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UP front



To contact us with your ideas, responses, letters and more, email us at mail@theskinne.com.

I chose the cover image (with Jenna's help) and its companion on the table of contents page because they are rich with New Year symbolism. They were, according to my iPhone timestamp, taken in January, though not this one. I snapped them during a frigidly invigorating afternoon walk, alone in a speck of Iceland that I probably can't find on a map today.

Symbols and signs are everywhere, if we're open to them. You might question if we will a thing's essence into meaning because of our own needs. But it's difficult to doubt the power of a sign or metaphor as a tool to more thorough understanding.

According to Merriam-Webster, symbolism is "...expressing the invisible or intangible through visible or sensuous representations; ...artistic imitation or invention that reveals or suggests immaterial, ideal, or otherwise intangible truth or states; ...the representation of divine beings and spirits; ... (plainly) a system of signs or representations."

In chicken-and-egg terms, does a thing that holds symbolic value exist solely in its own context and we imbue it with unintended significance? Or does the design of a thing purposely impact our psyches in some divinely intentional way? The philosophical truth of the answer to this either/or question doesn't matter much, since the effects of signs and symbols are noticeable, allusion is instructive, and metaphor works.

Some symbols are straightforward and simple. My photos feature snow, and it's cold this week by Southern standards. Snow is white, and January is a new beginning: The chilly darkness of winter is swaddled in a blanket of unblemished hope.

Symbolic images have layers of meaning. There's a church in the distance (in the TOC pic), then closer (on the cover). It's the only structure in sight (save for a low-slung, utilitarian storage shed in the TOC image). A beacon of comfort and safety among a vast and barren scape. The approach to the church is flanked by trees, their branches empty now, but they will flourish again. There's a recognizable path, but it remains untrodden. Without the convenience of fresh footprints, I must choose the work of breaking new ground and moving

closer to the sanctuary. Alternatively, I can turn back and revert to the course I've already worn, knowing with certainty that the place it takes me will be exactly where I started from.

Markers and signs are visible, but their words are too small to read from where I stand. They say something, but I'm not sure what.

A mountain rises behind the church, as if God is warning: You made it this far; you're re-energized and warm after a stop at my house; but, you've got a long way to go, and much of it will be uphill.

There are shadows that seem to be actively lengthening. The light is gentle and receding. There's an end near, but a beginning following soon thereafter, and again and again and again.

In the photo taken farther afield from the church, there's evidence of more than one person venturing away from the building then gently arcing in a semicircular back towards it. Their walk is not linear; they have eschewed the obvious trajectory, but their destination is clear. The beckoning polarity of the steeple rising from the field compels them back.

A new year. New opportunity, which includes the possibility of mining hidden treasure beneath the surface of everyday routine. I'll take that metaphor as a sign.

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on the cover:

Scandinavian backcountry church happened upon during a late afternoon January hike.
Cover photo by Scott Lauretti.

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Enthusiastic shoppers returning to the Market at 3 West Ridge will find no shortage of appealing merchandise to browse.

Market Returns

3 West Ridge Makes It a Baker's Dozen Years)

By Lynn Wolfe



Since 2012, St. Peter's Church has welcomed vendors from across the country to its Market at 3 West Ridge events to help raise funds for Savannah's most vulnerable children and their families. These generous vendors, contributing 15 percent of their sales in support of designated charities, have collectively donated more than \$195,000 over the past 13 years. When combined with revenue from plant sales, ticket sales, corporate sponsors, and parishioner gifts, The Market has raised more than \$615,000 to support of area nonprofits working to improve the lives and futures of Savannah's children.

This year's beneficiary nonprofits will use their awards to expand and enhance their programs focusing on literacy and educational success. Horizons Savannah provides area students with a six-week summer program for kindergarten through 12th grade, year-round clubs, tutoring, and enrichment opportunities. Ferst

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Readers, founded by Robin Ferst of Madison, Georgia, is now in 12 states and approximately 100 Georgia counties. Helping students cultivate academic skills enables them to become effective communicators and problem-solvers as they mature.

Market vendors are industrious, creative, and dedicated. They put hundreds of miles on their vans or trailers, unload, and set up attractive, well-stocked "pop-up" stores in limited spaces. After casting an approving eye to their wares, they quickly change from sneakers to party shoes and put on their best smile to greet enthusiastic shoppers at the opening reception.

Pam and Harry Scott started Catch All 40 years ago. Originally, they designed and sold market bags. Since then, they've entered the custom linen business, selling linens for bed, bath, and tabletop, as well as luxurious Pima cotton sleepwear. For the last 25 years they've been doing trunk shows like the Market around the country, helping customers find the perfect linens and sleepwear. Pam says, "Catch All loves returning to The Market (at 3 West Ridge). Church members who put the show together are so welcoming, shoppers are so appreciative and fun to help. The participating vendors bring unique merchandise. I love shopping at the Market. Skidaway is a beautiful, special place."

Tory Valley's venture, Adler Grier, offers gold-beaded roll-over bracelets that are a Market favorite. Valley returns each year because "The Market is a place of warmth, camaraderie, and good feelings." She continues, "This comes from the committee, from the customers, and the community. As a vendor, I can say this is not always the case

with every show or market."

Charleston Shoe's Blakely Zecher rated the Market "a 10 out of 10!!!". Since 2014, the Market has been one of her favorite events. "Everyone goes above and beyond – from the men helping to load our huge boxes inside to all the women checking to make sure we are fed, happy, and housed. It feels like a family get together! There is such a well-curated selection of vendors that even vendors are shopping. Every year, they make you feel like a part of their community. We are proud to be a part of fundraising for charities in Savannah."

Liza Jarrett, owner of Liza Byrd Boutiques, returns to the 2025 Market celebrating 10 years of loyal and noteworthy participation. She says she comes back "because of the wonderful ladies who put together this fundraiser every year!" Jarrett says, "It gives us the opportunity to showcase our unique Liza Byrd styles and our collection for the 2025 season, as well as the opportunity to support the charities that benefit from this event." Jarrett began her business with painted furniture and whimsical gifts and has evolved to stylish, colorful, affordable apparel and accessories for all ages, which she describes as "fresh fashion with a twist."

