member of London's Master Mariners organization. From 1960 to 1999, he worked to promote professional conduct and standards between the British Merchant Navy and the British Royal



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Navy. Since moving to Savannah in 2005, he has been active in efforts to improve local services for merchant seamen visiting the port. He collaborated in creating a 13-foot model of the Liberty Ships built in Savannah during World War II, and actively promotes Liberty Day in Savannah, scheduled for June 6, 2019, the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



RICHARD MIRANDA and ROBERT EDWARDS

Following his freshman year at Columbia University, Puerto Rico native Miranda joined the Air Force, where he trained as in-flight radar navigator and reconnaissance technician. While serving on B-29 bombers in the early days of the Korean War, his pre-invasion intelligence helped maintain the low casualty rate during the Inchon Landing. He was awarded an Air Force Letter of Commendation for strategic reconnaissance during his Korean deployment. For much of his Air Force career, he was involved in testing ICBM missiles and performed important Cold War intelligence gathering. He retired from the Air Force in 1968 and currently resides with his daughter, Mary, and son-in-law, Robert Edwards.

Robert is also an Air Force veteran, serving from 1977 through 1994. Edwards cross-trained as an ICBM missile mechanic, a classified B-2 stealth bomber developer, a tester for non-destructive missile component materials, and a maintenance technician for RF-4 reconnaissance planes and F-16 fighter jets. In 1988, he earned the Air Force Maintenance Professional of the Year Award for a cost-saving X-ray technique used on F-117 fighter jets. In 1990, he deployed to Oman and Saudi Arabia for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and again in 1993 to Saudi Arabia for peacekeeping purposes. Following his discharge, he earned associate degrees in management, electronics, metallurgy and welding technology. He is currently employed in the aerospace industry.

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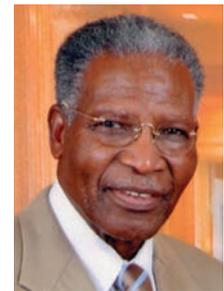
STEVE LANE

Before Steve Lane and his wife Elayne moved to the Landings, he was a flying “G-man” for 23 years. He learned to fly as a student at Texas State Technical College in Waco. By 1989, he had accumulated more than 1,500 flight hours and a commercial flight instructor’s license. Lane took his first airline job as a pilot for Piedmont Airlines, flying its turboprop commuter planes throughout the Southeast. He earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from East Tennessee State University and found time to add two boys to the Lane family. On one of his flights, a passenger who was an FBI agent mentioned the bureau was looking for qualified pilots who could also be trained as agents. After four rigorous months at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia, he began his combination agent/pilot career for the FBI. From 1995 until a few months ago, Lane was a special agent for the FBI, combining law enforcement work with pilot duty, flying himself and his fellow agents wherever the FBI was needed. Lane spent much of his career investigating violent crimes, and often was an active SWAT team participant. He retired from the FBI a few months ago and continues his aviation career as a demonstration pilot for a local aircraft manufacturer, flying its sleek and shiny aircraft to customers far and wide.



REV. MATHEW S. BROWN, SR.

Mathew S. Brown, Sr. was drafted into the segregated U.S. Army in 1943, training as a barrage balloon specialist at Camp Tyson, Tennessee. He was deployed to southern England, where he served as a firefighter against German air raids. On D-Day, his unit landed on Omaha Beach and advanced through France until the beginning of Battle of Bulge in December, 1944. Because American troops were badly needed, Gen. Eisenhower issued an urgent call for replacements, black or white. Brown was among the 2,221 African-American soldiers who answered the call, fighting alongside white counterparts to halt the German advance. While a member of Easy Company, 60th Regiment, Brown lost a small part of his foot to severe frostbite, but remained with his then-integrated company as it pushed into Germany. When the war in Europe ended, he returned home, and was honorably discharged soon after the Japanese surrender. With a powerful call to the ministry, Brown graduated from American Baptist Seminary in Nashville in 1961, and began a career as a Baptist minister. Known as “Pastor Brown” for his ministry work, the 96-year-old clergyman has been honored by the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. Among his most treasured possessions are his family Bible and a well-earned “2221” lapel pin made especially for him.



