

# Senior News

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*Time to visit  
Phinizy Swamp  
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Story on page 8

April 2017  
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# “Plan Now in Case You Cannot Speak for Yourself Later”

by KATHLEEN ERNCE  
Executive Director, The Senior  
Citizens Council Augusta, Georgia  
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**I**f you were incapacitated by stroke, heart attack, other medical condition that left you unable to speak, would your loved ones be able to make financial or medical decisions on your behalf? Would they now what type of care you prefer and where to find your important papers? Keep in mind that just because you are married doesn't necessarily give your spouse the legal right to make decisions for you. Without your direction your loved ones may have to petition the court to be appointed your legal guardian, which means someone will have to pay a fee to be legally able to speak for you.

However, there is a way that you may be able to save the

expense, not have family members arguing over what you want or do not want, and one that will give you peace of mind! If you set up an advance directive for healthcare, you can rest assured that the person whom you trust will be in charge should you be unable to speak for yourself. According to a recent article in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine, only 26 percent of people have an advance directive for healthcare.

In Georgia, an Advanced Directive for Healthcare combines a Health Care Power of Attorney and the Living Will into one document, where you can assign one or more people to carry out your wishes.

The Financial Durable Power of Attorney gives someone YOUR legal authority to make financial decisions on your behalf, a Durable Health Care Power of Attorney appoints someone to make health related decisions on your behalf.

Although, this document does not expire, it is recommended that you review and

update it every couple of years to make sure that the person whom you designated as your proxy is still the best choice. This way you and your family will have peace of mind in knowing that your directive still reflects your current wishes.

You may obtain these documents through a qualified estate planning attorney or by calling our office at 706-868-0120 to make an appointment to discuss and process this important legal document. We look forward to hearing from you.

## Tips to prevent pestering Robocalls that can scam you out of your money

by JUSTIN LAVELLE

**I**n today's landscape, it is not uncommon to receive multiple robocalls a week on both your landline and your cell phone, even though you've registered your phone numbers with the Do Not Call Registry. They're offering everything from lower credit card rates to free vacations and medical alert devices. It's not only annoying, but many of these calls come with a high probability of scam. Robocalls are scams run by con artists who are trying to trick you out of your money and they simply ignore the law. Below are must-know tips for putting an end to robocalls:

- Do Register with the Do Not Call Registry. Although the Do Not Call Registry isn't always consistent, it's important to register with them to help eliminate a good portion of calls. If you've been on the Do Not Call Registry for a month or longer and still get calls, file a complaint with the FTC. It doesn't take long, and sometimes enough complaints can get policy changed. Report illegal robocalls to the Federal Trade Commission at [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](http://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov) or call 888-225-5322.

If you're constantly being called by the same few numbers, consider blocking them. A variety of apps and services, many of them free, make it possible to cut down on unwanted calls on some landline and mobile phones (both Android and iOS). They work by blocking them, alerting you to a possible robocall, or forwarding suspicious calls to voicemail.

- Set-up "Anonymous Call Rejection" Option. Call your phone provider to find out if this option is available for your landline. It lets you screen out calls from callers who have blocked their caller ID information – a tactic of telemarketers.

- Sign-Up for Nomorobo. Nomorobo uses a "simultaneous ring" service that detects and blocks robocalls on a blacklist of known offender numbers. Similar to the Do Not Call Registry, it's not infallible but adds a layer of protection. It's free for landlines and subscription based for mobile.

- Check Your Caller ID. If you do not recognize the phone number on your caller ID, do not answer the phone. Let it go to voicemail or the answering machine. Most telemarketers will hang up and not leave a message. If it's important, the caller will leave a message. If you answer and there's a pause, that's often an indication of a robocall, and you should simply hang up. Never follow the automated voice asking you to press 1. Do not push any numbers to reach a live operator, this signifies that the autodialer has reached a live number and this will probably lead to more robocalls.

- Block Incoming Numbers on Your Cell Phone. Most cell phone providers allow you to block an incoming number to your cell. After the call comes in, follow your provider's instructions for blocking the number from calling you again.

- Download a Call-Screening App to Your Cellphone. To help with robo telemarketing calls and robo spam texts to your cellphone, get a call-screening app like Truecaller or PrivacyStar that screens and blocks them.