Two B's, founded in 2009 by Beatrice Vornle and Becky Shea, offers upscale fashion accessories that complement almost every wardrobe. Vornle's Belgian roots add a European flavor to their collection of modern yet timeless accessories. "One of the main reasons we like to come back is the kindness of the organizers and volunteers and the way the show is well organized and structured," she says. "Our timeless and affordable accessories fit right in."

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FOUR SEASONS TRAVEL

SAVANNAH



Blooming houseplants are very popular at the annual Market at 3 West Ridge.

Barbara Arnett Cashmere was a Market original in 2012, having designed many of the beautiful pashminas hanging in Savannah closets today. Skillfully woven, they were hand-painted with natural dyes using small brushes in a village in Nepal. Arnett and her partner in Nepal provided jobs and built a successful business. However, a devastating earthquake wiped out the village in 2015. Arnett helped rebuild the village and the painters' homes by keeping the orders coming and through her own philanthropy. She recently closed her business after 23 years, leaving a proud legacy. Now, her Nepali partner is shepherding the development of a hydroelectric plant in the village, harnessing the power of the local river to provide electricity to areas of India, Tibet, and Nepal.

There will still be pashminas available, despite Arnett's absence. This year, the Market welcome Heidi Kagan a woman who "designs for other women." She feels very strongly about women supporting women, and a portion of every sale is donated to philanthropies that support women. Kagan started her company 20 years ago as a busy mom. As she explains, "My pashmina kept falling off and was a hassle to wear, so I designed my own wrap with armholes for effortless coverage from morning to night. The focus of my design is to help women feel great about themselves with a functional, affordable, luxurious shawl wrap to always enjoy."

Anne Putney of Philadelphia first visited the Market in 2018. "In the depths of dreary February, I found an oasis, The Market at



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3 West Ridge," she writes. "While I was there, I learned that doing the Lord's work for charity could include shopping. Retail therapy with a purpose! I found the perfect hostess gift, a frilly top for my granddaughter's birthday party, an oh-so-soft pearl edged poncho, a 'must-have' hand-decorated salad bowl, and - did I mention? - cheese straws. When I needed a break from trying on endless easy-to-pack jackets and one-of-a-kind earrings, the tireless volunteers were serving homemade chicken salad sandwiches, iced tea, and cookies on tables set for spring with fresh flowers at their center. I won't miss the 2025 Market!"

Sue Wohler, owner of Village Hair Design loves coming to the Market to find jewelry from returning vendors. "And I love all the flowering plants to buy," she says. "It is all such fun – having lunch out and seeing friends and ladies that I see in my salon."

Dr. Beth Sheridan, another supportive Skidaway resident, comments, "I like and admire the Market committee. They know what they are doing, and I trust their judgment when they select the charities. I know all the funds go to the right place."

The 2025 Market at 3 West Ridge opens with a festive wine and hors d'oeuvres reception on Tuesday, February 4, from 4:30 to 7 p.m., and continues Wednesday, February 5, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday, February 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Café lunches can be purchased Wednesday and Thursday. Your \$5 ticket, good all three days, is available at the door.



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Decoding Dog Deeds

Two dogs approach each other. There's a sniff, a wag, a turn. Another sniff, then a freeze, followed by a play bow—or maybe a head turn, then a retreat, or a growl. For those fluent in canine body language, this exchange is rich with meaning. Each action—whether polite or pushy—communicates intent and emotion.

As a certified dog trainer, I've spent many hours observing canine interactions in dog parks, on walking paths, and during training sessions. I've learned to decode the subtle signals that make up canine communication and offer clues that reveal what's happening during dog-to-dog encounters.

POLITE CANINE GREETINGS

When dogs greet each other respectfully, they display body language that signals friendliness and ease. Examples include:

- **Loose, fluid body movements:** A relaxed dog will move with ease, without tension or stiffness.
- **Curved approach:** Instead of walking in a straight line, polite dogs tend to move in an arc, displaying non-threatening intent.
- **Neutral or forward ears:** This suggests curiosity and interest, rather than aggression or overarousal.
- **Pauses and space:** Polite dogs give each other space, often pausing to assess.
- **Brief sniffing:** A quick sniff (1 to 2 seconds) around the head and rear is standard behavior.
- **Play bows:** A dog lowering its front while keeping its rear in the air invites play and signals harmlessness.

READING THE SIGNALS

Understanding canine body language helps dog owners facilitate positive interactions and prevent conflicts. A relaxed and polite greeting sets the stage for harmonious play or peaceful coexistence. Just like people, some dogs can be forward or rude. These behaviors can make other dogs uncomfortable and may require intervention:

- **Invasive Sniffing:** Lingering too long in one area, like between the legs or the rear, can make other dogs uneasy.
- **Direct Approach:** Walking straight toward another dog without curving can be interpreted as bold or aggressive.
- **Prolonged Eye Contact:** While brief eye contact is normal, staring can be perceived as a challenge.
- **Muzzle Poking:** Pushing another dog with the muzzle can be too forward for some dogs.
- **Rearing Up or Pawning:** Placing a paw over another dog or standing on hind legs can signal dominance or pushiness.



DOGGIE LANGUAGE

starring Boogie the Boston Terrier



Illustration by Lili Chin www.doggiedrawing.net.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Dog greetings generally last between one and 10 seconds. As an owner, it's important to remain relaxed but attuned to both dogs' body language during these telling moments. Dogs will decide whether to engage further. Possible outcomes include:

- **Disengagement:** After the initial sniff, dogs may simply move apart, choosing to explore their environment rather than interact.

Tips from a Trainer by Ruth Goldstein

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- **Play:** If one dog offers a play bow and the other is receptive, the interaction may turn into play.
- **Defensive Response:** If a dog feels uncomfortable or overwhelmed, he or she might turn its head, move away, or growl, as if to say, "That's too much for me."

If you notice signs of discomfort or escalation in either animal, calmly redirect your dog, or offer space to avoid a negative encounter. Calmly create distance to ease the pressure. You might try the greeting again later but avoid pushing your dog. Respecting their signals builds trust between you and a sense of safety.

