

TYBEE BEACHCOMBER

April 2024

TYBEEBEACHCOMBER.COM

Island's Guide for fun!



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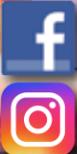
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Tybee

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- Fire NON-Emergency 472-5062
- Ocean Rescue 786-9873
- Suicide Hotline 800-273-8255
- City Hall 786-4573
- Library 786-7733
- Parking Services..... 472-5101
- Post Office 786-9632
- River's End Campground 786-5518
- Visitor's Center/Chamber 786-5444
- YMCA..... 786-9622
- American Legion Post #154 786-5356
- Tybee Island Lighthouse..... 786-4077

- Marine Science Center..... 786-5917
- Fishing License (Chu's on Campbell)..... 786-5904
- Dizzy Dean's Liquor, Beer & Wine 786-4500

Fun Stuff

- Burke's Beach Rentals, Inc..... 547-8145
- Tybee Golf Carts 226-9676
- Tim's Bike & Beach Gear..... 786-8467
- North Beach Rentals 484-6535
- Tybee Island Bike Rentals 656-5123
- Tybee Island Lost and Found.....Facebook

Shuttle Services

- Breezy Riders 665-9988
- Tybee Turtle Transit.....(361)887-8537
- Tybee Night Train.....417-0486

THIS IS MY HAPPY PLACE

Tybee Island Map

- 1. Alley 3 Kayak Launch
- 2. Back River Fishing Pier
- 3. Bikes / Tybee Bike Trail
- 4. Campground
- 5. Cockspar Lighthouse
- 6. Dog Parks
- 7. Fort Screven Museum
- 8. Jaycee Park Playground
- 9. Lazzaretto Creek Boat Ramp
- 10. Lazzaretto Creek Village
- 11. Memorial Park Playground
- 12. Pier / Pavilion
- 13. Tybee Lighthouse
- 14. Visitor Center

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From MS...ALAIN...EOUS

The sun is shining, Tybee's kicking into gear and the long, dreary days of whatever that was are hopefully behind us and Wow! Have I got a lot to share with y'all!! Let's get to it!

First and foremost is the **Easter Egg Hunt Contest!** This contest gets bigger and trickier every year. I think Rick lies awake at night thinking of ways to make us crazy! I am delighted to announce we had more entries than ever, but there can be only one and the one is **Jessica Pone!** Congratulations and thank you for all of your hard work! Off to Sundae Cafe with you and if you are feeling generous, take Rudy Rudon. He picked your number. He's also kind of entertaining.

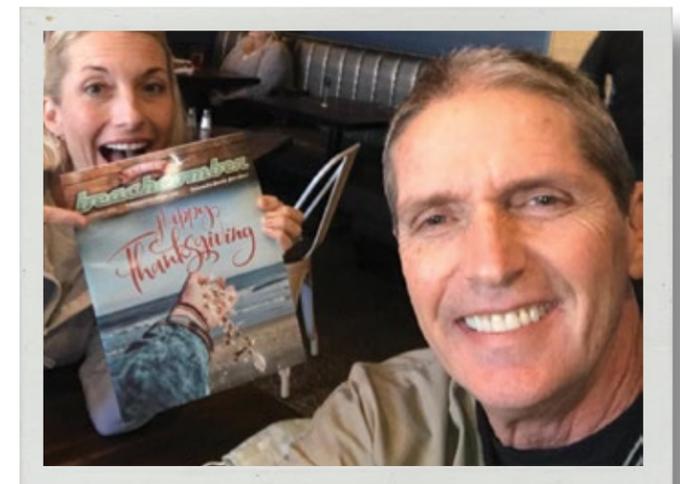
Up next are a couple of different random things that popped into my noggin. One is **April is Volunteer Month.** There are a number of excellent non-profit organizations on Tybee to volunteer at. From the Islands Feral Cat Project to the YMCA to the Marine Science Center and many more. Find out which one suits your interests and get involved!

Random thought two was when Betsey and I were at North Beach Grill feeding our faces, I had an epiphany for another contest. You know how we like our contests here at the BC. This one is a first and kind of unusual. NBG's tartar sauce is flat out delicious! When I asked what was in it, I was told an emphatic 'No.' It's KFC top secret, so let's see what happens when we send our island sleuths in to put their taste buds to the test. Get down to NBG, get your tartar taste buds percolating and let me know what you think is in it. Email your response to info@tybeebeachcomber.com or text your answer to (912) 675-5261 by April 15th. You will have a chance to win a gift certificate to NBG, provided by them, and the BC will throw in something too. I don't know what that is right now, but I will by deadline time.

I would like to take a moment now to give a huge shout out to the **BC Delivery Drivers.** Every month offers up its own unique challenges and last month it was just an ugly day. Raining and miserable. Our team came through though and we got the job done! So, to **Francis German, Toni Voight and Drex Whiddon,** we salute you. That was seriously a pain in the ass day. (I didn't thank Rick or me because we make the big bucks! LOL.)

And finally, we get to the **Traveling Beachcomber!** I am super happy to announce this month's winners! They are very special to Neighbor Joy and me because they are our landlords, **Bill and Brandy Trout.** Both have constantly supported both Joy and me, have been devout BC readers and have gone above and beyond the call of duty! Even sending daughter Parker and friends to come help load the magazines into the house! They didn't go too far, the Post Theater and our laundry room (lol), but the thought is there and that's what counts!! So, thank you Trout family! Joy and I will see you at A-J's for yummy food and fabulous cocktails!

Now then, make me a cocktail and turn the page



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LIFE ON THE BIKE PATH

John O'Neill continues to entertain with random thoughts.

Publishers

Rick Flynn & Alaina Loughridge

Layout & Design

Rick Flynn

Layout Editor

Margie McLellan

Photographer

Wen McNally

Social Media

Betsey Jenkins

Advertising & Sales

Alaina Loughridge

Contact Us

Yearly Subscriptions Available
FaceBook: /tybeebeachcomber
Instagram: /tybeebeachcomber
Email: info@tybeebeachcomber.com
P.O. Box 58
Tybee Island, GA 31328
Phone: 912-675-5261
Website: tybeebeachcomber.com

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TYBEE BEACHCOMBER

Island's Guide from fun!

April 2024 Tide Chart

Georgia, Savannah

N 32° 02.0' / W 80° 54.1'

Date	High				Low				☀️		🌙	
	AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	Moon	
1	Mon	1:50	7.7	2:24	6.6	8:47	1.3	8:46	1.0	7:09	7:44	☾
2	Tue	2:56	7.7	3:28	6.8	9:53	1.3	9:57	0.9	7:08	7:45	☾
3	Wed	4:05	7.8	4:35	7.1	11:00	1.0	11:11	0.6	7:07	7:46	☾
4	Thu	5:14	8.0	5:42	7.6			12:03	0.5	7:05	7:46	☾
5	Fri	6:21	8.4	6:45	8.3	12:19	0.1	1:00	-0.1	7:04	7:47	☾
6	Sat	7:20	8.8	7:42	9.0	1:21	-0.4	1:53	-0.7	7:03	7:48	☾
7	Sun	8:14	9.0	8:34	9.6	2:19	-0.9	2:43	-1.2	7:02	7:48	☾
8	Mon	9:05	9.1	9:24	9.9	3:13	-1.2	3:32	-1.4	7:00	7:49	☾
9	Tue	9:53	8.9	10:13	10.0	4:06	-1.3	4:19	-1.4	6:59	7:50	☾
10	Wed	10:42	8.5	11:01	9.8	4:56	-1.1	5:06	-1.2	6:58	7:51	☾
11	Thu	11:32	8.1	11:51	9.3	5:46	-0.8	5:52	-0.8	6:57	7:51	☾
12	Fri			12:25	7.6	6:35	-0.2	6:40	-0.2	6:56	7:52	☾
13	Sat	12:43	8.8	1:22	7.1	7:25	0.4	7:30	0.5	6:54	7:53	☾
14	Sun	1:39	8.2	2:21	6.8	8:20	1.0	8:26	1.1	6:53	7:53	☾
15	Mon	2:38	7.8	3:19	6.7	9:20	1.4	9:29	1.4	6:52	7:54	☾
16	Tue	3:35	7.4	4:16	6.7	10:22	1.6	10:34	1.6	6:51	7:55	☾
17	Wed	4:31	7.3	5:13	6.8	11:20	1.6	11:35	1.5	6:50	7:55	☾
18	Thu	5:26	7.3	6:07	7.1			12:11	1.4	6:49	7:56	☾
19	Fri	6:18	7.4	6:56	7.5	12:30	1.3	12:55	1.1	6:47	7:57	☾
20	Sat	7:06	7.5	7:39	7.9	1:18	1.0	1:34	0.8	6:46	7:57	☾
21	Sun	7:49	7.6	8:19	8.2	2:03	0.7	2:12	0.6	6:45	7:58	☾
22	Mon	8:29	7.7	8:55	8.4	2:45	0.5	2:48	0.4	6:44	7:59	☾
23	Tue	9:06	7.7	9:28	8.6	3:26	0.4	3:24	0.3	6:43	8:00	☾
24	Wed	9:41	7.6	9:59	8.6	4:05	0.3	4:00	0.3	6:42	8:00	☾
25	Thu	10:15	7.4	10:31	8.6	4:44	0.3	4:36	0.3	6:41	8:01	☾
26	Fri	10:50	7.2	11:05	8.5	5:23	0.4	5:14	0.4	6:40	8:02	☾
27	Sat	11:29	7.1	11:46	8.3	6:03	0.6	5:54	0.5	6:39	8:02	☾
28	Sun			12:15	6.9	6:46	0.7	6:39	0.6	6:38	8:03	☾
29	Mon	12:37	8.2	1:10	6.9	7:35	0.9	7:32	0.8	6:37	8:04	☾
30	Tue	1:38	8.1	2:12	7.0	8:31	1.0	8:33	0.9	6:36	8:05	☾



CRAFT BEER & WINE

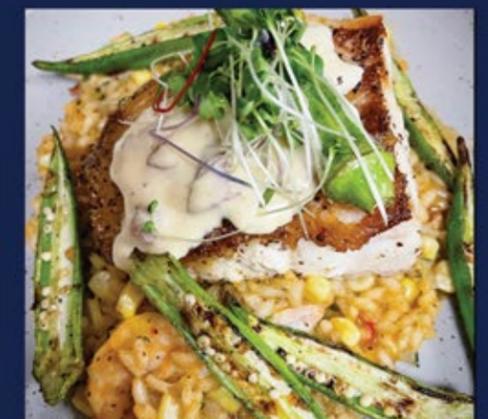
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Danny Monroe
In Memoriam
04/20/64 - 01/29/23

Danny was unexpectedly taken from us January 29, 2023, and with his birthday on April 20th, we are reminded how precious life is and how it can be taken away without any warning. What a huge blow to family, friends, his community, church, and co-workers. You see, Danny was extra special to all of us, and we are still reeling from this loss.

Danny was one of those one-of-a-kind human beings that was ALWAYS happy. He legitimately loved people and not only would he give you the shirt off his back, he never met a stranger or forgot a face. He was always genuine and sincere and when you talked to him, you were his center of attention.