- Sign the Consumer Union Petition. Sign the Consumer Union petition at [EndRobocalls.org](http://EndRobocalls.org) to pressure phone companies to start offering free call-blocking technology.

- Check the WhitePages.com. Use the online telephone directory WhitePages.com to look up a phone number you're unsure about. The site will let you know the scam potential of the phone number you're checking on even if it doesn't have the company name listed.

- Give Out Your Phone Numbers Sparingly. Resist the urge to provide a phone number unless is absolutely necessary. Just because you're asked for it, doesn't mean you're required to provide it.

### About Justin Lavelle of BeenVerified.com

Justin Lavelle is the Chief Communications Officer at BeenVerified.com (<https://www.beenverified.com>). BeenVerified is the fast, affordable, and easy way to access public records and search for people. Find out ages, marital status, addresses, email addresses, phone numbers, criminal records, and more.



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# Don't Fall Victim to Bogus "Tech Support" Calls

by **KELVIN COLLINS**  
President/CEO, BBB of Central Georgia & the CSRA, Inc.

**M**any residents are still reporting to your BBB that they have received telephone calls from individuals claiming to be with tech support from well-known software companies. Microsoft and Apple have been very popular claims, but there have been others as well – and even some claiming to be with federal law enforcement agencies, such as the FBI.

The Scammers may know your name and other personal information, which they get from publicly available directories. They might even guess what computer operating system you are using. Don't be fooled.

The caller tells you that your computer is sending error messages, and they've detected a virus on it. He says that only a tech support employee can remove the virus, but first you must grant him access to your machine. If you give the OK, the caller will run a scan of your files and actually point out how the virus has infected the computer.

The scammer then offers to remove the virus... for a fee. Of course, they need your payment information first.

You might think that this is another form of telephone fraud designed to get your credit card information, but there are actually two twists to this ruse. It is possible that if you allow the caller to access files on your computer, they can access banking information by using your computer to log into your banking programs.

In addition, they could download spyware onto your computer, which could allow them to monitor your keystrokes. Many people reporting this crime to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center indicated that if they allowed the caller remote access to their computers, whether they had paid for the virus to be removed or not, they had difficulties with their computers afterwards. Some said their computer would not turn on or that certain programs/files were inaccessible. Some victims even reported taking their computers in for repair and the technicians confirmed that software had been installed.

**What to do if "Tech Support" calls?**

- Be wary of answering calls from unknown numbers. Instead, let the call go to voicemail and if it's important, they will leave a message.

- Don't rely on caller ID; scammers have the ability to spoof their caller ID numbers to appear legitimate.

- Never give control of your computer to a third party unless you can confirm that it is a legitimate representative of a computer support team with whom you are already a customer and you initiated the support call.

- Never provide your credit card, financial information or pre-paid gift card numbers to someone claiming to be from tech support.

- If a caller notifies you that he or she has detected a virus or other threat to your computer, hang up.

- Take the caller's information down and report it to the BBB Scam Tracker at [www.bbb.org/scamtracker](http://www.bbb.org/scamtracker).

**If you did allow a caller to access your computer:**

- Change the passwords for your computer, email and online banking and credit card accounts.
- Be sure to update your

antivirus software and run a complete virus scan.

- Consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report if you shared personal and banking information with the scammer or if you suspect that malware was installed.

- Find a trustworthy computer repair company to ensure that all malware has been removed.

To find a computer repair company or for more consumer tips that you can trust, visit [bbb.org](http://bbb.org).

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*Kelvin Collins is president-CEO of the Better Business Bureau of Central Georgia & the CSRA, Inc. serving 41 counties in Central Georgia and the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA). This tips column is provided through the local BBB and the Council of Better Business Bureaus. Questions or complaints about a specific company or charity should be referred directly to the BBB at Phone: 1-800-763-4222, Web site: [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org) or E-mail: [info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org](mailto:info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org) or [info@csra.bbb.org](mailto:info@csra.bbb.org). For more consumer tips that you can trust, visit [bbb.org](http://bbb.org).*

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Senior News & Views of Georgia

# Poets' Corner

Editor's Note: If you have written a "well-worked" poem which you would like considered for publication, please email it to seniornewsga@cox.net or mail it to Senior News, 214 Wilsons Creek Bend, Bonaire, GA 31005. Please include your name and address on your poem. We will publish selected poems (or excerpts) as space permits.

