

Beware of Paving Scams

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

ith the unusually warmer temperatures that our area seems to be seeing, we are also seeing a higher than usual number of out of state paving crews going door to door. We always tend to see these crews as the weather begins to warm but our local paving companies and consumers are reporting more traveling paving crews offering "too good to be true" deals on driveway repairs. While driveway repair scams are fairly common, there is never a shortage of victims that get taken; from the consumer who pays for an inferior job to the local paving company losing out on local business. The Better Business Bureau wants you to know how you can avoid paving

Usually the setup involves a less-than-trustworthy sales representative visiting your home claiming they have leftover materials from a previous paving job. They are looking for homes with cracked driveways and say they can take care of your driveway for a very large discount over the normal price. The catch is that you have to pay up front. From there, consumers have complained to the BBB about multiple issues.

Since the representative is using leftover materials, the quality of work is poor because there is normally not enough asphalt to adequately cover the area. This causes uneven spreading and thin layers which increases the risk of cracking or crumbling of the consumer's driveway. The other issue consumers complain about is that the representative begins work, only to find out there is not enough asphalt to complete the job that same day. He or she will apologize and promise to return the next day to finish. Consumers report the representatives never come back and the consumer is left with an unfinished driveway and less money in their bank account. If they do return, the price to finish will be significantly increased.

Often, consumers do not have

a way to contact the representative or the company they work for because they were never given a business card, they only have a cell number (that no longer works) and they don't have an agreement in writing. To make sure this does not happen to you, here are a few red flags that you can look for in a driveway repair

- There are leftover materials from another job. Professional asphalt contractors know, with great accuracy, how much paving material is needed to complete each project. Rarely will they have large quantities of leftover material.
- You are pushed to make a quick decision. Trustworthy contractors will provide a written estimate that will be valid for days or even weeks. It should specify in detail the work to be performed and the total price.
 They also don't mind you checking them out before signing a contract.
- Cash-only sales. Most reputable contractors will take checks or credit cards and don't require payment up front. BBB recommends never paying more than 1/3 up front, and only with a written contract.
- The company is from out of state. Look at the truck the representative travels in. If it is

unmarked or has an out-of-state license plate, be cautious. Even if the representative claims to have a local phone number, scammers can easily purchase disposable cell phones to provide a local number in the area they are soliciting. Also, don't be afraid to ask to see their driver's license. If the worker is from out of state, how likely are they to come back if a problem arises in the future?

If you suspect that you are dealing with a paving scammer, report them to your local police department and the BBB.

For more tips you can trust, visit bbb.org.

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 or E-mail: info@ centralgeorgia.bbb.org or info@csra.bbb.org.For more consumer tips that you can trust, visit bbb.org.



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Community Access to Resources

Submitted by JEANETTE CUMMINGS Director, Area Agency on Aging A Division of the CSRA Regional Development Center

inding the right resources you need to remain healthy and



Jeanette Cummings

happy in your own homes and communities can be very confusing and frustrating. It doesn't have to be. What you need to know is only "one call" away. The CSRA Area Agency on Aging (AAA), a

designated
Aging and Disability Resource
Connection (ADRC), is the "single
point of entry" to services for seniors, persons with disabilities and
their caregivers. Reaching the AAA
is as simple as dialing 866-552-4464
or 706-210-2018.

Trained, friendly counselors are ready to answer calls for information or assistance with the activities of daily living such as meal preparation, bathing, dressing, house cleaning, medication management and access to health and wellness programs, assistive technology devices and home modifications like wheelchair ramps. Services are provided through private pay and government-funded options. The ability to pay privately offers an alternative to being placed on a wait list.

Some providers are willing to negotiate the cost of their services. Georgia's AAA's and the Administration for Community Living (ACL) offer several easy-touse online databases which can be used to locate these providers. Check out the following:

- Georgia Services for Seniors: www.georgiaservicesforseniors.org
- Georgia 4 Seniors: www.georgia4seniors.org
- Eldercare Locator: www.eldercare.gov

To learn more about your local Area Agency on Aging, call 866-552-4464 or 706- 210-2018 or log onto www.csrarc.ga.gov. To request a speaker, contact Jeanette Cummings at jcummings@csrarc.ga. gov.

<u>Taking Care</u>

Variety Abounds in Retirement Home Market

by LISA M. PETSCHE

Retirement residences are private pay, wellness-oriented facilities that enable active seniors to maintain or improve their independence and overall health. Their goal is to offer convenience, security, companionship and the opportunity to engage in



Lisa Petsche

a wide range of activities, according to personal choice.