Merry Christmas

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24th
5:30 pm**

**Worship
Sunday Morning
December 23rd
10:00 am**

Please Join Us

Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church

50 Diamond Causeway | Savannah GA 31411 | 912-598-0151 | sipres.org

ANITA LIPPITT CLAY

Anita joined the newly-formed Women's Army Corps (WACs) in 1944 after graduating from Sweet Briar College in Virginia. Although women in uniform were not universally accepted by male counterparts before the 1950s, females during World War II served domestically so men could deploy for combat duty overseas. After basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, she was promoted to corporal and eventually stationed at Westover Army Air Field, Massachusetts, performing administrative and public relations duty, and welcoming incoming VIPs to base.



After Japan surrendered, she was honorably discharged and returned to Savannah, where she met future husband Thomas Clay, a career Navy officer. She joined him for his overseas assignments whenever possible. After his release from active duty, they permanently settled in Savannah. Civic-minded Anita is active in several historic societies, multiple church activities, and a member of Bethesda Academy Women's Board. She is also a founding member of the Crabettes, a humorous and talented musical group that entertains at retirement homes, churches and civic gatherings. At 96 years young, Anita continues to sing and play accordion. Widowed since 1986, this Greatest Generation veteran lives an independent and active life at Savannah Square.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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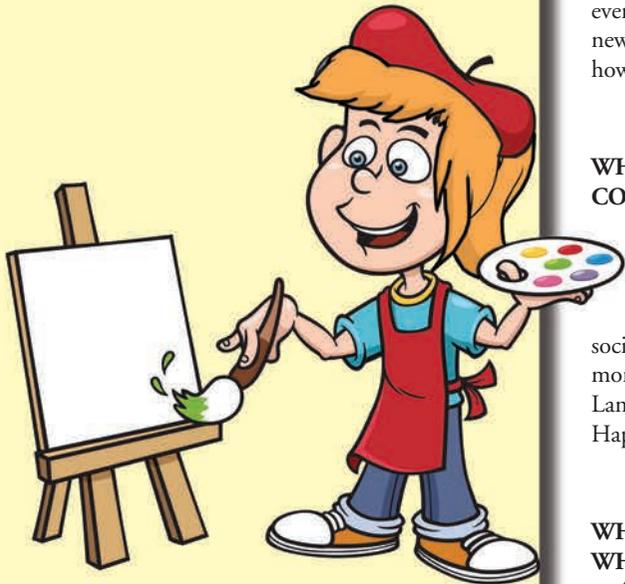
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 15 Lake St Suite 100

DECEMBER DISPLAY

WHAT: The Artwork of Vanessa Withun
WHEN: Dec. 2 through 31; Reception - Dec. 9, 4 to 6 p.m.
WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St.
CONTACT: JEA Art Gallery, 912.655.8111

WHERE FOR ART THOU?

WHAT: Gail Wickstrom Exhibit, Artist in Residence at The Landings Company
WHEN: Jan. 1 to Feb. 28
WHERE: The Landings Company Real Estate and Welcome Center, One Landings Way North
CONTACT: 912.598.0500
WHAT ELSE: M - F, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



TAG, YOU'RE IT

WHAT: TAGatNIGHT
WHEN: Wednesday, Jan. 9, 5:30 to 7 p.m.
WHERE: Sulfur Studios, 2301 A Bull St., upper floor community area
CONTACT: If bringing guests, please RSVP to Jettie Hearne, jettie.hearne@gmail.com or 912.598.4080
WHAT ELSE: This month's meeting features artist, Daniel E. Smith, a painter (American, 1952), known for his abstracts, architectural abstracts, and landscapes. Access is on the 39th St. side. Wine and light hors d'oeuvres provided. Members and their guests are always welcome to attend.