To encourage your dog towards positive greetings:

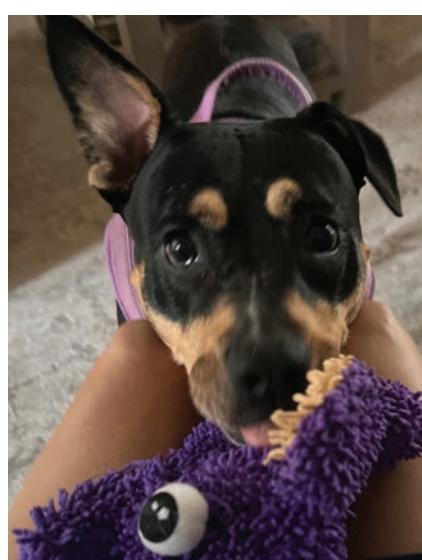
- **Reward Calm Behavior:** Reinforce loose body language and polite sniffing with treats or praise.
- **Provide Controlled Socialization:** Gradually expose your dog to a variety of dogs in controlled environments. Well-socialized, calm, older dogs can be excellent teachers.
- **Respect Your Dog's Boundaries:** Don't force interactions if your dog is request-

ing space by looking away, turning away, backing up, or using you as a barrier.

LETTING WELL-SOCIALIZED DOGS CORRECT RUDE BEHAVIOR

In some situations, a calm, well-socialized dog can effectively teach a pushy, inexperienced, or over-excited dog. Through gentle corrections – like a quick growl, a snap in the air, or turning away – well-mannered dogs set boundaries when they feel another dog is being rude or overbearing. These corrections are often brief and constructive, and they help less socialized dogs learn to interact politely. If a calm, well-socialized dog offers a firm but fair correction without signs of fear or aggression, it can be beneficial to allow the interaction to continue. Dogs often learn faster from these peer-to-peer lessons than from humans. But be ready to intervene if the correction becomes too intense or if the less socialized dog doesn't seem to be adjusting.

Dog greetings offer a wealth of information for those who know what to look for. By learning to read signals and guiding your dog through polite interactions, you can help navigate social situations with confidence and ease. The next time you're at the park or on a

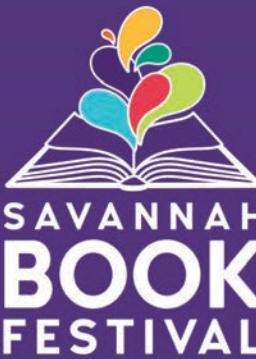


Kayla loves her purple bear. No doubt what she is asking for here. Look at those eyes!

walk, take a moment to observe the intricate dance of canine greetings. You'll be amazed at what your dog might be saying.

Skidaway Island resident Ruth Goldstein is a member of the Association of Professional Dog Trainers.





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OB Hospitalists Ready and Very Able



Every day is a little different for Melissa Crenshaw, MD (left), a board-certified OB hospitalist. And that's just the way she likes it. "We have treated every OB emergency that you can think of," she says. "The variety is one of the reasons I love working in a hospital setting."

Crenshaw is the site director for the OB Hospitalist Group (OBHG), which began a partnership with St. Joseph's/Candler last year to provide a unique service for expectant mothers in the region. The Telfair BirthPlace at Candler Hospital has OB hospitalists on staff 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

"No matter what time you or your unborn baby need care, we're here," Crenshaw says.

OB hospitalists are board-certified OB/GYNs whose practices are focused on a hospital setting. Their presence at the Telfair BirthPlace ensures that expectant mothers receive consistent, top-level medical care by a trained and highly skilled OB/GYN physician at every point of their deliveries.

You may need an OB hospitalist when:

- You come in with an emergency (such as elevated blood pressure)
- Your OB is enroute or unavailable
- You are in the beginning stages of labor

OB hospitalists don't replace the care you receive from your regular OB/GYN. They serve as an extension of your doctor's care. In addition to handling deliveries, OB hospitalists assist with issues or emergencies.

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Hormones and Mental Health: An OB/GYN Can Improve Your Mood

"I have brain fog...I'm depressed...I have mood swings."

Ariel Dees, MD, of St. Joseph's/Candler Physician Network – OB/GYN, wants her patients to share these thoughts with her if they are having them. Dees understands that some women might be hesitant to share such feelings, or they think they should approach a psychiatrist or neurologist with them. But, in some cases, an OB/GYN can help, too.

Dees says, "We see people every day that feel down or off, the same way you might. We talk about it. If we find that your symptoms are due to hormone levels, we can develop a treatment plan that is right for you."

Many patients find relief with hormone replacement therapy or medications like

selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and oral contraceptive pills, which can regulate hormonal imbalance.

"Patients going through menopause can be in a hypoestrogenic state," Dees explains. "Their bodies have lower levels of estrogen than normal, which can affect mental health."

It might not be intuitive to think that hormones that the body produces to help with growth, metabolism, and blood sugar management can be responsible for your bad mood. But some of these chemical messengers regulate emotions as well.

"Mental health is very important," Dees adds. "If you need an SSRI to get through the day, it's completely 'normal.' Or if you need estrogen, progesterone, or a combina-



Ariel Dees, MD, of St. Joseph's/Candler Physician Network – OB/GYN

tion of the two, that is also okay. We have all of these tools to help you. We can safely make you feel better."

St. Joseph's/Candler is the only hospital system in the region to partner with OBHG. Nationwide, hospitals are becoming increasingly aware of the benefits of having OB hospitalists on staff. Recent studies show that hospitals with an OB hospitalist team experience improvement in their quality measures, including an overall reduction in their C-section delivery rates.

Crenshaw explains that patients' regular OB doctors benefit from these services. "Our team allows private practice OB/GYNs to be more well-rested and not pulled away from their office as often," she says. "They can focus on giving great care to the patient in front of them, knowing if one of their patients has to come to the hospital unexpectedly, there's a highly trained doctor available there at any time."

OB hospitalists can provide a measure of calm to expectant parents with emergent medical needs. "Whenever patients come here for any reason, they are going to receive immediate, focused attention," Crenshaw says. "Patients notice the added layer of safety and care when they see the hospitalists at the ready at the Telfair BirthPlace."

