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Comments

*Good Eats

I would like to thank you for the article about Browns Mill principal Dr. Yvonne Sanders-Butler ("Fat Buster," by Chandra Thomas, September). I have followed Dr. Sanders-Butler's mission to provide healthy ways for children—as well as adults—to enjoy food without realizing that they are giving up sugar. I was a teacher at Browns Mill and saw firsthand the subtle changes that took place in eating behaviors without much effort. Dr. Butler has truly been one of the pioneers to incorporate a healthy nutritional environment along with a healthy learning environment. The two do go hand in hand.

I thank you again for your article and hope it reached many readers. Dr. Sanders-Butler deserves to get her message and strategies out there to as many as possible, and your article has certainly helped it along.

JANE KINGSTON

Stone Mountain

Sweet Sapelo?

WHEN I READ THE STORY about Sapelo Island ("Sweet Nothing," by Luke Dittrich, September), I was distressed by the writer's description of this special place. I am part of a group that has visited Sapelo twice a year for the past twenty years. This group-artists, birders, teachers, musicians, naturalists, and writers-stays at Reynolds Mansion, which Dittrich describes as an "old mansion the state rents out to groups that use it for antebellumstyle bachelor parties." Reynolds is staffed by the lovely people of Hog Hammock. I'm not sure what the purpose of this article was, but it seems Dittrich didn't spend time finding out more about the mansion or the island. Dittrich appreciated the beach, which is a positive, but then stated, "If you come to Sapelo Island expecting to experience a lost world of living history, you'll leave disappointed." Well, I'm disappointed with him. History of Sapelo abounds and guided tours are available.

Furthermore, why did he have to talk about sweet little Marvin's "big ears"? What purpose did that serve and how will Marvin feel if he reads that? Why did he and the photographer drive George's truck to places that George had asked them not to go? All this made me feel sorry for these two; they just didn't "get it." Sapelo is a magical place. I'm sorry they didn't feel it.

BRENDA MARQUIS

Lilburn

AS SOMEONE WHO has visited Sapelo every year for the past fifteen years, I was taken aback by Luke Dittrich's article. I do not have a problem with his story about the beach, but I do have a problem with him interviewing in-depth only one resident of Hog Hammock, Cornelia Bailey, the "selfappointed" spokesperson. If he had talked with other residents of the island, I think the story would have been quite different. Bailey complains about "why so many white people are interested in our history" and how, as Dittrich writes, "she is getting sick of having to trot [her stories] out for every white journalist or anthropologist or who-knows-what-ish that comes knocking on her back door looking for a slice of authentic Africana Americana."

Bailey tries to control the inhabitants of Hog Hammock, but others living in the community are warm and welcoming. You won't get a response like "we aren't interested in [your history]." Of course, Bailey would like for us to be off the island at four every day, and has said so, but because of our love of the people and the island, we ignore her. Some of her income comes from us "white people" who visit Sapelo and her store and bar. Suffice it to say, she will never get another dime of my money, nor I venture to say, from the others of our group who visit each year. Very honestly, we are not interested in Bailey's stories and much less so now. I look forward to a future