Danny found Tybee by happenstance, and it was truly meant to be. Danny loved Tybee! His absolute favorite Tybee events were Beach Bum and Polar Plunge and he always dressed accordingly and dove in with 100 percent of his effort and energy. He also loved his Tybee Bar Church and thoroughly enjoyed showing off his culinary skills every Sunday with a variety of dishes he created.

As much as he loved Tybee, nothing compared to his love of his family. His wife, Jamy, was his soul mate, and he fell in love with her the moment he was introduced to her wearing her saucy, sexy pirates costume at Pirate's Fest. They were instantly inseparable, and you would rarely see one without the other. He adopted her parents, Jimmy and Judy, as if they were his own. His children, Wren and Tatum, were his life, and he would glow when he spoke of them and their achievements. His brother, Troy, and sister, Cristi, were paramount and the love he shared with his mom, Judy, and dad, Sonny, always came first. Family was all.

Danny was so much fun! He loved to mop for Jamy at Tybee Time and stock her supplies. Everything he did, he came at with everything he had. Don't you dare step on his newly mopped floor! After the chores were done, straight to the beach! The man had a tan that was bar none! He also had really pretty feet and he was very proud of them and thoroughly enjoyed showing them off.

Born in Franklin, Kentucky, and graduating from Western Kentucky, the Kentucky Wild Cats were his team, and he could out fan anybody in the building and yell louder than anyone else when a game was playing.

Every day for Danny was Christmas and once you met him, you saw right through him: His zest for each moment of every day was contagious. His pure radiating joy was something you wanted to be a part of.

On April 20th, raise your glass. We will miss you every day, Danny. Until it's our time to see you again, we can only hope to aspire to be as happy as you were when you were with us.

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BIZZ BUZZ

Story and Photo by Alaina Loughridge

WILD ZINNIA

Yippee!! We have a new business in town fronted by two of our favorite people - husband and wife team Ricardo and Jennifer Ochoa. For the new kids, Ricardo is part owner of the fab restaurant, Sea Wolf, and wife, Jen, of TIMS Bikes, Beach Gear and Disc Golf. For our benefit and shopping pleasure, the Ochoa's have opened their new store on the south end called Wild Zinnia.

A little bit of history here. Not that long ago in 2019, Jan Will asked then Mayor Jason to name a flower for the City of Tybee and recommended the Zinnia. The request was quickly adopted and thus Tybee was gifted with an official flower. When Jen and Ricardo were percolating on what to call their new boutique, they really wanted to connect and to relate to Tybee and the Tybee vibe, the name was cool, so one thing led to another and here we are!

The Wild Zinnia is boho chic, but it's also beach chic in that it offers all sorts of stuff - some things very hard to find and not available everywhere, as well as necessary things for beach goers that they may have forgotten to pack in their rush to get here. They also offer perfect Tybee mementos and gifts for anyone on your list. From hand-crafted wood purses (yes, wood and they are awesome!), to wooden men's wallet card carriers, handmade jewelry, watches, beach cover ups, pillows, as well as everyday lifestyle stuff.

One of their really different and not found just anywhere items are smart toys for kids. Ranging from puzzles to cards and board games, they will not only entertain your kids, but they are family interactive and great fun for the whole gang.

The Ochoa's goal is to bring us unique items that fit into everyone's lifestyle - either on your body or in your home. Whether your body and home be on Tybee or elsewhere, you can find local and small business artisans from across the country in this one convenient location. This new shop is truly Authentic Coastal Lifestyle.

You can find the Wild Zinnia at 1510 Butler Avenue (just down from the Sand Bar). They are open seven days a week from 9 to 5. For any questions, give them a call at (912) 344-0335. Definitely check out their website at www.wildzinniatybee.com and /or Facebook and Instagram @wildzinniatybee.

Oh, and let's not forget the Loyalty Points card! Each time you buy a treasure, it goes towards earning 50% off when your card is filled! We love 50% off! I will see you at Wild Zinnia to get our chic on!!

WILD ZINNIA
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TYBEE OAKS

LOCAL ART - LOCAL EATS - LOCAL VIBE

TOP 10 APRIL SONG LIST

By D.J. AMP

"There's no crying in baseball." - from "A League of Their Own."

Pea-nuts, Pop-corn, Cracker -Jacks! I can smell the wonderful aroma now! Since this month marks the 50th anniversary of Hank Aaron hitting his home run to beat Babe Ruth's record, I am dedicating this month's list to baseball. Elaine McGruder suggested baseball songs a while back, and after running into her on Tybee, we discovered we both were at that record breaking game at Atlanta Fulton Stadium in April of 1974. What a day that was. We both have fond memories of that special day. Love those Braves.

And speaking of the Braves, I actually talked to Greg Maddux on the phone once, back in the 90s. It was by accident, of course! Before everyone had cell phones, my band's bass player invited us to a friend's house for a jam and a grill out. I lost the directions and his friend's phone number, so I called information. There was ONE Greg Maddox listed in Snellville, Ga. (his friend's name was Gregg Maddox, ha). I called and a guy answered and I asked what time the grill out started. He said "Who is this, and how did you know I am grilling out?" So I explained. He said "Sorry, but I play for the Atlanta Braves, you have the wrong Greg!" Turns out that the other Gregg had an un-listed number. LOL.

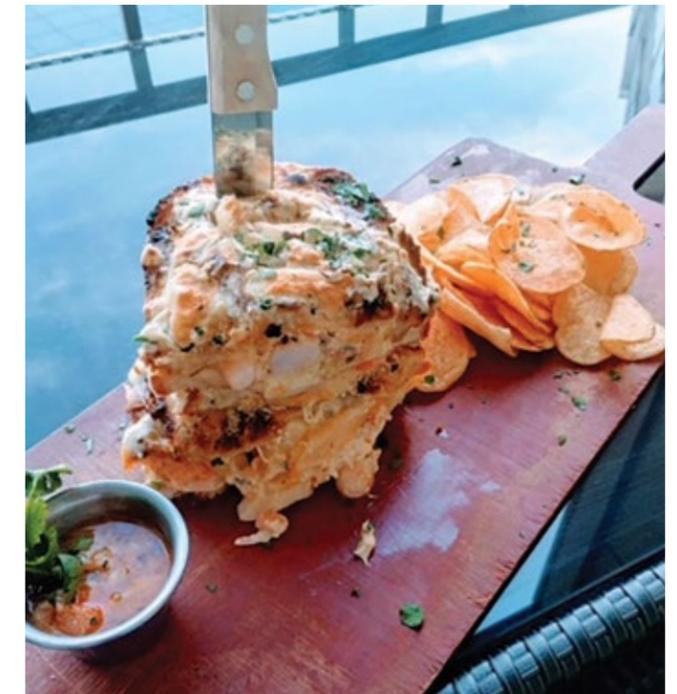
Here is Elaine's and my list of songs about baseball!
Turn it up and let's Play Ball!

1. **Take Me Out to the Ballgame - Edward Meeker**
2. **Saga of Dandy, the Devil, & Day - Ultramagnetic MCs Talkin'**
3. **Catfish - Bob Dylan**
4. **Joltin' Joe DiMaggio - Les Brown**
5. **The Natural - Randy Newman**
6. **America's Favorite Past Time - Todd Snider**
7. **Centerfield - John Fogerty**
8. **Glory Days - Bruce Springsteen**
9. **Baseball (Willie, Micky, and The Duke) - Terry Cashman**
10. **All the Way - Eddie Vedder**

Cooking with Nate

By Nate Frisby

SEAFOOD GRILLED CHEESE STACK



Ingredients:

- 12 Shrimp
- White sliced Italian bread (3 slices)
- White Cheddar Cheese, shredded (thick)
- Provolone Cheese (3 slices)
- Colby Jack Cheese (3 slices)
- 12 oz. Lobster roll dip
- 4 oz. Truffled Garlic
- Old Bay Aioli
- 2 oz. garlic cheese spread
- 1 tomato, diced
- 4 oz. Crab meat
- 4 oz. minced garlic
- ¼ lb. salted butter
- Parsley, 1 bunch

Instructions:

- Heat skillet. When heating skillet, add butter. Once butter is nice and melted, add shrimp and move around until they are turning a pretty pink color.
- Add diced tomatoes, minced garlic, pinch of Old Bay (or to your liking of taste), and a pinch of parsley. Sauté uncovered for 5 min.
- Add crab and sauté uncovered for an additional 3 minutes. Place mixture into a bowl and set aside (keep the pan if it still has some good flavor).
- Butter one side of each slice of bread. Toast bread, butter side down, until nice and golden brown. Take off skillet with non-toasted side facing up and spread garlic and Old Bay Aioli evenly onto 2 of the 3 slices of bread with non-toasted side facing up. On the 3rd slice of bread, add lobster spread evenly. Add Colby Jack cheese to bread, with garlic and Old Bay Aioli. Spread mixture of shrimp and crab to both sides of the Provolone and Colby Jack cheese (it's ok to be a little messy).
- Set broiler oven on high while stacking your seafood stack. Place grilled cheese bread on a sheet pan, cheese side up, adding 2 oz. White Cheddar shredded cheese to crab and lobster. Place in oven until cheese is melted (3-4 min.).
- Place seafood, shrimp and crab on toasted cheese facing up on top of each other. Place lobster crab spread on top face down. Hold while spreading garlic herb spread on finishing top. Place back on sheet pan in oven until nice browning on top of cheese spread (2-3 min.)
- Let cool and enjoy your AMAZING Seafood Grilled Cheese Stack!!

LOVE, NOT ACTUALLY

A Love Advice Column by a Boy and a Girl Who Should Not Be Giving Love Advice. Ever.

The Question this month is: I've been with my boyfriend for five years and he has yet to propose, even though I've dropped some strong hints. Stay or go?

Girl's Advice

Go. He's either wishy washy about making any kind of permanent life-altering decision for himself (and quite frankly, no thank you to that spinelessness) or you're just not the one, but you're convenient for the moment because you're doing the wife job without the wife perks (and when I say 'wife perks,' I mean the commitment to only you) while he shops around elsewhere at his convenience.

No thank you. Never be someone else's second place. I saw that on Facebook, and I stand by it.

Boy's Advice

You've been dropping 'strong' hints? Are you kidding me? Obviously, you need a lesson in how men actually work. You'd think, if you were planning on marrying one, you would at least have a rudimentary knowledge of how we work. Dropping hints is definitely NOT how one gets a man to do what you'd like him to do. We're a straightforward species. Just talk to us about it. I'm sure when you want the trash taken out, you ask him to take the damn trash out! And guess what, he probably does it. (Likely after 3 or 4 asks, but it gets done.)

We don't do hints. We don't do passive aggressive. We don't understand the female mind! YOU have to tell us what YOU want. If we think it's a good idea, then hey, start the wedding planning, if we don't, then kick rocks. He's more than likely committed to you already. Do you really want to mess that up by letting the government get involved in your relationship? IMO, marriage is an antiquated and archaic institution that should be left for days gone by, but hey, I'm just a guy who doesn't understand women anyway, unless they tell me WHAT THEY REALLY WANT!

Main Street Matters

Cassidi Kendrick | Main Street/ Development Authority Director

Thank you to everyone who came out to the ribbon cutting celebration of one of Tybee's newest businesses, **Sea Salt Ceramics & Charissa Murray Art**. This wonderful new shop is located in one of the cottages at Tybee Oaks. Stop by and check out their space six days a week from 10:30am-5pm.