island hopping

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

THE NEW YOU

WHAT: Are you a New Neighbors member?
CONTACT: To join, go to the website and click on Membership, or contact Deb Werner at nnnewmember@gmail.com or 912.660.0174
WHAT ELSE: New Neighbors is a very active club open to any individual who lives at The Landings on a full- or part-time basis, is over the age of 21 and has never belonged to the Landings New Neighbors. The club offers more than 250 different activities, tours and events for you to enjoy. Go to www.landings-newneighbors.com to see more examples of how exciting New Neighbors can be.

GOTTA LOVE IT

WHAT: Join Landlovers
CONTACT: Landlovers Membership Chair, Lynn Stephens at landloversmembership@gmail.com or 912.228.5383
WHAT ELSE: Landlovers Club is open to all Landings residents, and offers both social and philanthropic activities. To learn more about our activities and fundraisers, visit Landingslandlovers.com and click on "The Happenings" tab on the left.

BE A DECENT DOCENT

WHAT: Andrew Low House docent work
WHEN: Weekdays and Saturdays - 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sundays - 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
WHERE: The Andrew Low House, 329 Abercorn St.
HOW MUCH: Starts at \$8 an hour
CONTACT: Chris Sergi, Docent/Education Coordinator, at csergi@andrewlowhouse.com
WHAT ELSE: The NSCDA is in search of enthusiastic people who have a love of history to serve as guides and educators in the Andrew Low House Museum.

WALK ON WATER

WHAT: Fall Marsh Trek Promotion
WHEN: Now through Dec. 31
WHERE: Tybee Island Marine Science Center
HOW MUCH: \$5 per person
CONTACT: www.tybeeislandmarine.org
WHAT ELSE: Program meets offsite, directions provided with paid reservation. Closed toe, closed heel shoes required.

CUSTOMS BY CANDLELIGHT

WHAT: Holiday evening tours by candlelight at Davenport House Museum
WHEN: Dec. 26 thru 30, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
WHERE: Davenport House Museum, 324 E. State St.
HOW MUCH: \$12 adults in advance, \$15 at the door; \$6 children in advance, \$8 at the door (Plus tax); Combination pass for the daily tour and the holiday evening tour is \$16; Reservations encouraged
CONTACT: Davenport House Museum, info@davenportmuseum.org, 912.236.8097, www.davenportmuseum.org
WHAT ELSE: Glistening by candlelight, the Federal-style home welcomes visitors to an event emphasizing the end-of-year celebrations of early 19th century Savannahians, including the Davenport family, who lived in the fine brick home on Columbia Square. Light refreshments, music and skilled interpreters show visitors through the home and are among the highlights of the presentation. A demonstration of period dancing will culminate the evening. The performance requires that guests be able to walk up and down stairs and maneuver in the candlelit rooms.

FIBER OPTICS

WHAT: Exhibition of the works of Urban Jupena
WHEN: Jan. 3 through Jan. 31; Reception Jan. 16, from 3-8 p.m.
WHERE: JEA Art Gallery, 5111 Abercorn St. Savannah
CONTACT: Vicky Lunick 912.355.8111
WHAT ELSE: Jupena is a former professor at Wayne State University in Detroit, where he taught weaving and fabric printing and dyeing.

CHILDS PLAY

WHEN: Thursdays, Jan. 3, 10, 24 and 31; 9 - 10 a.m.
HOW MUCH: Price Included with aquarium admission
CONTACT: Kayla Clark, kayla270@uga.edu or 912.598.3345
WHAT ELSE: Explore the coast with your child in a unique setting perfect for inspiring wonder and curiosity. A mix of games, art, stories and animal encounters provide fun learning experiences about the ocean.

www.theskinnie.com

Children 2-4 years old are welcome and must be accompanied by an adult. Register online to guarantee your spot.

