



## Atlanta Magazine Online

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**Frog Man** Many consider frogs to be barometers of the Earth's health. If that's true, Joe Mendelson and his colleagues think we're in deep trouble. **By Steve Fennessy**

**Fatlanta** Why are Atlantans so tubby? And what has to be done for our city to go from fat to fit? **By Debra Hunter**

### Only on Atlanta Magazine Online

#### This Month's Web Extras

- ★ Read the complete, uncut interview with hometown hero Jeff Francoeur. (See cover and "Conversation," page 83.)
- ★ True Southerners can talk a bone away from a dog. (See "Listen Up, Y'all," page 196.) Our online glossary of Southern terms will show you how it's done.
- ★ Sixty-one percent of Georgia adults are overweight. Are you? (See "Fatlanta," page 48.) Compute your body mass index (BMI) to find out.

#### Atlanta Magazine

**Newsletters** Updates on shopping, dining, entertainment and events. Read them online or sign up to have them delivered directly to your e-mail inbox:

- ★ **TableTalk**—what's hot in the restaurant scene
- ★ **Atlanta Magazine Shops**—your retail bulletin
- ★ **Best Bets**—what to do this week
- ★ **Atlanta Magazine Events**—exclusive invitations to parties, fundraisers and more

#### Interact With Us Online

- ★ **Vote:** Vernon Jones: Do you love him or loathe him? (See story on page 92.)
- ★ **Ask:** How fast does kudzu grow? How does Coke keep its formula secret? Send all your Atlanta mysteries to **Ask Atlanta Magazine**.
- ★ **Opine:** Send your comments on this month's issue to [atlantamag-letters@atlantamag.emmis.com](mailto:atlantamag-letters@atlantamag.emmis.com).
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This month's access code for online extras: **Cool**

## CONTRIBUTORS



« Writer **Richard Daigle** ("The Game of Life," page 60) coached his son Richie from T-ball up to travel baseball, but the Alpharetta resident never thought he'd be on the sidelines in Peoria, Arizona, watching Richie's first spring training for the San Diego Padres' organization. Daigle has written for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *The American Legion* magazine, *Sports Spectrum* and others.

» **Marilyn Suriani** ("Main Street," page 84), an Atlanta-based fine art and documentary photographer, has been a contributing photographer for *Atlanta Magazine* for 25 years. Her portraits of high-profile subjects have included renowned business, political and cultural leaders and her works have been displayed in galleries and museums worldwide. Suriani's *Storefront Church* series, which explores the private and passionate world of small congregations in Atlanta, is part of the High Museum's permanent collection. Her photo documentary about Atlanta-area exotic dancers, *Dancing Naked in the Material World*, was published in 1992 to critical acclaim.



« Armed only with Ticonderoga Beginners pencils, watercolors, colored pencils and Adobe Photoshop, illustrator **Gary Locke** ("Up, Up and Away," page 32) hacks out a living from deep in the hills of the Ozarks, near Rogersville, Missouri. He is a father of three, husband of one and proud owner of a new John Deere lawn mower. He has done illustrations for Warner Bros., Coca-Cola, 7-Eleven, Fisher-Price, *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Texas Monthly* and many others.

» Staff writer **Chandra Thomas** ("Mr. Big," page 92) has written about gay men who pretend to be straight and teenagers who landed hard prison time for oral sex, but she says DeKalb County CEO Vernon Jones just might be the most colorful character she's profiled. Thomas spent five weeks shadowing Jones, from closed-door meetings to the barbershop. "It was like being out with Usher," she says. "Everywhere we went, he was recognized by people who wanted to shake his hand." A graduate of Clark Atlanta University, Thomas previously worked as an associate producer for Fox 5 in Atlanta. ★



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