City Hall's newly renovated building is now open. City staff relocated from the modular buildings back into City Hall, 403 Butler Ave., late last month. Citizens may visit City Hall Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm for various licensing and permitting services, utilities, and other administrative services. Parking Services is located at 1509 Strand Ave., just before the Tybee Pier and Pavilion.

There are several events upcoming on Tybee during the month of April! If you have not already done so, make sure you sign up for the **2024 Turtle Trot!** Help support our Tybee Sea Turtle Project and TIMSC resident sea turtles, Westie and Ossie, by participating in the Turtle Trot 5K beach run fundraiser. Participants receive a t-shirt, a medal, and admission to the science center after the race! This event is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th and registration information can be found on the Tybee Island Marine Science Center Facebook page.

The City of Tybee and Tybee Main Street have launched a new parking incentive program for employees of Tybee businesses! This program allows employees of approved Tybee businesses to purchase a discounted annual parking decal. Registration for the program is simple and must be signed off by the business owner/manager. For more information about this great program, shoot an email over to mainstreet@cityoftybee.gov.

If you are interested in learning more about the Tybee Island Main Street Program or the Development Authority, come observe a meeting! The schedule for upcoming Main Street meetings can be found on the city's calendar, or on the Tybee Island Main Street Facebook page. Don't hesitate to give us a shout, we can be reached at mainstreet@cityoftybee.gov or at 912-472-5103.

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From the Mayor's Desk

Mayor Brian West

IT'S NOT OUR ROAD

Six weeks ago, I went with our Acting City Manager, Michelle Owens, to our state capital to talk to our state senator, Ben Watson, and our state representative, Jesse Petrea, about legislation that could help us control promoted, unpermitted events. Former Mayor Shirley Sessions set the legislation process into action last year by putting a resolution before the city council. The resolution asked the state to give municipalities the ability to declare states of emergency caused by unpermitted events. The ability to declare a state of emergency would put plans into action to mitigate civil disturbances.

The resolution led to three potential pieces of legislation. The first allowed municipalities to block roads to control civil disturbances. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GADOT) did not approve of this legislation, and it was dropped. The second legislation would increase fire department powers by allowing them to enter structures or block or unblock roads for a civil disturbance. The representatives thought the language would be divisive and difficult to pass, so this legislation was also dropped. The third and most promising legislation allowed us to seek damages from promoters who promote unpermitted events. The idea was that we could require payment for city costs associated with public safety activities required to control unpermitted events. This legislation, thanks to Senator Watson and Representative Petrea, eventually passed both the state Senate and the state House and hopefully, by the time you read this, is signed by Governor Kemp.

During these discussions, I pressed for control of Highway 80 between Bull River Bridge and Lazaretto Creek Bridge. As you know, this stretch of Highway 80 is mostly single lane with no emergency lanes. It poses a significant safety risk for our residents and visitors. Traffic must keep moving, especially westward, to allow emergency vehicles to move to access medical care. To make this happen, we must have the ability to redirect traffic west of the Bull River Bridge when the road or island becomes congested. However, this is not our jurisdiction. Senator Watson brought our discussions to Senator Randy Robertson, Majority Whip and retired Sheriff. Senator Watson asked us to meet with Senator Robertson, and after lengthy discussion to bring him up to speed, he believed that the Georgia State Patrol (GSP) should be willing, as they are in Atlanta, to help us redirect traffic.

Senator Robertson placed us in contact with our GSP representative in Statesboro, who advised, as we expected, that they could not redirect traffic because Highway 80 is a federal highway. So, I contacted US Representative Buddy Carter's office, who contacted the USDOT. The USDOT, in writing, deferred to the GADOT for control of the road. Buddy Carter's office then contacted the GADOT who deferred, in writing, to the Georgia Department of Public Safety (the GSP) for control of Highway 80 in emergency situations. So, there we have it. Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus, and the GSP, at our request, can close Highway 80.

We were at a meeting with Chatham County Commission Chairman, Chester Ellis (CCCCCE), for another matter and mentioned that the GSP would help us redirect traffic if our unpermitted events got out-of-hand. CCCCCCE offered that Chatham County Police would help too!

We now have the capability to close Highway 80, but we must consider the ripple effect it will have on traffic back through Chatham County, through Savannah, to I-95. Chatham County Police will have to be prepared.

And remember - if we do get what we've all been asking, and we do close the road, that means no one uses the road while it's closed.

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WHO GETS BURNT by a FREEZER?

When you're eating out on an island surrounded by one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world, do you ever crave farm-raised seafood that's flown in frozen from halfway across the globe?

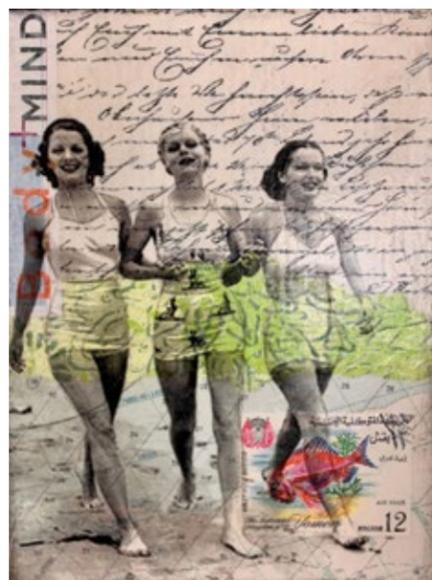
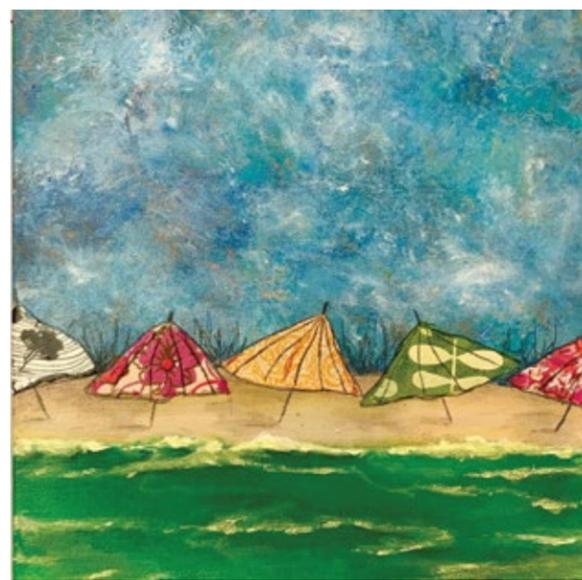
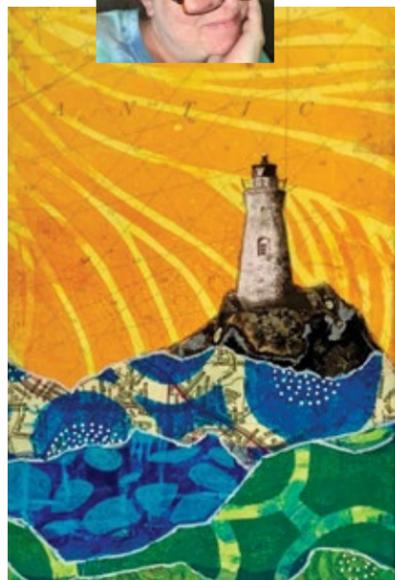
If so, steer clear of Bubba Gumbo's. We collaborate with local fishermen and shrimpers to ensure that every dish that leaves our kitchen has a taste of Tybee. The Burns family has been cooking seafood and weekly specials on the island since '89, & they're

pretty damn good at it. So when you take a sunset stroll down the docks after dinner and pass the good ship "Triple-L", give Capt. Tommy a wave and thank him for catching the shrimp you just ate. Freezers, ya burnt.

NOON TO NINE,
BUBBA GUMBO'S



ARTIST OF THE MONTH - Karen Leigh



Karen Leigh, a local mixed media artist, taps into her inner child using paint, an excessive amount of glue medium, and a substantial collection of paper ephemera. The result? Whimsical collages that will make you smile. Her work (and Karen herself on Mondays and Wednesdays) can be found at Gallery 80, located at The Shoppes at 1207 on Tybee!



SPORTS TEASER

By George Hassell

Hi folks and welcome to the April Sports Teaser! Spring has sprung, the temperatures are warming and the pollen is everywhere - on our cars and in our heads. I recommend a shot of your favorite whiskey and a few Benadryl to clear things up (or make things foggier), but that's just me. April brings a whole new slate of sports for our enjoyment, so let's get to it!

As many of you loyal readers know, April is one of the most important months on my sports and social calendar. In just over a week, a little golf get together will commence just two hours up the road in Augusta known as The Masters. It continues to be, and always will be, my favorite tournament of the year, just ahead of the Open Championship. I've been fortunate to have attended many rounds at The Masters and it's always so hard to put into words what the experience is genuinely like. As beautiful as the course and its environs look on TV, only by being there in person can you appreciate the beauty, the flora and the fauna that is the Augusta National Golf Club. Between the natural beauty and the cheap food and beer prices, it remains on the top of most people's bucket lists. What sets it apart also is that it's an invitational golf tournament and they can pretty much do what they want, how they want to do it, and invite who they want. Despite the continued squabbles between LIV golf and the PGA, The Masters allows golfers from both tours to play along with the other 3 majors. It should make for a fantastic field and a great tournament. You would be hard pressed not to put your lunch money on Scottie Sheffler, who continues to maintain a solid grip on the number one player in the world. I also like Victor Hovland and Justin Thomas to give Scottie a run for the green jacket. And yes, I have my pimento cheese ready, as I hibernate for four days to watch the best golf tournament in the world.

April also brings two words to the forefront of the sports world: Play Ball! Yes, Major League Baseball is back. And our Atlanta Braves are looking forward to being back into the playoffs and maybe do something this year. Last season was extremely disappointing with their first-round playoff exit, but they were not alone. All four teams that won over 100 games lost in the first round of the playoffs. A lot of folks complained about the top seeds having to wait five or six or seven days to play their Divisional series. Let me remind you that when the Braves won the World Series in 2021, they had five days. Last year they had six. I really don't buy that argument and just feel like anything can happen in a short series. I do think that all playoff series after the Wild Card round should be seven games. While the Braves have a good shot to get to the fall classic, the Dodgers, once again, will be in their way. They signed the best baseball player on the planet in Shohei Otani and have added other pieces to the puzzle, creating an absolutely stunning All Star lineup. The Braves and Dodgers have had quite the rivalry over recent years, and this season should be no exception.

Well, that'll do it for this month, so enjoy the Masters and baseball's Opening Day and we'll see you in May.

BOOK REVIEW

By Nell Klein

The Greatest Beer Run Ever

By John "Chick" Donohue and J.T. Molloy

In my effort to read more books that appeal to men, I have found a doozie for you guys. Not to say that the girls won't like this one (I certainly liked it), but it will definitely appeal to the men a little more because it involves war, and in my experience, men like war and cowboy stories more than anything. But this book is so much more than that and I'll tell you all about it and it's a true story.