MEN OF ACTION

WHAT: Landlovers Men's Action Movie Night

WHEN: Tuesday, Jan. 8, 4 p.m.

CONTACT: Al Stiles, 349.9977 with any questions; Email: boating20@gmail.com to be added to the email distribution list

WHAT ELSE: Men's Action Movie Night is a fun gathering of men who want to see movies in a proper theater then grab a bite to eat. The second Tuesday of the month, we attend a matinee at a local movie theater and then eat at a local casual eatery. About five days in advance, you will receive an email offering movie and restaurant choices.

Not everyone has to go to the same movie. RSVPs are appreciated so we know whether to expect you. We will carpool from the Methodist Church, no dues, wear your name tag. Upcoming dates are Tuesdays, Jan. 8 and Feb. 12.

SEE FOR YOURSELF

WHAT: Bright Eye-deas Low Vision Group

WHEN: Wednesday, Jan. 9, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Skidaway Island United Methodist Church

HOW MUCH: Free to all including family and friends

CONTACT: Kay Higby, 912.598.9634

WHAT ELSE: Come join us in a teleconference, "Coping with Vision Loss" with Dr. Sally Bliss, a clinical psychologist and nurse from the Seattle area. Dr. Bliss is a former member of our group and is experiencing a loss of vision herself. We will be able to interact with her and discuss the impact of vision loss on everyday life.

PLAYERS CLUB

WHAT: Landlovers Bridging the Gap Bridge

WHEN: Wednesday, Jan. 9, 1 p.m.

CONTACT: Barbara Legnini, 598.4992.

WHAT ELSE: January game will be held in the ladies card room at the Plantation Club. This activity is for women who enjoy social bridge. Level of play is from advanced beginner to intermediate. All participants must be members of Landlovers, and since we meet at the Club, non-club members must follow the Landings Club's guest policy.

BIRD WATCHING

WHAT: Friends of Skidaway Audubon

Friends of Skidaway Audubon Raptor Presentation

WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 12, 1 p.m.

WHERE: TLA Athletic Field

CONTACT: Carolyn McInerney, 912.507.3700 or email carol9133@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: Skidaway Audubon has initiated a membership program to involve more of our families and youth in various environmental and sustainability issues on our island. The kick-off to our Friends of Skidaway Audubon project will be an exciting venture into the world of Raptors. The Center for Wildlife Education at Georgia Southern University will be presenting a raptor flight demonstration and an informative presentation on these birds of prey! For their safety, no dogs will be permitted at the event. But be sure to bring the kids! Come meet Friends of Skidaway Audubon committee members, offer suggestions for programs that would be of interest, and sign up to become a founding Friend!

ALL THAT JAZZ

WHAT: Jazz Concert – The Auction Project

WHEN: Sunday, Jan. 13, 4 p.m.

WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church

HOW MUCH: Free

CONTACT: Tim McKee, 598.7242 ext. 5 or tmckee@stpeterssavannah.org

WHAT ELSE: Fusion of jazz and Afro-Latin with Celtic fiddle, featuring alto sax, piano, bass, drums and violin.

TECH TALK

WHAT: Telfair Academy Guild (TAG) Coffee, Meeting and Program: "The Blurred Lines Between Art and Technology"

WHEN: Monday, Jan. 14, 10 a.m.

WHERE: Jepson Center, Neises Auditorium

WHAT ELSE: Teri Yarbrow, SCAD Professor and Max Almy, SCAD Dean are EMMY, AFI, NEA and ARS Electronica award winners, internationally exhibited, video and installation artists known for pushing the boundaries of art and technology. TAG Members and their guests are welcome to attend.