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## THREE CHEERS FOR HOPE

by Paul Gray

*Like a song bird perched upon  
his bough,  
Sharing love songs with his voice,  
Clinging fast to hope he believes  
somehow,  
There's a chance he'll be her choice.  
Now he's just a bird and his song's  
the same,  
Like all others, non-unique,  
But it's hope itself keeping  
hope alive,  
And a song upon his beak.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## WE THE CHURCH

by Joy Mitchell-Booker

*The collective voice of the Church  
Has been silent for far too long  
We've neglected our commission  
To help keep our nation strong*

*Our collective voice has been silent  
When we should have been shouting  
out loud  
Have we been quietly asking?  
When we should have been  
demanding  
It is up to us to lend a guiding hand  
To assist those in power positions,  
help them to take a stand  
Our light is no longer shining  
bright  
Our salt has all but lost its flavor  
It's no wonder the world is lost  
We've not glorified our Savior  
We should be the moral compass;  
we speak out God's word  
Regardless of the consequences,  
in spite of what we've heard  
We will be held accountable for  
not taking a stand  
Allowing the world to dictate to  
us, when we know they don't  
understand  
The Word of God is final, no  
further discussion needed  
Our nation was built on this  
foundation  
Why has the Church conceded?*

\*\*\*\*\*

## CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN

by Cynthia W. Underwood

*Climbing the mountain calls for  
incentive and motivation;*

*Motivation to accomplish and be  
the best of the best*

*So seize the moment to capture  
your dream!*

*Welcome the opportunity to  
stand tall.*

*Strive for what is in your reach  
and then some more.*

*For nothing is impossible, if you  
only believe.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

by Shirley Glisson

*Counting our blessings  
Seems such a chore,  
We think we have finished  
But then there are more.*

*God is so gracious  
So loving and kind,  
When counting our blessings  
We're always behind.*

*When lying in bed with  
No sleep to be found,  
With the day's problems  
Still hanging around.*

*Try counting your blessings  
Instead of sheep,  
Then will come rest  
And sweet peaceful sleep.*

# Binding principles for Success

by DANIEL W. GATLYN, USN  
Ret.  
Minister/Journalist

Contrary to what many accept as fact, there are essential guidelines for conduct as we travel through life. Obviously, there are millions who pay little heed to instruction, conditions, or "warning signs" along the route – but such does not alter the blaring truth for which we are all responsible. The script is well known, published in innumerable circles; and, yet ignored by a host of unbelievers! And the result is judgement – meeting out penalties for the same! What are these rules? Who established them? And how valid can we expect them to be?

Principle (and Rule) Number One is the Moral code. Emanating with the Creator – every individual is held responsible! Since He orchestrated the statute, he will also be the one to consider the price for violation. Take it to the bank – three times over! Only the mercies of the Omnipotent One will minimize both the charge and penalty! To live in success, harmony, and a spiritual direction is to ensure joy, progress, and eternal life. There is no changing or amending these rules in our lifetime. "It is written" – with perpetual application. While Biblical patterns hold priority, there are other pertinent considerations.

Next, (for sensible existence), we are bound by Ethics. There is a pathway explored, taught, expected, and presumed by citizens of every land. While Ethics are somewhat ambiguous, they are real, and demanding. If we expect to be honest and impartial on our journey, we will not find it difficult to adhere when it comes to Ethics! Protocol is only part of the "Ethical Walk." Consider your manner and demeanor.

Then, there is the rule of Law (Edict/Statute) which makes a "telling" appearance – with limits, lines, blue lights, or dangerous volleys. A standard course for all citizens has been etched in the parchments of City Hall. And this legality has been embraced and ordered for the best reason – your protection. In addition, there is safety, a calmed nerve, and fairness to those on the periphery. When things are done right, there is no appearance of "blue lights," citations, or crashing of vehicles – regardless of geography. Headstrong violations can easily be our final act.

Practicality might not be the final number on this list; but, all will recognize the validity of it's inclusion. There are thousands of circumstances where other rules might not apply – but where practicality reigns supreme. In the final analysis, you may escape condemnation, a ticket for reckless behavior; or, a crash and casket – but you will also be a much "happier camper" if you travel

in the safe lanes of life! Take it from one who has learned from decades of "oscillating experience!"