Good * Neighbors!*

By Philip Schweier

Four months after the destruction of Hurricane Helene, there remains a silver lining behind the storm clouds. Such challenges make us aware of our more compassionate neighbors and friends. As many continued waiting for damage to be repaired and debris to be collected, Billy "Sis" Richards called The Skinnie to offer recognition for her neighbors on Oysterwood Lane.

Sis and her husband, Jimmy, have just crossed the 90-year mark, and in the aftermath of Helene found themselves trapped with a large branch blocking their driveway and many more limbs littering their lawn. "Our yard was a wreck," Sis recalls. "Thankfully, neighbor Ted Hammond came to our rescue, cutting up limbs and clearing the driveway."

In addition, while the Richards were without power, Ted and Susan Hammond shared the benefits of their generator with their neighbors, bringing them hot coffee each morning. The Hammonds did the same for another family next door who have a 4-year-old and a pair of newborn twins. "They let them use their generator for half of the day so they could care for the children," says Sis, "and brought them coffee, too. Their children love them, they're just wonderful. They see them on the deck, and they run over to them."

The Richards have lived in the Savannah area for most of their lives – Jimmy since 1936, and Sis since 1945. "My daddy was a

traveling salesman, so we moved every five years," Sis says. "I was born in Tennessee, and we moved all over the South."

After 42 years, Jimmy retired from Dixie Crystals, where he led the engineering department. The Richards moved to the Landings in 2004, settling on Oysterwood Lane a couple doors down from the Ted and Susan Hammond.

It's great to have good neighbors...

For seven years, Ted Hammond flew helicopters in the Army and Army Reserve. He left the Army in 1972 and enlisted in the Marines to fly fighter jets. His final duty station before retirement was Marine Corps Air Station – Beaufort in 1983, where the Hammonds were frustrated in finding agreeable housing. Eventually, they discovered what they were looking for outside Richmond Hill. "We lived there for 15 years, and our boys both finished school in the Bryan County system," Ted explains. "Both are now married and living in south Bryan County, so they're close by and doing well."

Hammond retired from the Marines in 1986, taking a job flying corporate aircraft for NetJets. He and Susan moved to Skidaway Island in 1999. They owned a small airplane that they enjoyed flying wherever the sky would take them until fuel prices climbed from \$2 to \$7 a gallon. "We burned 10 gallons an hour in that little four-seater," Ted says. "Saturday \$50 hamburger runs became \$250 hamburger runs."

Ted and Susan both retired at the end of 2019, continuing their travels. They traded their airplane for an RV, eventually working their way up to a class-A diesel motor home that has taken them to almost all the 50 states. "We've seen most of the U.S. at ground level, as opposed to 10,000 or 30,000 feet," Ted says.

The Hammonds were traveling when the Richards moved in next door in 2004. "Between work and other things, we didn't get to meet Sis and Jimmy right away," explains Ted. "Susan happened to cross paths with Sis somewhere, in the supermarket maybe. And it turns out we have mutual friends from many years past."

"They've just been wonderful to us," says Sis. "Susan would bring us dinner off and on during the year. Just out of the clear blue sky they tell us, 'We'll bring you supper.'"

According to Ted, the Richards regularly ate at the Village Bar and Grill. After it closed, preparing meals became a challenge for Sis. "She's a real firecracker," Ted says, "but Jimmy's got medical issues and isn't able to do much. It's a lot for her to shoulder."

"They kind of took us under their wing," says Sis, summing it up. "They're just great neighbors. There's nothing I can do to reciprocate, but I can let others know how much we appreciate them."



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HE SERVED BY RON LAURETTI

DEAN KLAHR

The end of World War II was almost 80 years ago and few of the 16 million men and women who served in uniform at the time remain with us. One of them – Dean Klahr – lives in Savannah and is as energetic and spry as any 99-year-old you'll find.

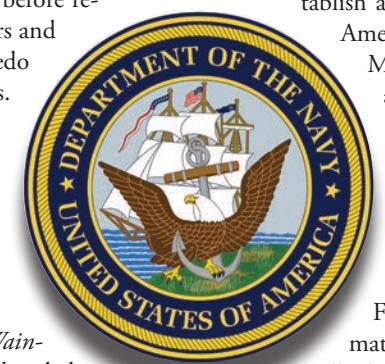
Klahr was born in 1926, in Erie, Pennsylvania, where he graduated high school with academic honors in 1943 and was promptly drafted into military service. He was very willing to serve his country and preferred to do so as a Navy man. As a competitive swimmer growing up near Lake Erie, big water and ships appealed to him. So Klahr and a friend drove a couple of hours south to Pittsburgh in search of a Navy recruiting office.

Klahr scored well on his Navy entrance exam and was sent to Stevens Technical College (now Stevens Institute of Technology) in Hoboken, New Jersey, to study engineering for a year. He then transferred to Naval Station Great Lakes near Chicago for basic training. Upon completion, Klahr was promoted to seaman first class and transferred to the Navy's sonar school in Key West, Florida. After six months, he was assigned to Sims-class destroyer *USS Wainwright*, DD-419, which would become his home for the duration of the war.

The *Wainwright* entered the war just two days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. She was 348 feet long and capable of a maximum speed of 35 knots and range of 4,000 miles before requiring additional fuel. She had a crew of 10 officers and 182 enlisted men and was armed with two torpedo tubes, two depth-charge tracks, and a variety of guns. The destroyer's primary responsibility was to escort convoys while her sonar system searched for enemy U-boats. For the first two years of the war, the *Wainwright* patrolled the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. The destroyer had several close calls from enemy air attacks but no crippling hits.

In April of 1945, sonarman Klahr boarded the *Wainwright* at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, and the vessel sailed through the Panama Canal on her way to the Pacific. "We maintained a daily 24-hour sonar search for Japanese submarines," recalls Klahr, "but, by 1945, mostly all Japanese items of warfare had been destroyed. Nevertheless, I and another sonarman remained on watch 24 hours each day."