On a cold night in November, 1967, a group of guys were spending the evening drinking at Doc Fiddler's, a bar in the Inwood neighborhood of Manhattan. The owner of the bar (and bartender) was a guy named George Lynch a.k.a. the Colonel and he was a great military historian and patriot. The Colonel was all fired up because of the way antiwar protesters were treating the neighborhood boys that had been drafted and sent to Viet Nam to fight in a war that they didn't understand but were doing their duty as they were brought up to do. The picketers displayed signs that read "GIs Are Murderers" and the Colonel couldn't hide his disgust.

"We've got to show our boys that we support them!" cried the Colonel! "Somebody ought to go over to Nam, track down the boys from the neighborhood, and bring them each a beer!" Wait. What?

This is when "Chickie" Donahue enters the picture. Chickie has a seaman's card because he was a US merchant mariner, a civilian seaman who worked on tankers and other commercial ships. The seaman's card is a military ID issued by the Coast Guard and it's used instead of a passport. This would enable Chickie to jump on any ship heading to 'Nam and deliver beer to the boys serving over there. So Chickie said, "Get me a list of our guys and what units they're with, and I'll do my best to bring them all a beer!" And that's how it all started.

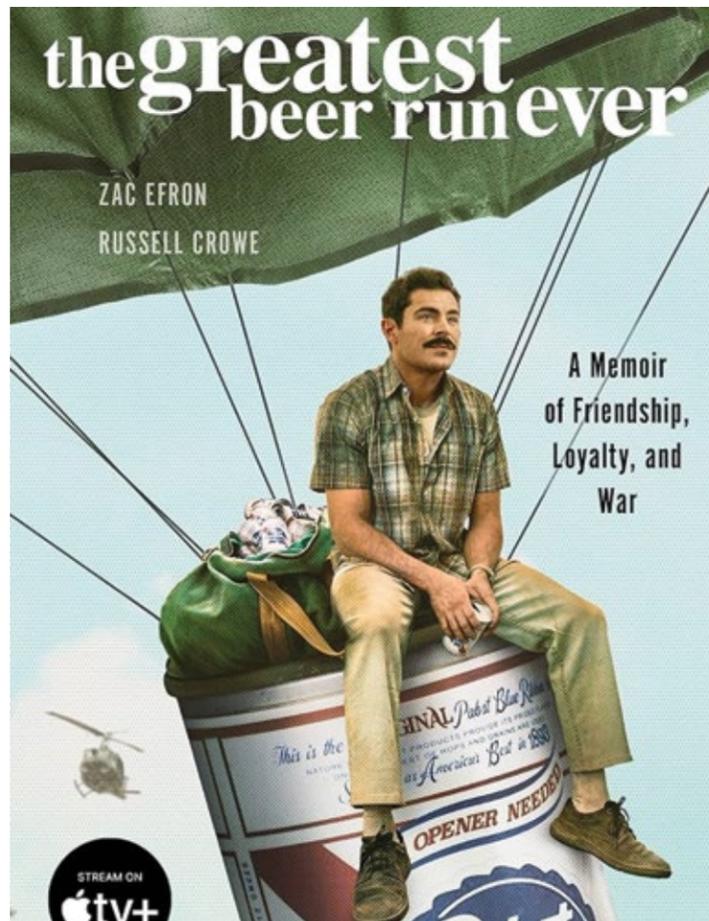
By the next day, when word got out what Chickie was going to attempt, everyone was handing him slips of paper with the whereabouts of their sons, brothers, cousins or whoever, that were serving over there. It took a while to get it all together, but before long Chickie was hired as an oiler on an ammo ship headed to 'Nam. He had a duffle bag full of beer and a list of names and off he went.

When he got to 'Nam he ended up finding 5 of his buddies in various places, lost his way back to the states, got caught in the middle of the war and had the adventure of a lifetime. His tales are too numerous to relate here, but this book is well worth the read to find how Chickie pulled this whole thing off. Chickie had a way of getting anyone to help him along the way and he certainly could sling the BS!

Chickie is now 84 years old and I'm sure he's still a character and a storyteller! We also learn that later in Chickie's life, he bought Doc Fiddler's when the Colonel retired. I'm sure he never tired of telling his tales to his customers! I also learned from my war/cowboy movie loving husband that there is a movie based on this book and Zac Efron plays the part of Chickie. I can't wait to watch it!

I give this book 5 roses and I hope that all you guys (and gals) enjoy reading it as much as I did. I hope the year has been good to you so far and I hope that April showers bring you lots of May flowers!

In the meantime, read a book. If it's a good read, pass it on!



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OUT & ABOUT

By Alaina Loughridge and Blair Whalen



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12

1 Jamie and Lori were having a blast while waiting for their breakfast at *Calvin's Dawg House!* The food was great and so was the music!

2 Aww... look at these two love birds!!! JUST KIDDING!! I am not trying to get the rumor mill going. Cassie and Hunter were awesome tagalongs while we stopped by *The Sugar Shack*. If you haven't been, well get going.

3 I caught **Harold and Mike** doing what they do best. Day drinking and talking smack outside of *Inferno*. Definitely the place to be!!

4 **Bob-O** was all smiles as he was preparing for his birthday celebration for later that night!!

5 Stopped by to have a drink with the awesomeness that is **Sea Wolf**. I think I caught **Audi and Kasey** off guard when I asked them for their picture! Thank you, ladies!!

6 I spotted **Allie** on the North End getting ready to take a group to go bird watching. Check out those binoculars!

7 I think this picture of **Doug, Fin and Emily** took the longest to capture, only because each of them kept looking at something going on at *Sundae Cafe!*

8 Honestly, I cannot have a bad day when I've got **Rachel, Jason and an adorable random baby** as my bartenders! I mean, just LOOK at them!!

9 **Candy and Kaitlyn** were having a night out with the pups when I caught up with them. They look cute, but don't touch them without asking! I'm talking about the dogs!!

10 **RAW** now can boast not only awesome food, but the best and cleanest bathrooms in town!! **Miles** had to show me how happy one can be at RAW! Please note my professional photography skills in the mirror reflection!

11 I'm not even going to lie! I love **Sean**, our relatively new guy at the *Post Office!* Make sure you stop by and say hey! He likes chocolate.

12 *The City of Limerick Pipe Band* was playing down the street and **Neighbor Joy** and I followed that sound like we were kids after the Pied Piper! St. Patrick's time is awesome!! Photo courtesy of Neighbor Joy Baker.



By Alaina Loughridge
Photos and Random Adjectives Provided by Betsey Jenkins

NORTH BEACH GRILL

It's been a long minute since I've hung out at NBG and I think it's because it's so far away from me (2 miles – yes, I'm spoiled), but after yesterday's shin dig, I will crawl on my hands and knees to get there any day of the week! What a treat Betsey and I had at NBG!!! Rob Frame, the GM extraordinaire was waiting for us to belly up to the table and get our eats on and we had a fantastic time!

First off, the staff were spot on! Rob was getting pinned down with our questions, Cole was slinging drinks (oh goodness, have that man make you a Miami Vice), and Chrissi and Kristy were running around making people happy with drinks and food and tartar sauce (more on that later). Food came out immediately and off we went!

Right out of the gate we dug into their ½ Pound Cheeseburger, which is super reasonably priced. They slapped on a slab of white American cheese, fresh lettuce and tomato and a side of their sweet potato waffle fries! Those bad boys were drizzled (totally not over drizzled) with a honey balsamic situation and dusted with cinnamon and sugar. Yum! The burger was fat and happy and so were we. No need to add condiments. Truly! I usually mayo, mustard and ketchup my scene up, but not necessary here. Just flat out delish!

Part two was a ½ pound of perfectly seasoned Sautéed Shrimp hanging out in a garlic butter and swimming in Seafood Magic seasoning. Yes, kids, it is peel and eat, but it's worth the effort! That and it's a meal meal. Or a fantastic appetizer to share. Either way, you are going to be delighted!

Now, to the Shrimp Basket! The shrimp were fat and happily fried with fresh cut fries. Betsey said it was the best shrimp she's ever had! Rounding out the basket was a side of coleslaw. I'm not even going to lie; I don't/won't/can't eat coleslaw. I was traumatized as a child and just flat out nope! However, this slaw has a horseradish base (horseradish!!) and is simply the best coleslaw ever! And the tartar sauce! Totally homemade and not your usual over mayo ugh, but a perfect combo of I don't know what as Rob flat out refused to give me the recipe! Thus, the contest, which I will get to shortly.

The Citrus Shrimp Salad rounded out our entrees and it is a perfect summer salad. I called it "The Shabamalama" because it fills you up but doesn't weigh you down. Grilled shrimp on a bed of spring mixed salad and tossed in the fruits of the season with sugar coated cashews. We enjoyed strawberries, pineapple and blackberries on ours and the homemade citrus dressing was very spot on.

We thought we were finished when Rob sent in the Closer. George Hammer can sell ice to an Eskimo and before he even finished describing the White Chocolate Key Lime Pie, I was ready to go home with him! LOL! This homemade glorious pie is so good that Betsey and I got into a fork fight over it! So sublime that you can buy it in whole pie form too. Just call first! NBG also offers Lemon and Raspberry Cakelets, Chocolate Cakelets with Peanut Butter Morsels and a Flourless Chocolate Torte. We didn't try those because we were very round at that point, but if the Key Lime Pie is anything to judge by, it's all a win win situation.

Now as all of this was going on, Betsey and I were getting our drink face on! Hey, this is a tough job, and we leave no stone unturned, and no one is left behind! We started out with an Orange Fizz – a tangerine vodka, orange juice and Herradura agave nectar concoction with a scooch of club soda on the rocks! Perfect to light you up and set the

mood. It paired well with everything.

The NBBG Herradura Skinny Margarita was also a huge hit. Definitely one of the best margaritas I've had in a long minute, and it made me happier knowing that it is fat free ish.

The Miami Vice was last and oh dear. That Meyers floater on the top was it! Party time!

Everything is either homemade or locally obtained. George Spriggs has his brilliant chef mind in all of the recipes and between he and Victoria Weygand, the head chef, and all of their faithful staff, the NBG kitchen is top shelf and churning out masterpieces. Victoria creates the Daily Specials, which vary, and you have to come early if you want a guaranteed plate of the special of the day, as they go so fast.

There really is something for everyone no matter what the dietary restrictions are, in both food and alcohol. The prices are reasonable and the portions are happy and filling. The setting is magnificent with a laid-back atmosphere, fun, beachy reggae vibes and the beach literally at your fingertips. NBG also has live music on Friday and Saturday nights from 6:30 to 9:30 and on Sunday from 2 to 5. Everybody from Willie Jackson & The Tybee Blues Band to The Spec Hosti Band to A Nickel Bag of Funk play there.

NBG is located by the Lighthouse for those new in town and is open from 12 to 9 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and on Friday and Saturday from 12 to 10 and Sunday from 12 to 9.

This Food Spy was so good we decided then and there to run our first ever Guess the Ingredients Contest! It's that Tartar Sauce!!! If you can guess the ingredients, or come close enough to make George happy, you will win a gift certificate to NBG! Weird contest? Yes. Fun? Absolutely. I have details about the tartar contest in MS...ALAIN...EOUS.

And on a total random side note that we felt compelled to add: To all the single ladies, or maybe not single ladies, Hunter works Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night. I'll see you there!