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Tickets go on sale April 3, 2017! For complete information visit our website at [www.enopion.com](http://www.enopion.com) or email [info@enopion.com](mailto:info@enopion.com).



## AGENCY ALERT: Were you born in 1952? "A Complete Guide to Enrolling in Medicare."

by **KATHLEEN ERNCE**  
Executive Director, The Senior  
Citizens Council Augusta, Georgia  
kernce@seniorcitizenscouncil.org

**A**re you also turning 65 this year? Here is a comprehensive guide.



**Kathleen  
Ernce**

When and how should I apply to Medicare? You sign up for Medicare for the first time during your Initial Enrollment Period. The Initial Enrollment

Period is the seven months surrounding your birth month (the three months before your birth month, your birth month, and the three months after your birth month). For example, if you were born in February 1952, you are eligible to enroll starting November 2016 (because November is three months before February) and can still enroll through the end of May 2017 (the three months after February).

If you are already receiving Social Security benefits at age 65, you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare and should be receiving a Medicare card in the mail approximately three months before you turn 65. If the card has not arrived 30 days prior to your birth month, call the Social Security Administration. If you are not already receiving Social Security benefits, you will need to enroll.

To sign up, you can go to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and apply online. If the information that you give matches the records that Medicare has, there is no reason to have to produce a birth certificate

or other forms of documentation. If you were born outside the US or there are discrepancies in the records, you may have to apply over the phone or in person and provide said documentation.

Which parts of Medicare should I sign up for? If you are still working at age 65 (or your spouse is still working), you may want to delay enrolling in some of the parts of Medicare until retirement, because Medicare is not free, and you might save some money by using just your employer insurance for the time being. Then when you retire, you can use your Special Enrollment Period to enroll into Medicare. However, you should consult your HR department or a Medicare expert before you decide to delay enrollment.

If you are not working and/or do not have any form of health insurance at age 65, you should definitely enroll in Medicare. You have two main options to choose from:

Original Medicare (with Part D and Medigap potentially added on) and Medicare Advantage.

Option one is Original Medicare (i.e. Medicare Part A plus Medicare Part B).

Medicare covers basics like hospital services (Part A) and doctor's visits (Part B). It is called Original Medicare because it was the first type of Medicare program created by the federal government in 1965. You can add an optional Part D plan to your Original Medicare to get your prescription drugs covered, and you can also add a Medigap plan (aka supplemental coverage) to cover the cost gaps in Original Medicare.

If you choose Original Medicare, it is strongly recommended that you add both Part D (to get prescription drug coverage) and Medigap (to help pay

the costs of Original Medicare). Without these two additions, it can be very difficult to afford prescriptions and other medical expenses.

Option two is the Medicare Advantage (MA) plan. MA is a privately-managed alternative to Original Medicare (which is run by the federal government). An MA plan covers all of the services of Original Medicare, and usually includes Part D (drug coverage) as well. An MA plan may even offer additional services that Original Medicare does not cover—such as dental, hearing or vision coverage.

Where can I find trustworthy, expert advice? It is important to look before you leap when choosing your Medicare plan. Take time to read and discuss these options with a certified Medicare benefits

adviser. The Executive Director of The Senior Citizens Council is a Certified Medicare counselor and is able to answer questions regarding Medicare and provides guidance individuals into the most appropriate option for each situation. There is no cost for this service; however, an appointment is required. Please call us at 706-868-0120 to obtain an appointment.

Once you've picked your plan and successfully enrolled, it's time to celebrate! Plan a big party for yourself and anyone else you know who is new to the world of Medicare beneficiaries. You've earned it (literally)!

Sources: Medicare and You 2017 Medicare Handbook; "65 and Still Working? A Guide to Medicare."

## Pilot International announces new Director of Programs and Events

Special to *Senior News*

**P**ilot International, Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of a new Director of Programs and Events, Kerry Freeman.

Kerry was previously Events Coordinator with The Walt Disney Company in Orlando, Florida. She is a graduate of the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia.

Pilot International is a community-based volunteer service organization founded in 1921 in Macon, GA on the principles of "Friendship and Service." With more than 7,300 members in some 340 Pilot Clubs, Pilots can be found across the U.S., the Bahamas, Japan and South

Africa. Pilots carry out their mission to "Do More, Care More and Be More" by providing financial and hands-on support for national and local initiatives in keeping with its causes of youth development leadership; brain safety fitness; and caring for families in times of need. In addition, there are over 7,500 school-level Anchor Club members worldwide. Through a professionally developed curriculum and strategic partnerships, Pilot encourages and provides opportunities for youth development leadership.