During the summer of 1945, the *Wainwright* visited the major American victory sites of Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Saipan, Guam, and



Navy veteran Dean Klahr celebrated his 99th birthday this month.

Eniwetok. From Eniwetok, the vessel proceeded directly to the Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska. Japanese forces attempted to establish a foothold on American territory, possibly to divert

American forces away from a larger Japanese assault at Midway. American forces liberated Japanese-held Attu and collaborated with Canadian troops to launch an invasion of Kiska. However, Japanese forces had already withdrawn, ending the Aleutian campaign.

After the Empire of Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945, the *Wainwright* arrived at Honshu, the largest island and geographical center of Japan.

For the subsequent six weeks, Klahr and his crewmates went ashore daily at Ominato Ko in support of Allied occupation forces. The ship's crew's onshore goal was to ease the minds of the local population regarding the conduct of American occupying forces. During the war, the Japanese government had fed its population propaganda that Americans would rape, torture, and kill. "It took a few local tours for the confused Japanese population to eventually accept us," explains Klahr. On October 30, 1945, the *Wainwright* departed Japan bound for San Diego.

Klahr was discharged from the Navy in May of 1946. In 1948, he



The USS *Wainwright* (DD-419) shown here underway in the Atlantic in May 1944, ended its days as a target vessel, scuttled in July 1948 after exposure to Operation Crossroads atomic tests.

married his high school sweetheart, Carroll Bacon, and they had four children, three boys and one girl. Klahr applied his G.I. benefits to enroll in the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned a degree in finance. He launched a successful career in finance and management at Morgan Guaranty Trust, a precursor to today's J.P. Morgan. In 1984, the family moved to Savannah.

Though his wife passed away in 2020, Klahr enjoys a comfortable life on Skidaway Island where he is an active member of Skidaway Community Church. The "old salt" gets around pretty well and is a proud member of the "Greatest Generation."

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With 2024 at a close, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all my incredible clients. Your trust and support means the world to me and I'm truly honored to have been part of your real estate journey. Here's to a bright and exciting 2025 filled with new opportunities, milestones, and possibilities. Whether it's finding your dream home, selling a cherished property, or exploring new ventures, I'm here to help every step of the way. Let's make this next year one to remember!

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Evidently, bowling is hard. Not just the gutter-ball kind of bowling, but predicting college football postseason winners, too. Our pickers struggled. Roughly two-thirds of them chose more losers than winners. One guy – we'll preserve his anonymity – whiffed on 80 percent of his selections. When the messy dust settled, two men were left standing. Each chose correctly 15 times, while missing 10. Pat "Tunnel" Holland and John "Savant" Durant. But the Savant might actually be one: He imagined 43 total points in the war between the States (Boise and Penn), and the Nittany Broncos posted 45 in real life. Savant scores the big win.

That's it. The season's over, for this column's purposes. See you sometime around the Kickoff Classic. Thanks for playing along.



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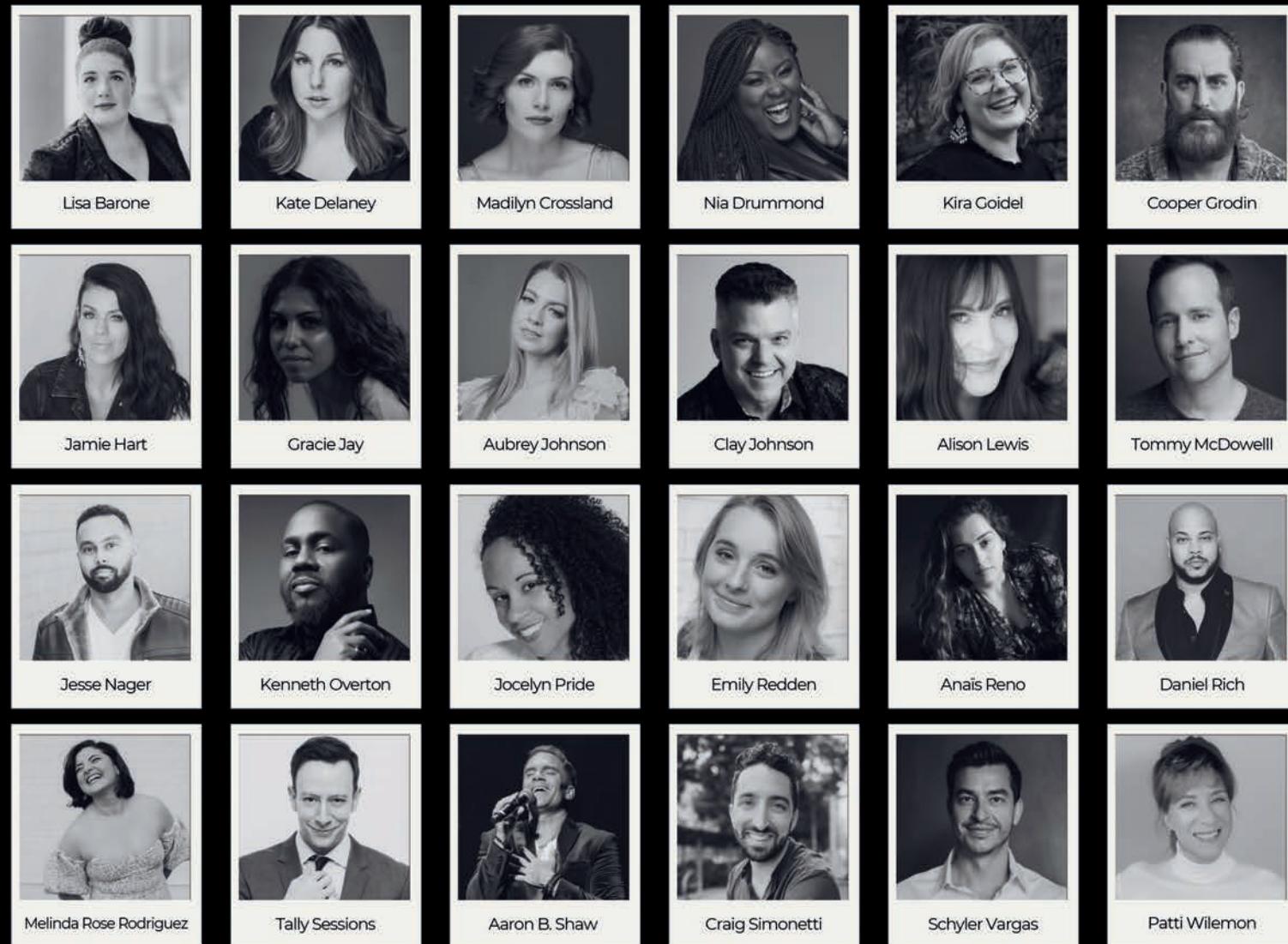
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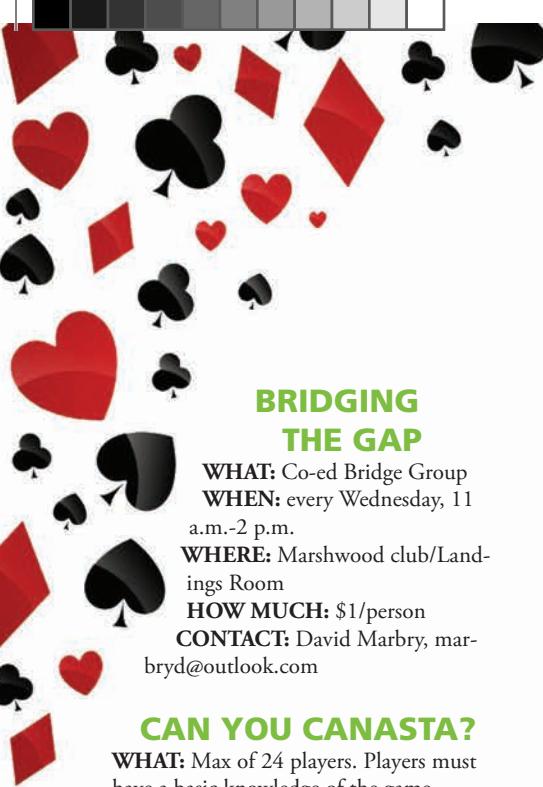