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THE Fish Whisperer



Captain
Nick Shreves

The Knot Lucky Experience

First off, welcome to spring. This winter may not have been cold, but it sure felt as if it lasted forever. I have been trying to write this story for weeks and to put everything into words has been a difficult task, to say the least. By far, this has got to be one of the most important things to me. Veteran support. I don't care what war or conflict or what year you got involved, our Veterans need the support of the community. We lose too many brothers everyday overseas and here on the home front. That being said, I was invited to join a local Front line Combat Veteran Non-Profit, Knot Lucky, to chase down apex predators in the ocean in hopes of tagging the elusive Great White shark.

Jimmy Lee Armel started Knot Lucky a few years back and has taken many local front-line veterans out fishing and during January and February, I got to join a few of those on some outstanding days at my favorite place in the world, the ocean. Just imagine a boat full of combat veterans fishing, telling war stories, joking, and getting to let go of some of the things we can only do with our brothers. This is just the start of what Knot Lucky does. As a front-line veteran myself, I have supported this organization as much as possible.

In January we got to fish for a few days due to the weather, but we didn't have much luck on hooking the big one. We caught lots of other fish while waiting and passing the 12 hours of time we put in each day. February started off the same and before you knew it, we had close to 90 hours in without a big bite. That all changed on February 15th.

Early wake up and the day started with Jimmy asking what size shirt I wore so he could bring me a Gray's FishTag Research shirt. I arrived at the marina ahead of schedule, but I was not the first one. The film crew was right in front of me. As I donned my foul weather gear, Jimmy and Eric arrived. The boat got loaded with all the gear: rods and reels, bait, rigs, coolers, chum, and then all the film crew's stuff. Everybody got mic-ed up and we started our journey offshore as the sun began to rise. The film crew started interviews as we made our way out of the no wake zone. We took our time and when the conversation hit the heavy stuff, it was time to head to a location we thought would give us the best shot at hooking and tagging a Great White.

After arriving at the spot, we began to get everything set up. Eric started rigging as Jimmy and I put the boat in location to set up the meanest chum line you have ever seen. We had 90 hours practicing this chum line over the past trips. Once the boat was anchored, the chum slick started and the baits deployed, the fun part started, the wait. The wait includes catching a multitude of other fish like Black Sea Bass, Red Snapper, Grouper, Triggerfish and whatever else is ready to eat. During this time, we spent many hours just telling stories of our time in the military, be it overseas, garrison or during training. I don't know how many of you have sat down and ever heard how vets speak together but the comradery is real, and regardless of who served together, it doesn't take long before the brotherly love comes out.

We had been waiting a few hours and I believe Jimmy was in the middle of a chat with the film crew when we got the first big run. Before the shark can be hooked, it spits the bait. Then a second later it returns and eats it again. After a short run, Jimmy set the hook and somehow the shark escaped again. Baits were redeployed and the wait started all over.

Interviews with the film crew, fishing, waiting, and joking lasted for hours. It was now 4pm and getting close to time to pack it up. Or was it at 420ish? We got a run and it stole the bait. Jimmy rebaited and got it back out. A few minutes later, the rod I was sitting next to twitched. And no lie, the smallest little



twitch you can imagine. As I pointed it out to Jimmy, it twitched again. The Penn International 50 began to click as the shark swam away. Jimmy and Eric cleared the other baits. I grabbed the rod and set the hook. The shark turned towards the boat and tried to shake the hook, so I reeled and maintained the tension. She changed direction and I had to work my way around the boat as the shark shook its head. That's when the battle really began.

Realizing she was hooked, the first run started stripping line off the reel and with a speed unlike any fish I have ever hooked. Almost 40lbs of drag pressure was nothing to this beast. It wasn't long before I had to put the rod in the rod holder on the bow. I was straddling it with my feet hanging above the water. It took about 30 minutes or so before we ever got eyes on the fish and could see the true size of her. I catch a lot of fish and big sharks, but the moment I saw the size of this Great White, I felt like a little kid again catching his very first fish.

She was still about 30 feet below the boat and when she began to rise to the surface, it was at this moment when everyone on the boat got their first glimpse of her. The excitement and words shared at that moment is indescribable for many reasons, mainly not family friendly. She must have heard us as now the show started.

She exploded from the water head and tail thrashing side to side. At one moment I saw those black eyes look up the line as she figured out where the issue was and she charged the boat. My feet were a few inches from the water, so I rushed to get my feet on board while cracking as fast as I could. At this moment Eric got the leader. We had our first shot at tagging but we couldn't get the tag to pierce the skin. At this moment she dumped line off the Penn reel and I had to start it all over again. This time was a little faster and when I say faster, I mean it still was over 30 minutes. My arms were burning, but the shark didn't seem to really care, as she was towing the boat. She had a very clear pattern to the fight. Down deep she was chill, but once I got her to the surface, she exploded with all her force, throwing water everywhere. As she turned to charge the boat again, I slung my feet into the boat and Eric once again grabbed the leader. She came in close, near the stern, and Jimmy got the Grays FishTag into the 14 Foot Great White.

With the line peeling off the reel again and the tag was in the shark, I handed the rod off to Eric to feel the power. I was toast. Jimmy and Eric tag teamed the shark and 45 minutes later, she was back at the boat, so I got hold of the leader.

We got a few quick videos before safely releasing her, before causing her any more stress than needed. This will be the 3rd Great White that Knot Lucky has tagged over the last 2 years, and all are named after fallen soldiers that we lost during combat operations. I named this Great White after Staff Sergeant Stevon A. Booker, who gave his life during the Thunder Run into Baghdad on April 5, 2003, with 1-64 Armor.

Thank you, Jimmy, for this experience and giving me the opportunity to honor a fallen brother. Yeah, so I'm in tears and don't know what else to say, except please if you can, please support Knot Lucky at www.knotlucky.org. You will be helping veterans find time with other veterans so that they can heal and keep the comradery alive. Grays FishTag Research will have dates in the future at www.grayfishtagresearch.org.



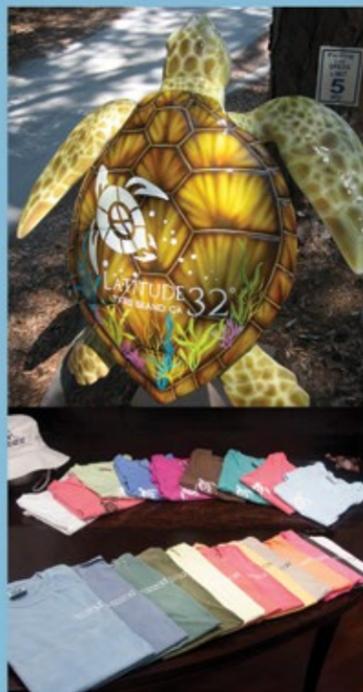
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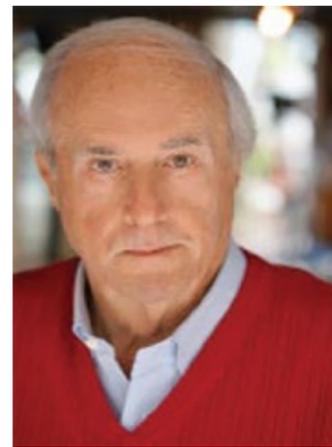
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The Shoppes at 1207



Life on the Bike Path

By John O'Neill

Happy April everyone! One of my favorite months of the year. April is the month with more questions than answers, always has been. With folks being cooped up during the cooler months (both of them), April is the time to get out, take a look around, and seek new solutions to problems that have been bugging us for decades.

I know some of you are wondering, "What kind of crazy is this nut up to now?" Well, I'll tell ya. I'm still having a problem with the hot dog industry. The hot dog folks insist on packaging their wieners 10 to the pack, while the bun gurus provide 8 buns. Do the math. But it doesn't stop here. Not by a long shot. The "bun people" have now totally lost it. They have branched out to what is called, "the potato bun." Apparently, this bun has no additives or preservatives and has a shelf life of 18 hours. After that they start to wilt and look like a blueberry muffin. Nasty. But it doesn't stop there...nooooooo. I found a pack of very nice looking buns at Publix last month. As I picked them up the Princess said, "You don't want those." I asked why not and she explained that the buns had not been sliced down the middle. Unbelievable! Who in the hell bakes hotdog buns and doesn't create a slit for the dog to rest in? I'll tell ya who. The same people who can't make a simple phone call to the dog folks and suggest, "Hey, we've been messing with the public all this time. Let's decide...eight or ten? What's your pleasure?"

Second thing that has my panties in a wad this April is the now defunct railroad crossing on President Street where Cyanamid used to be. The tracks have long been abandoned and even removed; but the crossing arms, huge red lights, and all that metal is still there hanging over the road. Why?

Until next month, let's not focus on the little things...

John O'Neill is a character actor known for 'The Glorias,' 'The Crickets Dance,' 'The Lady Makers,' and the smash Netflix hit series, 'Outer Banks.'

On Going Happenings

A-J's Dockside – Daily Drink Specials, live music Friday thru Sunday with Joey Manning. Dinner from 5-9pm Monday, Thursday and Friday. Saturday and Sunday from 12-9. Closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Docks are Open!! Reservations are strongly recommended. Call 912-786-5434. For to-go orders 912-786-9533. 1315 Chatham Ave.

American Legion - Canteen open Monday-Saturday 5pm, Bar Games Tuesday and Thursday and Saturday 6-9pm, Line Dancing on Wednesday, Friday Bingo. Dinners as advertised on Thursday, Pizza on first Monday of the month. Chef TJ will be cooking Wednesday and Saturday 5-8pm. Last Wednesday of the month Birthday Party. 10 Veterans Dr.

Bubba Gumbo's – Happy Hour Monday-Friday 4-6pm. Freshest seafood in town. Amazing water views. Open 7 days a week Monday-Thursday 3-9 and Friday-Sunday 12-9. Check out our Facebook page for daily specials. 1 Old Highway.

Calvin's Dawghouse - Happy Hour Monday thru Friday 4-7pm. Breakfast 6am-1pm. Kitchen closed from 1-2pm. Lunch and dinner from 2-11pm.

Chamaco's - Happy Hour 4-6pm. Taco Tuesday Happy Hour is all day. Games for adults and kids. 2 bars. 1105 Highway 80E. Call for live music info (912) 472-4207.

Doc's Bar - Happy Hour Monday thru Friday 4-7pm. Live Music Friday & Saturday 8pm, Wednesday 7:30pm, Sunday 3pm. Kitchen open Tuesday thru Sunday 11am - 6:45pm. 10 Tybrisa St.

Fannie's on the Beach - Open every day at 11am, serving Lunch and Dinner, Champagne Brunch every Sunday at 11. Oceanfront indoor and sidewalk seating year-round. Ocean view Dining & Bars on 2nd Floor and 3rd Floor Open Air Decks (seasonal). 1613 Strand Ave.

Huc-A-Poos - There is ALWAYS something going on at Poo's!! Live music, trivia, lunch, dinner, kids, dogs, football, debauchery and fun! Check out their Facebook page for all the details. 13 Hwy 80, Shops at Tybee Oaks. (912) 786-5900

King Neptune's - Tybee's only dedicated Cigar Room. Comfy leather-bound chairs and ventilation system. Top shelf, hard to obtain vintage Macallan scotch and tequilas. Trivia every Wednesday at 5. Karaoke every Friday. Live Music every Saturday with the Earth Tonz. 1517 Butler Ave.