Pilot remains headquartered in Macon, where its staff serves its international constituency. The name "Pilot" was inspired by the mighty riverboat pilots of that day who represented leadership and guidance.

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**AUGUSTA/CSRA METRO AREA  
Senior Services & Events Directory**  
For additional Services & Events listings, please visit our website at:  
[seniornewsga.com](http://seniornewsga.com).

**The Senior Citizens Council**  
4210 Columbia Road, Suite 13A,  
Martinez, GA 30907; 706-868-0120  
[www.seniorcitizenscouncil.org](http://www.seniorcitizenscouncil.org)  
The Senior Citizens Council is open  
Monday through Friday for the following  
services:  
• Advocacy Programs Department –  
including: Caseworker Services –  
Caregiver Respite, Referral Information  
and Support (CRRIS); Bill and Money  
Management (MAP); Senior Health  
Insurance and Education (SHINE) – the  
Center for the Prevention of Elder  
Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation.  
• The Senior Corps Department: Foster  
Grandparent Program (FGP) and Senior  
Companion Program (SCP) for income-  
eligible persons age 55 and older who  
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needs children or adults.” Call us at  
706-868-0120 for complete details. The  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program  
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teers with a variety of local nonprofit,  
health care, governmental, and faith  
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they serve. Please call us at 706-868-  
0120 for details on any of our programs  
or make an appointment for a needed  
service. Our physical address is 4210  
Columbia Road, Suite 13A, Martinez,  
GA 30907, Monday through Friday, 8:30  
a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### CSRA Senior Centers

Over 60? Enjoy socializing, parties,  
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• Sand Hills Community Center  
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Augusta, GA 30904; 706-842-1912 or  
706-842-1916  
• New Bethlehem Community Center,  
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Millicent E. West; 1336 Conklin Ave.,  
Augusta, GA 30901; 706-722-0086  
• Bessie Thomas Community Center  
Jeff Asman; 5913 Euclid Creek Dr.,  
Grovetown, GA 30813; 706-556-0308  
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• Glascock County Senior Center  
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• Warren County Senior Center  
Gwanda Murray; 48 Warren St.,  
Warrenton, GA 30828; 706-465-3539  
• Washington County Council on Aging  
Jane Colson; 466 Maurice Friedman Rd.,  
Sandersville, GA 31082; 478-552-0898  
(Mon., Tues. and Thurs.)  
478-552-0013  
• Wilkes County

Diana Hall; 108 Marshall St.,  
Washington, GA 30673; 706-678-2518  
• Shiloh Comprehensive Community  
Center  
Elizabeth Jones; 1635 15th St., Augusta,  
GA 30901; 706-738-0089  
\*\*\*\*\*

**H. H. Brigham Senior Center**  
2463 Golden Camp Rd., Augusta  
Contact: Patricia A. Jenner  
706-772-5456; 1 a.m.-3 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Aiken County Parks, Recreation & Tourism

902 Vaucluse Rd., Aiken, SC 29801;  
803-642-7559;  
[www.aikencountysc.gov/tourism](http://www.aikencountysc.gov/tourism)  
**Courtney Senior Center**  
49 Roy St., Wagener, SC; 564-5211  
• Senior Bingo: 3rd Fri., 2 p.m., Free  
• Canasta Club: Wednesdays, 12 noon,  
Free  
**Harrison-Caver Park**  
4181 Augusta Rd., Clearwater, SC; 593-  
4698  
**Aiken County Recreation Center**  
917 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Graniteville,  
SC; 663-6142  
**Roy Warner Park**  
4287 Festival Trail Rd., Wagener, SC;  
564-6149  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Academy for Lifelong  
Learning, USC-Aiken**  
Information: 803-641-3288  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Hearing Loss Association of Augusta**  
Meetings are normally held on the  
3rd Saturday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., September-  
April except for December, at University  
Hospital, 1350 Walton Way, Dining  
Rooms 1-3. For information on the  
organization please contact Gayle Tison  
at [g.m.tison@wowway.com](mailto:g.m.tison@wowway.com).  
\*\*\*\*\*

continued on page 7

# General Business Directory For Seniors

**BIBLE BY PHONE**  
**FREE DAILY BIBLE READINGS -- NKJV**  
**706-855-WORD**  
Augusta 706-855-9673  
Aiken 803-442-9673  
Thomson / Lincolnton 706-541-3639  
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~ First Wednesday of every month ~  
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Closed on Sunday, Monday & Tuesday