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Deadline is the Friday prior to publication.

BRIDGING THE GAP

WHAT: Co-ed Bridge Group
WHEN: every Wednesday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
WHERE: Marshwood club/Landings Room
HOW MUCH: \$1/person
CONTACT: David Marbry, marbryd@outlook.com

CAN YOU CANASTA?

WHAT: Max of 24 players. Players must have a basic knowledge of the game.
WHEN: Every Wednesday, 2-5 p.m.
WHERE: Marshwood Clubhouse, Skidaway Room
CONTACT: Diane and Paul Bloom, landloverscanasta@gmail.com.

BUILDING BRIDGES

WHAT: Social bridge game
WHEN: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
WHERE: the Savannah Bridge Club
HOW MUCH: \$6 for members, \$7 for non-members
CONTACT: Veronica, 912.598.7217 or Savannah Bridge Club, 912.228.4838
WHAT ELSE: All skill levels welcome. Come alone or with a partner or bridge group.

DOUBLE YOUR FUN

WHAT: Duplicate Bridge
WHEN: Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Oakridge Dining Room
HOW MUCH: \$4 entry fee paid out to top pairs
CONTACT: Steve Fitzgerald, stefitz@bellsouth.net or 912.856.4172
WHAT ELSE: All are welcome. Please sign up weekly by Monday so partnerships (made randomly) can be made in advance of game day.

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 whsickels@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Anyone with an interest in magic is welcome. Every meeting is instructional, entertaining and enlightening.

HEAR GREAT SPEAKERS

WHAT: Kiwanis Club of Skidaway
WHEN: Thursday mornings at 8 a.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Club
HOW MUCH: Free to attend, including any refreshments, which includes coffee/tea (compliments of Morgan Stanley) and occasional pastries from Auspicious Bakery.
CONTACT: Michael Klavon, 912.306.0474 for gate pass
WHAT ELSE: Membership is open to Savannah/Chatham area residents. Visit www.kiwanisofskidaway.com for more information.

WHO NEW?

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

PHOTO FINISH

WHAT: Photo exhibit by Grenville T. Emmet IV
WHEN: Now through Jan. 31
WHERE: Jewish Educational Alliance, 5111 Abercorn St.
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
CONTACT: 912.355.8111
WHAT ELSE: A native of New York City, Emmet drove cross-country in the mid-1990s, making stops in picturesque Rocky Mountain towns. Currently residing on Amelia Island, Florida, he traveled back to Colorado in 2023 and 2024, where photographs for this show were captured.

POSTAL PEOPLE

WHAT: Landings Stamp Club
WHEN: Friday, Jan. 10, 10 a.m.
WHERE: Messiah Lutheran Church conference room
HOW MUCH: Free
CONTACT: Carl Luecke, cluecke@comcast.net or 631.766.5002 for meeting details.
WHAT ELSE: Beginner, advanced, or anyone in between is welcome to join our monthly meeting. Learn about buying, selling, or preserving your collections, and discover different types of stamps from all over the world.

COLLECTION AGENCY

WHAT: Updated Flea Market Pick Up process
WHEN: Jan. 15 and Feb. 12
WHERE: We come to your door
CONTACT: fleamarketintake@gmail.com
WHAT ELSE: Flea market personnel will arrange a visit to view your items in advance and determine what we can pick up. We encourage everyone to hold their smaller items and deliver them to the March 6 or 7 intake at Messiah Lutheran Church.

IN STITCHES

WHAT: Quilting Group
WHEN: Thursday, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Community Church
WHAT ELSE: It's not just your grandmother's quilts anymore! Calling all quilters, wannabe quilters, sewers, creative fiber artists, and anyone looking for a fun and creative outlet. No experience? Don't have a machine? Never sewn or quilted before? Don't know how to thread a needle? No problem. Join us for conversation, socialization, inspiration, and education. Bring a project you are working on, show and tell, or just visit. All members of Landlovers are welcome. We will meet the 3rd Thursday of every month.

