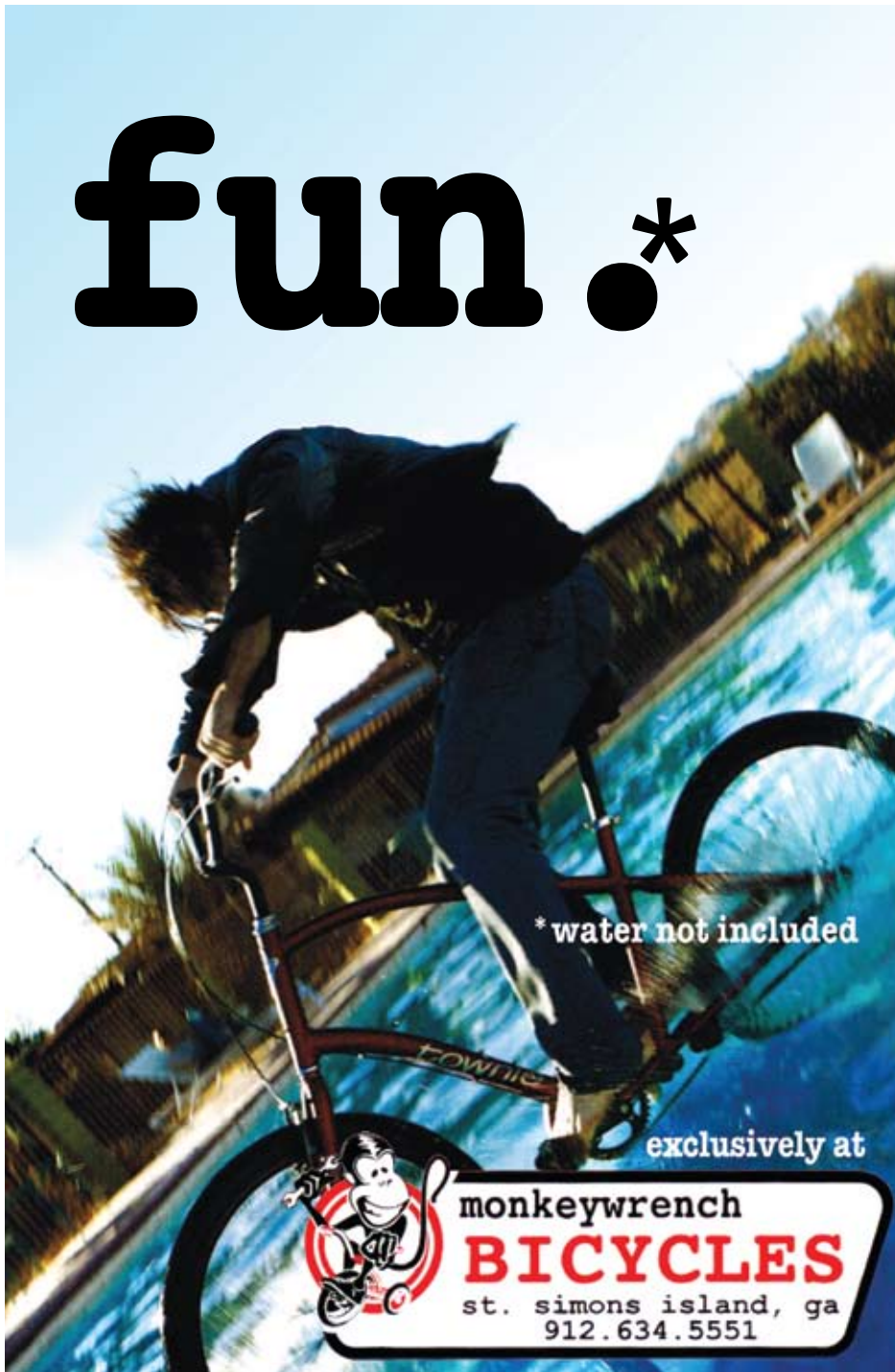


fun.*



*water not included

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kitchen or the bedroom. We chose the bedroom.”

Mary wore a suit to her wedding. Her blouse was made from the silk from Jerry’s parachute. To Mary’s consternation, Jerry’s uniform still fit nearly 60 years later, when he wore it to a dedication service in Brunswick for World War II veterans. “Jerry had to be one of the few veterans who could still wear his uniform,” she says. “When he put it on and it still fit him perfectly, I told him divorce was in his future if he didn’t get a pot belly.” Nothing could have been further from the truth. More than one person heard Mary say about Jerry: “When he leaves the room, it’s as though all the air goes out of it.”

Mary lost her beloved Jerry on July 31, 2007. She misses him deeply, but she doesn’t mourn. Her outlook is upbeat and full of humor and gratitude. She speaks of a happy childhood, a great college experience, and a secure and rewarding marriage with the man of her dreams. Nothing to mourn there.

If you see Mary Garrison, take a minute to stop and talk – no, listen. You will inevitably hear a story that will bring a smile, a tear or two, and some wisdom to take with you. She is one of the treasures of St. Simons Island.

Mary Tappan Garrison is a teacher and a storyteller, a true local character. ■



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