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without compromise.  
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Martinez, GA 30907  
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[www.compassionate3.com](http://www.compassionate3.com)

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When you donate your  
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services for people with barriers to employment  
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Spend an afternoon, or a few hours each week giving  
back to the community. Make volunteering  
a part of your family activities.  
  
CALL: Mid GA: 478-475-9995  
OR CSRA: 706-650-5760  
To find a location near you, visit  
[www.goodwillworks.org](http://www.goodwillworks.org)



## EVENTS

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### Hephzibah Lions Club

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 p.m., Jesse Carroll Community Center, Windsor Spring Rd., Hephzibah. For additional information contact Lion Frank Spinney, President, at 706-592-5618 or Jon Winters at 706-592-9622 or 706-833-0458.

### Morris Museum of Art

1 Tenth Street at Riverwalk in Augusta Riverfront Center. Call 706-724-7501 for more information or visit the Museum's website at [www.morris.org](http://www.morris.org).

- Mommy and Me: April Showers: Thurs., April 13, 10-11 p.m. Advanced registration required. Members, Free; non-members, \$4
- Films on Friday: *The Rose Tattoo*: Fri., April 14, noon
- Music at the Morris: The Henrys: Sun., April 23, 2 p.m.
- *Rhythm and Movement*: Paintings by James Michalopoulos: Through May 14

### Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art

Located at 506 Telfair Street, Augusta. Call 706-722-5495 for information.

### Augusta Museum of History

560 Reynolds Street in downtown Augusta. Call 706-722-8454 for events information.

- Voices of the Past Museum Theater: *A Petersburg Boat Pilot*: Sat., April 15
- Voices of the Past Museum Theater: *The Other Tubmans*: Sat., April 22
- Brown Bag Series: *North Augusta*: Milledge Murray, President, North Augusta Heritage Council, April 12
- *Golf Week: Sweet Tea and Pimento Cheese*: April 10

### Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History

[www.lucycraftlaneymuseum.com](http://www.lucycraftlaneymuseum.com)  
Call 706-724-3576 for events information.

### USA DANCE Augusta Chapter 6074 Every Third Saturday of the Month

The USA Dance is a National Dance Organization. Our Chapter 6074 focuses on the Augusta and Aiken areas. Our dances are held on the THIRD SATURDAY of each month. The dance is held at American Legion Post 63, 90 Milledge Rd., Augusta, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Lessons at 8 p.m. If you are able, please bring something sweet or savory for the goody table. Tasty food, the best dance floor in the CSRA, great music, a friendly and welcoming atmosphere all add up to a perfect Saturday evening experience. Cost is \$8.00 for USA Dance members or \$10.00 for non-members. For additional information call Kay Cooke at 706-210-8780 or Rudy Brostrom at 803-442-9337. Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship!

### Augusta Christian Singles Dance

Dances are at 7:30 p.m. with complimentary dance lessons at 6:30 p.m. Admission will be \$10.00 for guests and \$8.00 for members. Light refreshments will be served.

Located at The Ballroom Dance Center, 525 Grand Slam Drive, Evans, GA 30809.

Friday Night Dance  
Every Friday,

8-11 p.m., American Legion Post 63, 90 Milledge Rd., Augusta. With band or DJ. \$10 cost. Free coffee and cake. Everyone welcome. Call 706-733-5184.