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

WHAT: Skidaway History Uncovered
WHEN: Jan. 16 at 4 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Skidaway Island
HOW MUCH: free for FOSA members; \$5 for guests, payable online or at the door
CONTACT: FOSA@skidawayaudubon.org
WHAT ELSE: Local archeologist Laura Seifert will discuss her new book, Faith in Education at the Skidaway Island Benedictine Mission, as Skidaway Audubon's January guest speaker. Please pre-register online at SkidawayAudubon.org.

WHAT'S LEFT?

WHAT: Skidaway Island Democrats meeting
WHEN: Thursday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.
WHERE: TLA office, 600 Landings Way South
CONTACT: Sue Kantor, 917.822.2443
WHAT ELSE: Guests include Kevin Olasanoye, executive director of the Democratic Party of Georgia. If you are not a Landings resident, please email the treasurer at rwmackey1@gmail.com for a gate pass.

A SHORE THING

WHAT: "Changing Shorelines of Georgia's

www.theskinnie.com

Barrier Islands"

WHEN: Tuesday, Jan. 21, 7 p.m.
WHERE: Skidaway Institute of Oceanography (SkIO) Library Auditorium, 10 Ocean Science Circle

HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public
CONTACT: Jackson.Schroeder@uga.edu or 912.598.2325

WHAT ELSE: SkIO announces the return of its monthly "Evening at Skidaway" program. SkIO director, Dr. Clark Alexander, is the featured presenter in January.

MARKET FORCES

WHAT: The Market at 3 West Ridge, a charity shopping boutique and spring plant sale
WHEN: Tuesday, Feb. 4, 4:30-7 p.m. (opening reception); Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 West Ridge Rd.
HOW MUCH: \$5 admission, good for all three days; \$15 box lunch available for purchase Wednesday and Thursday
CONTACT: Kathryn McLearn, 912.598.4520
WHAT ELSE: Proceeds from the 2025 Market will benefit two local nonprofits working to

improve the lives and futures of children in the greater Savannah community. Horizons Savannah offers tuition-free summer programs for children K-12. Ferst Readers mails a monthly age-appropriate book for children to keep, and a guide for parents to foster reading and child literacy.

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

WHAT: FOSA Meeting: Bee There
WHEN: Thursday, Feb. 20, 4 p.m.
WHERE: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3 West Ridge Rd.

HOW MUCH: Free for members of Friends of Skidaway Audubon (FOSA), \$5 for guests, payable online or at the door

CONTACT: FOSA@skidawayaudubon.org
WHAT ELSE: Guest speaker will be a representative of the Savannah Bee Company. Using a live hive, they will explain the importance of bees and how they work cooperatively. Attendees are asked to pre-register online at SkidawayAudubon.org.

LET'S GO TO THE HOP

WHAT: Landlovers 50th anniversary celebration
WHEN: Friday, Feb. 28, 6-10 p.m.
WHERE: Palmetto Clubhouse Ballroom

HOW MUCH: \$85 per person

CONTACT: For more information, visit www.landingslandlovers.org.

WHAT ELSE: Join friends and neighbors, new and old, for a nostalgic night of dancing, dining, and fun at the '50s Sock Hop Dinner Dance.

Dress to impress in your poodle skirts, leather jackets, and bobby socks for a night of classic style and reminiscence. When you need a break, mosey into the Azalea Room for the silent auction, featuring a variety of exciting items, from sports-themed baskets to local fine art. All proceeds go to the Landlovers Foundation, which supports student scholarships and philanthropy. Registration is now open at Landingslandlovers.com

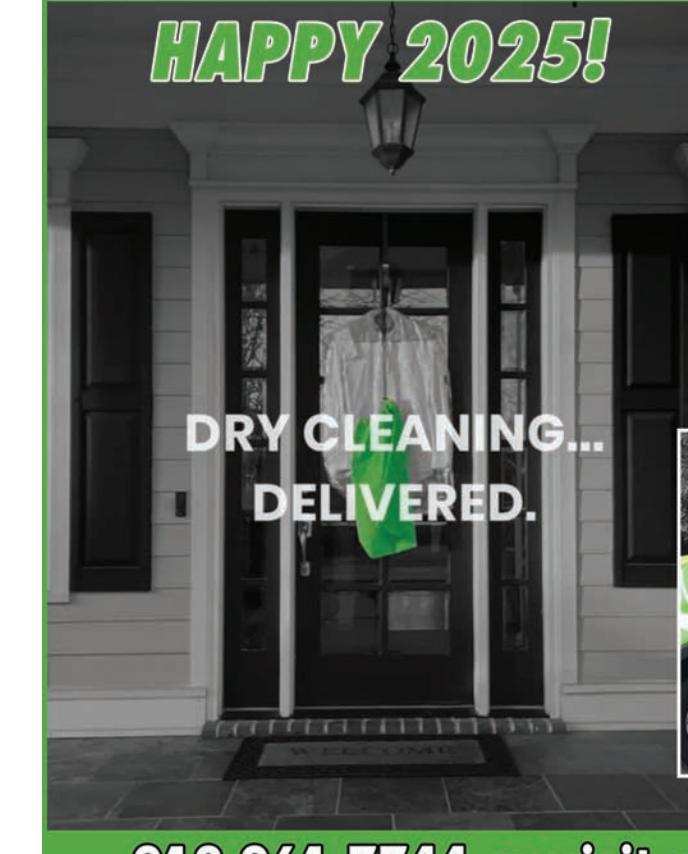
HELP AROUND THE HOUSE

WHAT: Habitat for Humanity volunteers wanted
WHEN: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, possibly Thursdays