AN R IN THE MONTH

WHAT: CCA of Skidaway Meeting – Eastern Oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) Aquaculture in Georgia

WHERE: St. Peter's Church

WHEN: Monday, Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

HOW MUCH: No charge

CONTACT: Dave Devore, 330.329.6457

WHAT ELSE: Eastern Oyster Aquaculture in Georgia will be the topic of the CCA of Skidaway's first meeting and seminar of the

new year. Thomas Bliss, director of the Shellfish Research Laboratory with the University of Georgia Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant, will provide an overview of research being conducted on oysters in the estuaries and in the shellfish hatchery to help get commercial oyster aquaculture established in Georgia. An oyster steamer from Bass Pro Shops will be the CCA's January raffle prize.

A STITCH IN TIME

WHAT: Landlovers Stitchers and Beaders

WHEN: Tuesday, Jan. 15, 3-5 p.m.

CONTACT: Jayne: JMRogers341@gmail.com or Kathy: Kathysilbert@gmail.com

WHAT ELSE: You will receive an email with the place of the next meeting and a request to RSVP. Bring your project and enjoy a couple hours of good company while you stitch or bead.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

WHAT: Landlovers Photography Club

WHEN: Tuesday, Jan. 15, 3:45-5 p.m.

WHERE: Skidaway Island United Methodist Church

HOW MUCH: Annual membership fee is \$20.

CONTACT: landloversphotoclub.wordpress.com

WHAT ELSE: Whether you're photographing Buckingham Palace or the Biltmore, there are many considerations such as perspective, distortion and angles. John McKinnon, who shoots promotional artwork for corporate and tourist locations worldwide, will speak on architectural photography at the January meeting of the Landlovers Digital Photo Club. Club members range from novice photographers to expert shutterbugs. All participants must be members of Landlovers. Come join us! Sherri Reddick, Amy Collings and Michael Siegel, co-chairs.

CAUSEWAY CLEAN-UP

WHAT: "Shine Bright like a Diamond (Causeway)," 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.

Complete Island Hopping listings are now online! Just visit www.theskinnie.com and click "Read."

STANDARD CLUES*

ACROSS

- 1. Seal puppy
- 6. Slack-jawed
- 11. Christmas quaff
- 14. Odin's crowd (anagram for ARISE)
- 15. Pertaining to a forearm bone
- 16. 'Green' gov't department
- 17. First words of The Editorial**
- 19. "The ____" (1974 Broadway musical about Oz)
- 20. Part of a jacket
- 21. Flower starters
- 22. Affirmative vote
- 23. Seance noises
- 25. ____ -jumbo (blather)
- 27. Omicron followers
- 30. Part of M.I.T.
- 32. ____ Rico
- 35. Genetic stuff (abbr)
- 36. Texas energy company that collapsed in 2001
- 38. Large old-world falcon (anagram for RAKES)
- 39. 007 creator, ____ Fleming, and others
- 41. Capt. Bligh's landfall after the Bounty mutiny (anagram for M TRIO)
- 43. Golf : PGA / Tennis : ____
- 44. Poker bets
- 46. Fathers, in France
- 48. Restaurant coffee dispenser
- 49. Skimpy
- 51. Tabula ____ (blank slate)
- 52. Worthless old horse
- 53. Ice cream holders
- 55. Take out, to an editor
- 57. Mikhail ____ (Latvian world chess champion-1960)
- 59. Increase the temperature
- 61. American man from Mexico
- 65. Disney TV subsidiary
- 66. Last words of The Editorial**
- 68. The Seine ls full of it
- 69. Aired again
- 70. Acclimatize
- 71. Omicron preceders
- 72. Boxing venue
- 73. Negative response from 5-Down

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| 68 | | | | 69 | | | | | | 70 | | | | |
| 71 | | | | 72 | | | | | | | 73 | | | |