### Service Corps of Retired Executives

The Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) provides counseling and mentoring to business people who are starting up a new business or who are expanding one that is ongoing. SCORE is a non-profit, public service organization, affiliated with the SBA. There is never a charge for our services. Call 706-793-9998, Mon. - Fri., from 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

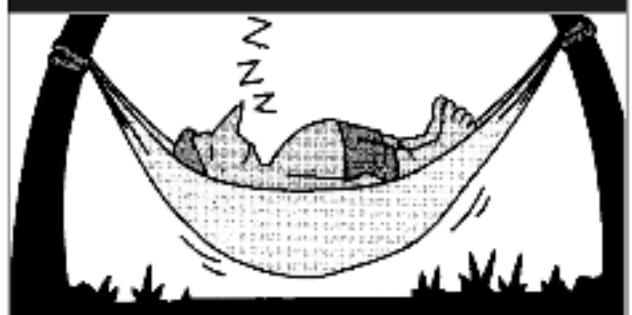
### Area Agency on Aging Offerings

Learn through a 30-Minute session, 3rd Thurs. each month, 1 p.m., KROC Center Augusta, Senior Lounge, 1833 Broad St. Registration not required. Contact Lee Walker, Resource Specialist, 706-922-8348 or 706-210-2018.

### ENOPION Theatre Company Presents *The Life and Times of Petunia Butterby*

April 21 & 22; 28 & 29. A beautiful production that will touch your heart. Tickets go on sale April 3. For information visit [www.enopion.com](http://www.enopion.com).

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## ~ ADVERTISING INFORMATION ~

Anthony Sorrells  
404-353-3379 • [hanthonysorrells@aol.com](mailto:hanthonysorrells@aol.com)

Carolyn Brenneman  
706-407-1564 • [seniornewsga@att.net](mailto:seniornewsga@att.net)

Billy Tucker  
478-929-3636 • [seniornewsga@cox.net](mailto:seniornewsga@cox.net)

# General Business Directory For Seniors

## Do you Need Glasses, Dentures or Dental?

If you have Medicare, Call me.  
I Might be able to Help.

Bill Phillips

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## On the Cover

# Time to visit Phinizy Swamp Nature Park!

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

It's that time of the year again! April is a perfect time to take a day trip to check out Phinizy Swamp. The swamp is over 1000 acres and a nature park in Augusta and has gone through tremendous changes over the years. This beautiful park area contains woodlands and wetlands and has a scientific campus for water research and environmental education. A look back in history shows us that native American tribes first occupied the area as being close to the Savannah River made this swamp an ideal location. Ferdinand Francois Phinizy, an Italian entrepreneur, was the first Phinizy to settle in the area around 1778. It was not until 1973 that the land was acquired by the city of Augusta and later on the Natural Sciences Academy was formed and developed the area.

The park has many bald cypresses draped with Spanish moss and gorgeous forest of loblolly and longleaf pine trees. There are many different types of wildlife there including frogs, toads, snakes, beavers, muskrat, turtles black bellied whistling ducks, great blue herons, red shouldered hawks, wood ducks and some bald eagles.

There are also nature walks, streams, bottomland forests and many miles of trails. You will want to check out the visitor's center, a charming picnic pavilion, and a caretaker cottage. "We come here several times during the year and always find the area and swamp to be fantastic," says

Carla of Augusta. "Nature here is awesome," says Janet of Evans, "and we come to do the nature walks." So let's head on out to enjoy tranquility and beauty of the park.

Phinizy Swamp is a great place to take nature walks or view some wildlife. Visitors may get a chance to see turtles or alligators in the water, and perhaps blue herons, or red shouldered hawks in their natural habitat. At the Visitor Center, guests can view many exhibits and get answers to any questions about the swamp by the volunteers at the center who are very helpful and knowledgeable about the area.

Check out the upcoming events. Over the next several months, there are many activities going on at Phinizy Swamp Nature Park that we don't want to miss. With our upcoming pleasant weather, there are guided group tours offered daily, by reservation, for groups or organizations. The tours will include a leisurely hike of the nature park trails, or we can take a guided golf cart tour, or take a bicycle tour of the wetlands trails. We can even have a tour that includes bird watching.

Also starting on April 1, for the 1st Saturday of every month, at 9:30 am, there is a pleasant nature walk at Phinizy Swamp. The volunteers of the Academy lead an hour hike through the park which is for anyone and everyone to enjoy. What a great time for us to spend with our grandkids! The hikes are leisurely-paced walks through wetlands, over picturesque trails and scenic outlooks. "Each volunteer leading the hike speaks about the



Overlooking the river

ecological aspects of the park and shows the points of interest," says Marcia, a volunteer at the nature park. So check it out and sign up for one of the upcoming

events. Contact the office at 706.828.2109 for more information. Phinizy Swamp is located at 1858 Lock and Dam Road, in Augusta, 30906.



Gorgeous trees surround the area

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