WHERE: locations vary

CONTACT: Mark Piven, 912.598.0323

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



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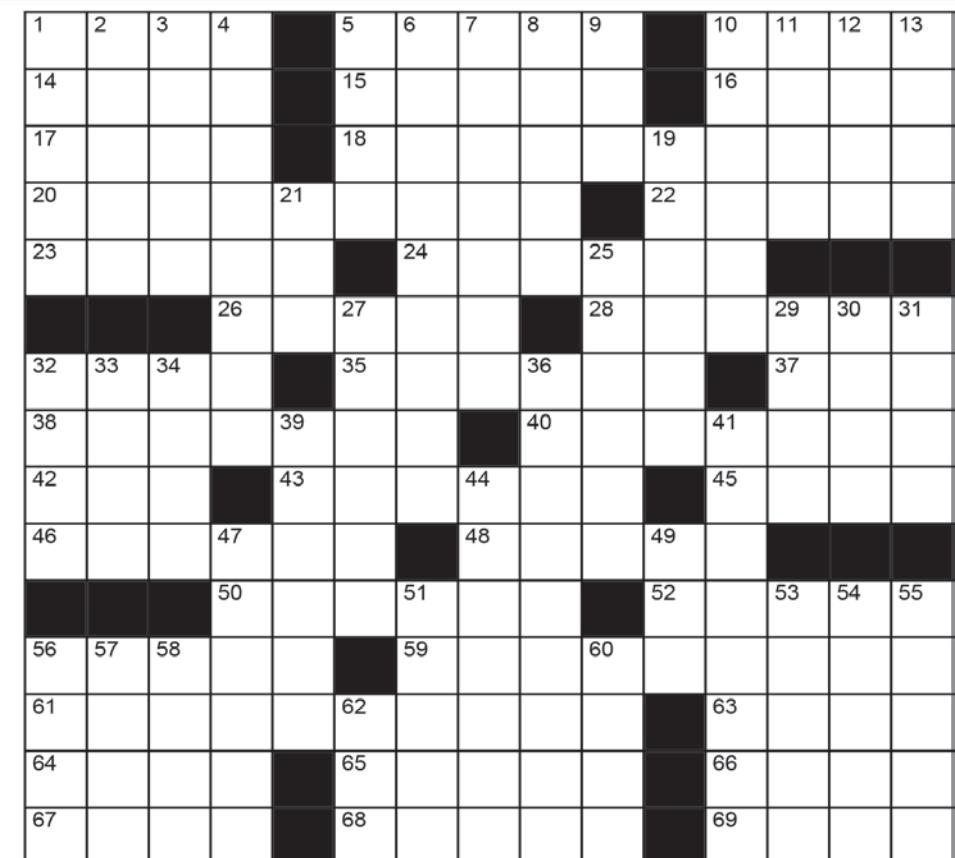
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Salary limits
5. Sign of life
10. ____ one's time
14. Away from the wind
15. Pass into law
16. Auction website
17. Reddish-brown
18. Good-looking
20. Send into a swoon
22. Reacts to yeast
23. Triangular Greek letter
24. Like many wedding cakes
26. Welles of film fame
28. Swelling reducer
32. Leave a mark on
35. Take the pulpit
37. One of Frank's exes
38. TV cabinet
40. Twisting Chubby
42. "Tarzan" extra
43. Reason out
45. Ethereal
46. Beginner, slangily
48. When tripled, an Elvis tune
50. McDonald's clown
52. Meddlesome sort
56. French farewell
59. Fuel for big rigs
61. Workplace trouble, sometimes
63. Not fooled by
64. Send forth
65. Rotini, for one
66. Civil rights org.
67. Work well together
68. Unable to relax
69. Property title

DOWN

1. Gave a hoot
2. Unaccompanied
3. Necklace item



4. Ottawa's NHL team
5. Gardening moss
6. Lacking in schooling
7. Base "facilities"
8. Rockslide debris
9. Capt.'s guess
10. Come to pass
11. Egyptian bird
12. Kevin Kline title role
13. Spud's buds
19. Nativity scene
21. Golfer's concern
25. Heavier, as a dessert
27. Stomach neighbor
29. Make cookies
30. Say it's so
31. Larson of *The Far Side*
32. Read a bar code
33. Manage somehow
34. One more time
36. Fender benders
39. Rotten to the core
41. Social worker's work
44. Worst looking
47. Bit of fresh air?
49. Caustic cleaner
51. Commercial creator
53. Present time
54. Boxer's quest
55. Vocally
56. "Beg pardon ..."
57. British title
58. Pupil's place
60. Legal postponement
62. Chic getaway

Puzzle answers, page 29



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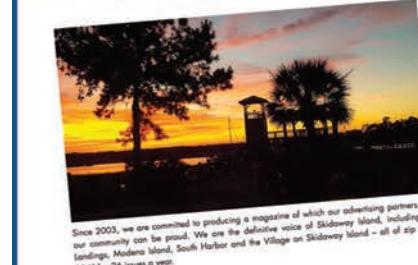


SKIDAWAY ISLAND PRO WASH • Owned by Landings residents and members, we offer the most premium window washing available. We use the highest quality multi-stage water filtration system to enable us to use purified water with zero impurities, ensuring your windows are left spotless and streak free every time. Free estimates. Google and Facebook 5-star rated. 100% satisfaction guaranteed. Call or text Matt Shannon 912.600.7377; email matt@siprowash.com; www.siprowash.com.

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CARDINAL VIRTUES

Cardinals are brimming with symbolism. In general, the birds' vibrant red plumes are seen as full of hope, optimism, and good luck for the year ahead. In Christianity, the bird represents the blood of Christ and everlasting vitality – or even a sign of divine intervention. Native American traditions hold that cardinals represent loving relationships and devotion, while in other cultures, they may be seen as messengers from the spiritual realm.



ABOVE: Carole Barnard
LEFT: Becky Carter



All photos this page shared by Jorge Gojman



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

Dr. William Crosland, Interventional Cardiologist

KENNETH TURNER - SAVANNAH, GA

As an avid workout enthusiast and competitive bodybuilder, Kenneth was taken by surprise when he suddenly began feeling intensely ill. Luckily, he was just a short walk from the Candler Hospital Emergency Room – where he suffered a massive heart attack during his examination.

Literally bringing him back from death after 30 minutes of CPR, the Candler team put him on a ventilator and called Dr. William Crosland. Kenneth was transported to The Heart Hospital at St. Joseph's Hospital, where Dr. Crosland inserted an Impella and followed it up with a coronary stent. After 30 days in a coma and 2 months in the hospital, Kenneth has made a full recovery. He's back to working out and still in awe of the lifesaving care he received from Dr. Crosland and the entire St. Joseph's/Candler team.

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