Nickie's 1971 Bar & Grill - Happy Hour Monday thru Friday 4-7pm, Buffet Monday-Friday 11-3pm, Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar Saturday & Sunday, Live music/entertainment Saturday 9pm. Texas Hold 'em Tuesday at 8pm, 8 Ball Pool Tournament Thursday 8pm, Karaoke Thursday 8pm and Friday 9pm, Sunday Rib Eye Steak Dinner for \$22.95. 1513 Butler Ave.

Sea Wolf Tybee – Open 7 days a week, Monday thru Friday 4-10pm. Join us on Saturdays and Sundays for Captain's Brunch and live music, starting at 11 am. Fine oysters, gourmet hot dogs and vegan fare. Come enjoy a fancy cocktail at the bar or split a bottle of bubbly on the patio. 105 S. Campbell (next to the Post Office).

Spanky's Beachside - Daily cocktail and beer specials. Home of the Original Chicken Finger! 1605 Strand Ave.

The Sand Bar - A happy little dive! Best Jell-O shots on the island. Open mic every Wednesday at 8pm. Bar Church every Sunday at 10am. 1512 Butler Ave.

Tybean Art & Coffee Bar - Serving coffees roasted by Batdorf & Bronson – Espresso, Cold Brew, Nitro on Tap, Frappes, Smoothies and More! Call for hours (912) 224-5227. 1213 Hwy 80 East. (Next door to Huc A Poos.)

Tybee Lite Shrine Club - Tuesday Nite Supper Club, \$10 homemade meal with beverages and dessert. Cash bar and snacks. Opens at 5pm for socializing and games. Invocation at 7pm with dinner following. 35 Meddin Drive (across from Tybee Lighthouse)

Tybee Time - Happy Hour Monday thru Friday 4-7pm. DJ Marty Friday & Saturday 9pm. 1603 Strand Ave.

Wind Rose Bar and Grill - Happy Hour Monday thru Friday 4-7pm, Daily Lunch Specials, Bingo with Sydney Wednesdays 8pm, Karaoke with JoAnn Friday and Saturday, 8-12pm. 19 Tybrisa St.

Zunzibar- Live Music DAILY 7-10pm! Happy Hour, including 1/2 OFF DRINKS and \$1 WINGS! 5-7pm and Late Night 10-11pm. Open 7 Days a week 11-11pm! 1115 US Hwy. 80.



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Adventures of a Serial Single

By Taylor Edenfield

Part 11: Attempted Murder

The year was 2005. I was 23 and had just moved to Washington, DC. I knew no one. Not a single soul in the entire district. Dating apps weren't a thing yet, social media was limited to MySpace, and text messaging was in its infancy. I had no choice but to meet people the old-fashioned way... in person.

Thankfully, my job as a beer rep required me to socialize, and my circle of friends grew. One of my new friends wanted to set me up on my first ever blind date with a "great guy he knew." For simplicity's sake, we'll call him 'Brad' (loyal readers of my column will correctly assume I have long since forgotten his real name, per usual).

Brad and I met for our date at the National Zoo, my favorite place in the city. We spent the day wandering around, checking out the animals, drinking beer, and talking. He was, as advertised, a great guy. My small-town self was fascinated by his worldly upbringing and high-powered job as a lobbyist on "The Hill." We ended the date after making plans for another, and I began making plans for my life as "Mrs. Brad, The Lobbyist WhateverHisLastNamels."

A few days passed and Brad had called every day, just as he said he would. I truly felt a connection with him, and he seemed to feel the same way.

For our second date, I decided to impress him with my culinary skills, of which I have precisely ZERO. I do not cook. I cannot cook. I should not cook. I have no idea what possessed me to offer to cook dinner for him on our second date, but it was too late. I had committed. He briefly mentioned an allergy to nuts, but as I had no plans to include peanut butter in our fancy dinner menu, I figured I was safe.

Naturally, there was no chance I was actually going to cook for him, so after work I made my way to a local market for a variety of pre-cooked foods that I could pass off as homemade. I had a cheese platter, appetizers, a pasta entree, fancy dessert, the works. I pulled out all the stops for this guy. He arrived at my house right on time and I made a show of pulling my perfectly (pre) cooked lasagna out of the oven and told him to make himself comfortable in the living room while I readied the appetizers.

One of these appetizers was a fancy crostini with pesto and parmesan. I walked in with my tray and told him to close his eyes. I held a crostini up to his lips and, in my flirtiest voice, said "I made these just for you. Take a bite."

As he chewed, his expression changed from impressed to panicked.

"Taylor, is this PESTO??? I'm allergic to nuts!!"

Turns out, the key ingredient in pesto is pine nuts. I had served PINE NUTS to a man with a severe NUT ALLERGY.

He spit it out, but the damage was done. His eyes swelled up, his face turned red, he was holding his throat, saying he couldn't breathe.

He managed to choke out that he had an epi-pen in his briefcase, which I retrieved and then injected into him. I called 911 as he lay twitching on the floor. A short time later the EMTs were loading him into an ambulance, and I offered to accompany him, but was given an emphatic "NO!!!"

Needless to say, things didn't work out with Brad and me. I heard from our mutual friend that he did, in fact, survive, but would not be seeing me again because, "Who doesn't know PESTO is made from PINE NUTS???"

I suppose attempted murder on the second date, however accidental it may be, does not bode well for a third date.

And no, I still don't know how to cook.

Stay safe out there, Tybee.

-The Serial Single

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Cary Christopher





RAMM BYTES

Before You Hit Share...

By Michael Bodine

The silly season seems to last 365 days a year now. Or 366 this year!

You're reading an article and decide you want to share it. Doesn't matter if you are on Facebook, NextDoor, X (or the Artist Formerly Known as Twitter), or TruthSocial. Maybe via text, or email. Before you send it to anyone, stop. STOP! Step back. Think about it.

If you think for a moment, or three, does it seem reasonable? Make sense? Are there things about it that just don't ring true? Do you just WANT it to be true, because it makes fun of Biden, or of Trump? Because it shows people in a positive light? A negative one?

Don't trust the media? Good! Sharing, or over-sharing, of information that is clearly not true has left us all unable to trust what we read. But sprinkle a bit of critical thinking over everything, and you become part of the solution instead of part of the problem. Critical thinking requires that you: have a healthy dose of skepticism for anything you read, hear or see; analyze what is being communicated to make sure that it makes sense; determine how likely it is to be true; become aware of your own prejudices and judgments; use consistent criteria to judge a source and whether it is one with which you agree or disagree; have evaluated the source and pro-actively checked its accuracy; check that the information agrees with what you have already evaluated and decided is true, accurate, in line with existing evidence. Thinking critically is, in fact, more critical than ever because of the ease with which inaccurate information can be created and shared via the internet. Artificial intelligence is making it even simpler to create audio, video, pictures, or articles that seem to be true, because they are well-written and seem not to contradict what we have already accepted as fact.

It is as simple as examining an item for odd things that don't quite fit. Two recent examples:

- **Facebook is about to charge for their service and/or change their service agreements so that they can freely use your posts and pictures without attribution.** These posts come up every few weeks where FB users tell Facebook that they refuse to allow Facebook to use their information. Only there are no such changes under consideration. There is no news about such changes. Try to search for it in your favorite search engine. You will only find articles that talk about how it is not true, or posts making the same claims without evidence. Fact is, because you agreed to Facebook's terms when you first set up your account, every time you login, you are implicitly confirming your agreement to their terms. The only way not to agree is to stop using the service. You certainly can't login, (agreeing to their terms), then post that you don't agree to their terms, then come back later only to agree to their terms again to use the service! That is nonsense.

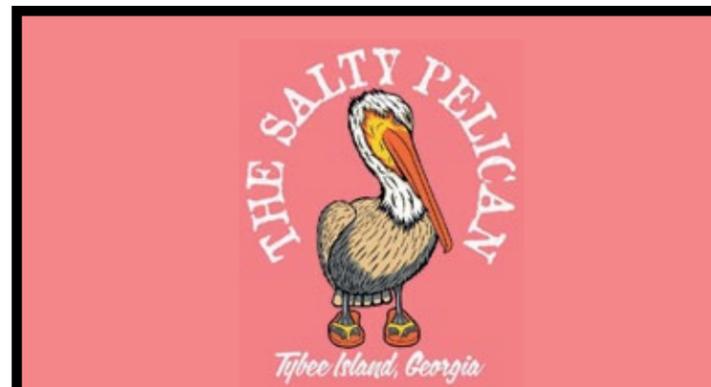
- **A post on a marketplace or free items page that talks about a lost or found dog.** The poster tells us the dog has no chip, and they are hoping to reunite the dog with its owner. But you can't comment on the post. You can only share or like to "bump this post." Who SAYS that? There is no way to contact the poster. If you click on their little icon and review their profile, they have virtually no posts, no "about" content, and they joined FB in only the last few weeks. Every community in the US has a marketplace AND a page for lost and found pets. Why use the market page, instead of the pet's page? By sharing or liking the post or the person making it, you open yourself and everyone who sees it to hackers who will use any information they can find on FB to try to gather enough data to drain your bank accounts!

Insulting memes posted about movie stars, tv personalities, or political candidates do nothing to further enlightenment about their works or their policies. They simply evoke a knee-jerk reaction and make it easier for others to target misinformation campaigns against you and your friends who like or share your post.

Stop. Think critically. Be responsible and PROMOTE real communication.

Want more information and education about critical thinking? Search for "critical thinking" in your search bar. Visit YouTube and look at the series called "Hit Pause."

Want help dealing with your electronics, internet activities, computers? Call Computer Beach at 912.509.0960.