DOWN

- 1. Techniques
- 2. Foot part
- 3. 'To be', to Nero
- 4. Large, glandular organ
- 5. Military rank below corporal
- 6. Nat'l Back to School Mo.
- 7. Silver-tongued
- 8. Per ____ (yearly)
- 9. Settled a debt (two words)
- 10. "Pandora's box" originator (anagram for AMUSERS)
- 11. Publisher of The Editorial**
- 12. Mayberry boy played by Ron Howard on TV
- 13. ____ Strip, Palestine
- 18. Advice to a sinner
- 24. RX, informally
- 26. ____ Brummell
- 27. King of Troy
- 28. Idiomatic
- 29. Subject of The Editorial**
- 31. Author of "The Iliad"
- 33. Prefix meaning 'four'
- 34. Great ape of Sumatra, for short
- 37. Gov't agency that tracks the Christmas Eve flight of Santa (anagram for DRANO)
- 40. Flowery anagram for EGOS
- 42. Peddle again
- 45. Madrid : señora / Lisbon : ____
- 47. Muslim commander who recaptured Jerusalem in 1187 (anagram for ALI SAND)
- 50. Marijuana cigarette
- 54. Start of a French exclamation
- 56. Prefix used by anthropologists (anagram for THONE)
- 57. Monster in "Jurassic Park"
- 58. Purple berry hyped for its health benefits
- 60. Better late ____ never
- 62. Gambler's markers
- 63. Seaweed used to wrap sushi (anagram for IRON)
- 64. German-Polish border river
- 67. Pig ____ poke

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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Bouquets on Bartram • Floral décor serving the residents of Skidaway Island utilizing local greenery and beautiful blooms. Happy to create small, medium or large arrangements for all occasions and work with clients' containers. Call Charlotte Welch at 912.663.0873 and let her personalize your floral decorating needs.

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GRAND PIANO • Yamaha Disklavier baby Grand Piano. Model DGC1E3S PE purchased new from Yamaha June 2015. Original MSRP \$39,900. In like New Condition. Disklavier Playback system has 50 plus albums loaded. Landings resident. \$20,500. Jack Cawthon - JRC.CAC@gmail.com or call 912.695.0422

2000 Mercedes 500 SL • Convertible, 99,000 miles, excellent condition. Alec McCosh, 702.481.9370. \$7,000.

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Sandfly Custom Framing • We are a full-service custom frame shop with over 2,000 mouldings to choose from. All work performed in house to ensure quality control. Owned and operated by Judi Weaver with over 22 years experience. Shadow boxes, mirrors, stitch art, diplomas, specialty matting, portraits, paintings. Original art and prints from area artists available. Consider Sandfly Custom Framing: "When Quality Matters." 8413-B Ferguson Ave. 912.691.1333.

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SERVICES

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Very Happy 2019 • After 10 years of serving the good people of the Landings, Santa has chosen me, George, Guy Friday, to be the Official Holiday Elf. I am delighted and filled with holiday cheer. Call me with all your chores and tasks that you need help with

during this holiday season. Moving things about, organizing the garage or attic space, or hauling away unwanted items to make room for the new ones Santa will bring. I have my own sleigh to take it away. Call George, 912.598.1661 at home or the sleigh number, 912.660.0432. HAPPY HOLIDAYS from Guy Friday.

Sandfly Custom Framing • We are a full service custom frame shop with over 2,000 mouldings to choose from. All work performed in house to ensure quality control. Owned and operated by Judi Weaver with over 20 years experience. Shadow boxes, mirrors, stitch art, diplomas, specialty matting, portraits, paintings. Original art and prints from area artists also available. Consider Sandfly Custom Framing: "When Quality Matters." 8413-B Ferguson Ave. 912.691.1333.

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WILD THINGS

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Photographer Sarah Lucas snapped these photos of a pair of egrets squabbling over – well, we're not quite sure what. Food, territory, or defending their young, the wildlife of Skidaway Island demonstrates the drama that is Mother Nature.



"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. Please include your name and a little info about where the photo was taken.

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ST. JOSEPH'S/CANDLER**

Shannon Stewart, MD – Neurologist