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Life's a Beach Events

What's happening in Apr. By Mom

- 4-1 April Fools' Day** Y'all have a fun day!
- 4-4 Beginner Doodle Class** 10:30am-12pm and again at 4-5:30pm, at Pelican's Palette, 802 First St. All materials provided. For more info and/or to register, go to www.tybeeisland.com/event/beginner-doodle-class/2024-04-04/1/. Must register online for this make it, take it, event.
- 4-1, 4-8, 4-15, 4-22, & 4-15-4-29 Tybee's Farmers and Artisan Market** 4-7pm every Monday through October at 30 Meddin Dr. Fresh veggies and artistic treasures will be available. Don't forget to shop local!
- 4-1, 4-8, 4-15, 4-22, & 4-29 Art at the Library** 2-3pm at Tybee Island Branch Library, 405 Butler Ave. Arts and Crafts for preschool age (0 to 5 years) and primary (6 to 11 years). Call 912-786-7733 for more info.
- 4-3, 4-10, 4-17, 4-24 Ramm Bytes Computer Class with Michael Bodine** 7-9pm (every Wednesday) at the Pelican's Palette, South Campbell at First St/ Hwy 80, East side of the building with the Tybee Visitor's Center and the Irritable Pelican's Art Gallery. Topics may vary, but it's a great way to learn or review your skills. For more info email: computerbeachtybee@gmail.com. Check it out!
- 4-3, 4-10, 4-17, 4-24 Storytime at the Library** 10:30-11:30am at Tybee Island Branch Library, 405 Butler Ave. Stories, songs, bubbles and crafts for your preschooler (0 to 5 years). Call 912-786-7733 for more info.
- 4-5 through 4-7 and 4-12 through 4-14 Award Winning Comedy "Social Security"** Tybee Arts Association presents the award winning comedy at the Jim Ingham Black Box Theater. Friday and Saturday shows start at 7:30pm and Sunday at 3pm and 7:30pm. Located at 7 Cedarwood Ave. For further info and tickets go to tybeearts.org
- 4-5, 4-12, 4-19 & 4-26 Free Yoga Fridays** 9-11am at The Deck Beach Bar & Kitchen, 404 Butler Ave. Don't forget to bring your water, sunglasses and a large beach towel! This Yoga class is put on by Tybee Yoga and Healing Arts and is put on weather permitting. Text Laurie at 912-678-1456 if you have questions.
- 4-7 & 4-22 Beach Clean Up - Pier Area and Clean the Beach on Earth Day** 5:30-6:30pm Beach Clean Up around the Pier on 4-7. Then on 4-22 from 10am to noon. Meeting up at 1509 Strand Ave. All equipment is provided.
- 4-9 Book Club at the Library** 3-4pm at Tybee Island Branch Library, 405 Butler Ave. Book Club is for adults. Call 912-786-7733 for more info.
- 4-10 Uniquely Tybee Lunch and Learn: Meet your Neighbors: Shorebirds and Seabirds of Tybee Island** 11:30am-1pm at Mission Hall, All Saint's Episcopal Church, 804 Jones. Bring your own lunch. Speaker will be Allie Haysler, Shorebird Biologist, Manomet's Georgia Bight Shorebird Conservation Initiative. Iced Tea, coffee and cookies provided. For more info email patricialeiby@gmail.com.
- 4-13 17th Annual Turtle Trot** 8am-12pm at North Beach by the new Tybee Marine Science Center, 37 Meddin Drive. Help support our Tybee Sea Turtle Project and our resident Sea Turtles, Westie and Ossie! For more info or to register go to www.tybeeisland.com/event/17th-annual-tybee-turtle-trot-5k-beach-run/.
- 4-20 Free Entrance Day at Fort Pulaski** 9am-5pm at Fort Pulaski, 101 Ft. Pulaski Rd. Come check out history as Ft. Pulaski celebrates the first day of National Park Week.
- 4-21 through 4-27 Tybee MLK** is hosting international visitors from Cape Coast Ghana. Please check the City of Tybee's Event website and/or Tybee MLK Facebook page for specific times and dates of various events.
- 4-22 Earth Day** The theme for Earth Day is "Planet vs. Plastic." Let's all do our part to take care of Mother Earth.
- 4-24 National Bucket List Day** Have you checked your Bucket List lately?
- 4-25 Design Your Own Skinny Tumbler Make It-Take It** 10:30am-12pm and again at 4-5:30pm, at Pelican's Palette, 802 First St. All materials provided. For more info and/or to register, go to www.tybeeisland.com/event/beginner-doodle-class/2024-04-04/1/. Must register online for this make it-take it event.
- 4-26 Shellem Cline Music at YMCA and River's End Campground** 2pm at Tybee Island YMCA, 204 5th St. and 7pm at River's End Campground, 5 Fort Avenue. Mr. Cline is an inspirational and family friendly musician. For more info please call YMCA at 912-786-9622 or River's End Campground at 912-786-5518.

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Tybee Island Bucket List

- Read the Tybee Beachcomber!
- Walk the beach
- Collect seashells and shark teeth
- Do a Beach Sweep
- Visit the Tybee Island Lighthouse and Fort Screven
- Watch a sunrise and a sunset on the beach
- Go on a dolphin tour
- Visit Fort Pulaski
- Go Fishing! (deep sea fishing, surf fishing, pier fishing)
- Rent a golf cart
- Visit the Marine Science Center
- Ride the bike path
- Go surfing, boogie boarding, paddle boarding
- Rent a kayak
- Go shopping in our many unique shops
- Check out our great restaurants and bars
- Stroll through our Park of 7 Flags (at the end of Hwy. 80)
- Enjoy people watching (we have a lot of characters here)
- Relax!!
- Remember to leave only your footprints

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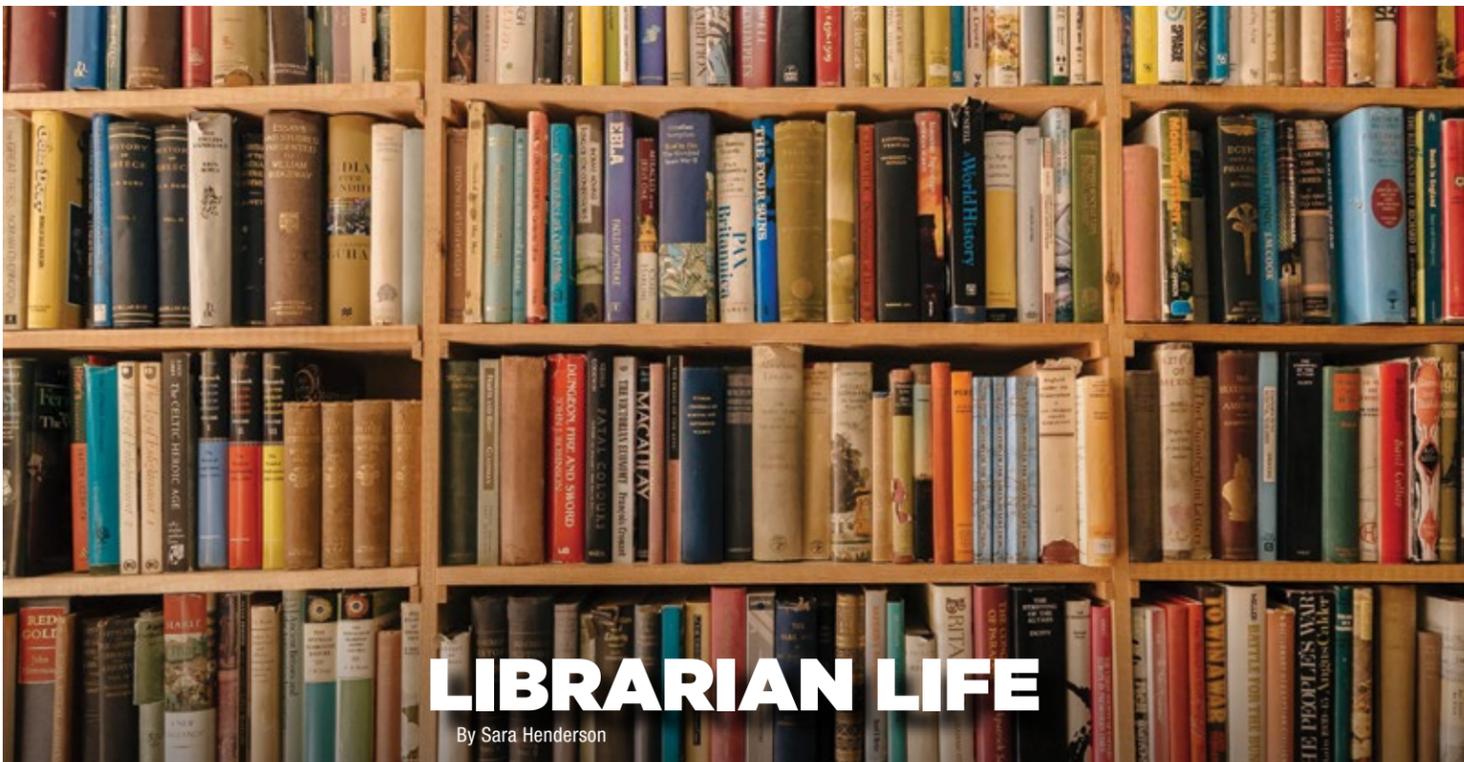


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LIBRARIAN LIFE

By Sara Henderson

Welcome to April, and welcome to Angela Willis, Tybee Library's new Youth Services Specialist! She is brimming with enthusiasm and ideas for new programs and experiences for our branch. In addition to our regular monthly book club, April will see the beginning of new clubs specifically targeted at both elementary-aged kids and young adults. The library will also host its first Dungeons and Dragons Introductory Session! For more information about the dates and times of these and other programs, stop by the library, or check the calendar at Liveoakpl.org.

Finally, as the weather gets steadily warmer, don't forget that, along with a variety of beach-ready books, passes for Georgia State parks and multiple museums around the Savannah area and the state can be borrowed from the Tybee Library for up to a week at a time.

Celebrate National Library Week April 7th - 13th with a visit to your favorite branch to "check out" everything it has to offer!

And to keep you updated on all the latest, we checked out the New York Times Best Sellers Current List via The Westport Library website, to give you all the latest hot books! If we don't have it, we will get it for you! This is as of March 17, 2024:

Fiction:

- #1: Kristin Hannah – *The Women*
- #2: C.J. Box – *Three-Inch Teeth*
- #3: Danielle L. Jensen – *A Fate Inked in Blood*
- #4: Rebecca Yarros – *Fourth Wing*
- #5: Rebecca Yarros – *Iron Flame*
- #6: James McBride - *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Story*
- #7: Tommy Orange – *Wandering Stars*
- #8: Sarah J. Maas – *House of Flame and Shadow*
- #9: Ashley Elston – *First Lie Wins*
- #10: Bonnie Garmus – *Lessons in Chemistry*

Non-Fiction:

- #1: Peter Schweizer – *Blood Money: Why the Powerful Turn a Blind Eye While China Kills Americans*
- #2: Kara Swisher – *Burn Book: A Tech Love Story*
- #3: Barbara McQuade – *Attack From Within: How Disinformation is Sabotaging America*
- #4: David Grann – *The Wager. A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder*
- #5: Peter Attia, M.D. - *Outlive: The Science and Art of Longevity*
- #6: Sloane Crosley – *Grief is For People*
- #7: Tom Schaller and Paul Waldman – *White Rural Rage*
- #8: Liz Cheney – *Oath and Honor*
- #9: Charan Ranganath – *Why We Remember*
- #10: Tim Alberta – *The Kingdom, the Power and the Glory. American Evangelicals in an Age of Extremism*

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4 Identifying Characteristics of the Yellow-legged Hornet (YLH)

- 1. Size**
Adults are about 2 cm long. Comparison of common look-alikes found in Georgia are shown.
- 2. Narrow Waist**
Look for a narrow waist, more cinched than the sawfly look-alike shown.
- 3. Yellow legs (bottom half)**
The namesake characteristic of YLH is the yellow color found on the bottom half of the insect's legs.
- 4. Yellow 4th abdominal segment**
Look for a strong yellow stripe on the fourth abdominal segment shown here with arrow.

If you spot a YLH, report it by scanning the QR code to the right.

Information courtesy of University of Georgia Extension

SCAN TO REPORT:

Not Everyone is Welcome on Tybee

By Susanna Capelouto

In early December a rather ugly single male was spotted on Tybee. He was so ugly no amount of alcohol would make him more attractive. It was a yellow-legged hornet drone (male) that wandered into an insect trap on the island. The trap was filled with grape juice and brown sugar, a hornet cocktail of sorts.

State officials have been on the hunt for yellow-legged hornets ever since August, when a beekeeper in Thunderbolt saw one of them chasing his bees. These hornets usually live in tropical areas in Southeast Asia, and judging from the container ships passing through, we can guess they may have hitched a ride.

Now that they're here, Georgia beekeepers worry they could attack and devastate their bee hives, because bees are a big part of their diet. That's also why the Georgia Department of Agriculture wants to eradicate them, because bees do a lot more than make honey. They pollinate several important Georgia crops like apple trees in north Georgia, as well as watermelons and blueberries in south Georgia.

"We'll continue working around the clock to find any additional hornets, eradicate this invasive pest, and protect our state's agriculture industry," Agriculture Commissioner Tyler Harper said in September.

"We're still learning how the hornets will behave in Georgia," said Mike Evans, who works on the hornet eradication efforts for the Georgia Department of Agriculture. They've partnered with other state and federal agencies on this effort, and trapping is one way to figure out where they may be nesting. "We have deployed a total of 170 traps in 2023," Evans said, and five huge hornet nests were destroyed last year.

But back to that Tybee drone. Just catching a male hornet does not mean that they have settled on Tybee, because unlike the female workers of the colony, which forage close to their nest, drones can fly out for several miles, according to Evans. This drone could have drifted from Wilmington Island, for example.

It's believed that yellow-legged hornets die in the winter, except for the queen, who hides out protected from the elements. She comes out in the spring and starts building a small nest, one easily confused with paper wasp nests. It's about the size of a softball and could be on the eave of a house or other protected area. There she rears just a few offspring and once they hatch, the group moves to build a very large nest high in a tree.

"Four of the five Georgia nests were found in pine trees 80 to 90 feet high," Evans said. The fifth one was under a bridge. They rear lots of hornets in those nests, including more queens, so spotting these nests early is important.

Tybee visitors and residents, here's where you come in.

As you stroll through our beautiful island this spring, pay attention to the insects you see around you. If one of them has yellow legs and is about one inch long, snap a photo. If you have a house on Tybee, look up and check for any softball size nests on your home's eaves.

Later in the summer, as you find yourself in the woods, look up and scan the tops of trees. If you see a large grayish-brown mass, take a picture.

"The public is very important to our success in eradicating the yellow-legged hornet," Evans said, so the department has set up a very cool page at <https://agr.georgia.gov/yellow-legged-hornet> where you can upload photos, report your hornet sightings, and get information.

Please be careful not to get too close to them. While these hornets seem to be less aggressive than our local yellow jackets, Evans said he doesn't want anyone to get stung.

This year state officials say they'll put out more traps in the greater Savannah area, in hopes of finding and eradicating the yellow-legged hornet completely.

Let's help keep Tybee hornet free!

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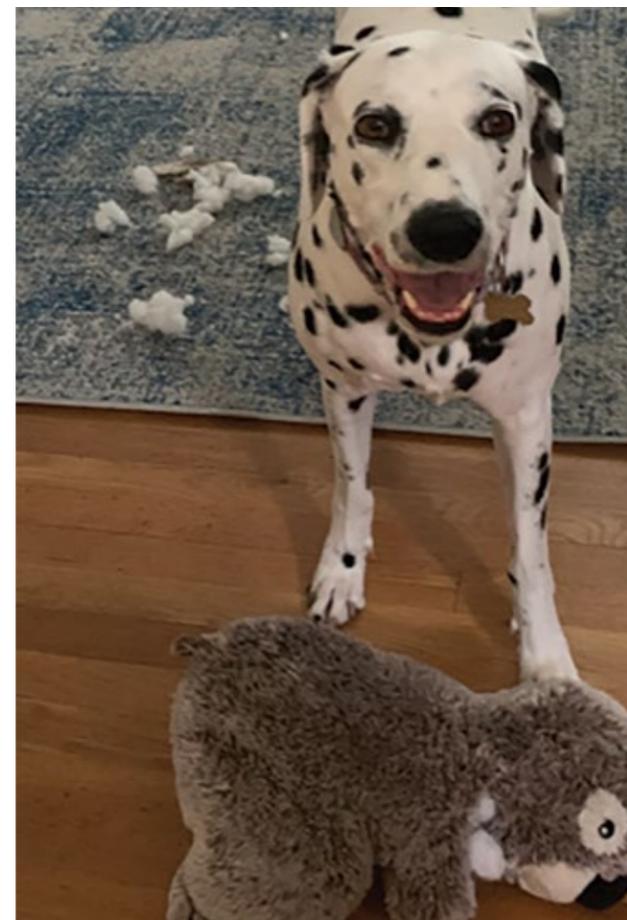
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PERVY PET OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Scott & Jen Sylvester

Georgie

Georgie is a Georgia girl having been born just north of Atlanta.

She is 10 years old with the spirit of a puppy. Georgie loves her stuffed animals! She is a wonderful guardian who lives for her walks, cuddling with Mom and mealtime. As a very loyal guardian, she does say her "hello" from our front deck to every canine who dares to walk down Miller.

She has a very strong and funny distaste for the garden fertilizer Milorganite, as she barks at the bag every time she walks by it in the garage.

She loves all humans though, quite the tail wagger.



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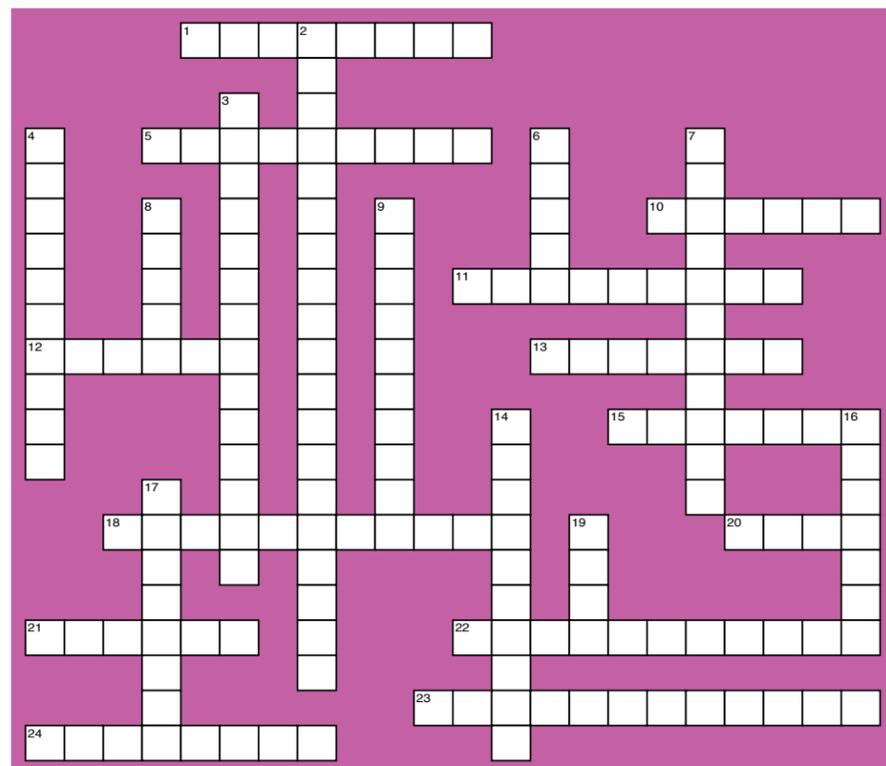
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Crossword



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ACROSS

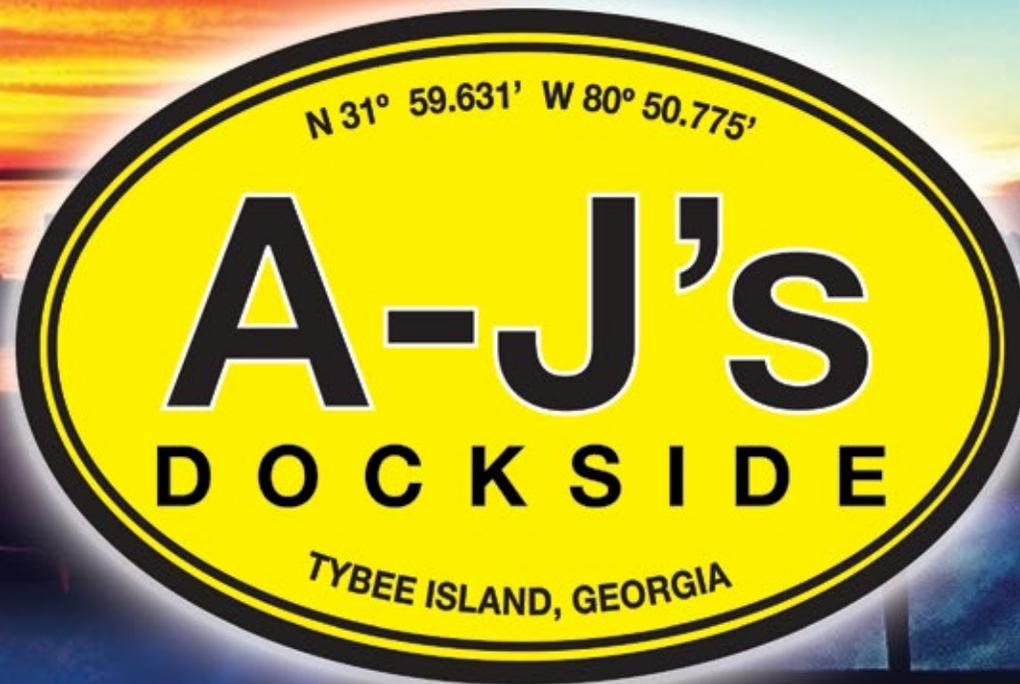
- This newly renovated building is now open (2 wds.)
- Fish Whisperer tells about his _____ Experience
- Life on the Bike Path says he is still having a problem with the _____ industry
- April is _____ Month
- 17th Annual _____ Trot will be on April 13
- _____ Grilled Cheese Stack by Nate
- Ramm Bytes says _____ of information that is clearly not true has left us all unable to trust what we read
- North Beach Grill contest is about guessing the ingredients to _____
- The Greatest _____ Run Ever
- _____ Has Sprung
- Winner of Easter Egg Hunt Contest (2 wds.)
- Tybee Library's new Youth Service Specialist (2 wds.)
- April's Song List is dedicating this month to _____

DOWN

- They are not welcome on Tybee (3 wds.)
- This award winning comedy will be presented by the Tybee Arts Association (2 wds.)
- Sports Teaser says this will always be his favorite golf tournament of the year (2 wds.)
- 4th month
- The Dodgers just signed the best baseball player in the world, _____
- Traveling Beachcomber winners are Bill and Brandy _____
- Bizz Buzz (2 wds.)
- Artist of the Month (2 wds.)
- Pervy Pet of the Month
- In Love, Not Actually, Boy states that _____ is an antiquated and archaic institution
- Serial Single's date was allergic to this

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| ANGELA WILLIS | KNOT LUCKY | TARTAR SAUCE |
| APRIL | MARRIAGE | THE MASTERS |
| BASEBALL | NORTH BEACH GRILL | TROUT |
| BEER | NUTS | TURTLE |
| CITY HALL | SEAFOOD | VOLUNTEER |
| GEORGIE | SHARING | WILD ZINNIA |
| HOT DOG | SHOHEI OTANI | YELLOW LEGGED HORNETS |
| JESSICA PONE | SOCIAL SECURITY | |
| KAREN LEIGH | SPRING | |

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