However, they vary considerably in terms of price.

size, amenities and services, which can make choosing one difficult. Thus, it's important to go beyond location, curb appeal and ads and take personal tours. Visit several places, accompanied by a friend or relative. Prepare questions in advance and photocopy the list so you can take a fresh one on each tour and make notes.

The following are some questions to include.

Resident Suites

- Are a variety of suite sizes and styles available?
- Is there sufficient natural light from the windows, and do they open?
- What furnishings are provided? Can you bring your own?
- Does each room have an ensuite bath equipped with grab bars, a raised toilet and an emergency call bell? Is it wheelchair accessible?
- . Is there a kitchenette?
- Is there cable and phone hook-up?
- Is there a smoke detector and sprinkler in each room? An intercom system?
- Can you control the temperature in your suite?

Medical Services

- Are professional nursing staff on duty around the clock?
- there a staff physician who makes regular visits and is on call the rest of the time? Can you continue with your own doctor if you prefer?
- Is there pharmacy service? A medical room? Onsite capability for x-rays and lab work?
- What about podiatry (foot care) service, physiotherapy and outreach dentistry?
- -Is convalescent care (during acute illness or recovery from

surgery) available? If so, to what extent and at what cost? Can enhanced service be purchased on a longer-term basis?

Other Services

- Are three meals a day plus snacks included? Is there more than one sitting? Can special diets be accommodated? Is there a choice of entrees? Is tray service available when you're not feeling well?
- · Can visitors stay for meals?
- What is the frequency and extent of housekeeping service?
 Are linens and towels provided?
- Is there laundry service? Dry cleaning service? What about facilities for doing your own laundering (e.g. washing delicates, ironing)?
- Is storage space provided for seasonal items?
- Is there a lounge and kitchenette on each floor?
- · Are there guest suites?
- Is there a hair salon? Onsite banking? Mail service?
- Is transportation provided to shopping and appointments?

Recreational Activities

- What kind of weekly programming, special events and outings are offered?
- Is there a full-time, professionally trained activity director?
- Is a monthly newsletter or calendar of events distributed?
- Are friends and family members welcome to participate?
- Are there a variety of areas for recreation and socializing, such as: TV lounges, activity rooms, exercise room, workshop, craft room, horticultural center, hobby kitchen, games room, computer room, library?
- Are worship services offered? Is there a dedicated chapel?

The Premises

- When was the place built?
 Does it appear to be in good condition?
- Is it spacious? Clean? Bright?
- How many floors are there?
 What is the resident capacity?
- Are the furnishings and décor attractive and modern?
- Are there areas for relaxing quietly? What about for entertaining (a party room or private dining room)?
- Is the building fully air-conditioned?
- What kind of security measures are in place?

- Are the grounds nicely landscaped? Do they include benches? A furnished patio? Shaded areas? A residents' garden?
- Is there ample, free parking for residents and visitors?
- Which, if any, of the following are within walking distance: variety store, drug store, community or seniors' center, park, public transit?

Financial Considerations

- Are accommodation rates reasonable and all-inclusive? If not, what amenities are extra? How often do rates increase, and by what percentage?
- Are you required to sign a lease?
- · Is there a trial-stay plan?
- Can you set up a petty cash account, with regular statements?

Admission Criteria

- Are scooters and wheelchairs accepted?
- Are any forms of oxygen therapy accommodated?
- What is the smoking policy?

- Is a medical assessment required?
- What happens if your health declines significantly?

Accreditation

 Are state licenses and industry memberships displayed, and are the dates current?

Talk to some residents to find our how long they have been there and what they like or dislike. Stay long enough to get a feel for the place. Immediately following a visit, make detailed notes. Keep them in a folder, together with brochures, business cards and other relevant paperwork.

Before making a final decision, consider a weekend stay at the place that appeals most to you.

Lisa M. Petsche is a social worker and a freelance writer specializing in boomer and senior health matters. She has personal and professional experience with elder care.





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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.

A GRANDMOTHER'S PRAYER

by Shirley Glisson

Thank you Lord, for allowing me To play a brand new part. For joy and feelings all so new, You've placed within my heart.

Help me not to interfere, But be a helping hand. To be there when I'm needed, But never give commands.

As I look upon his face, And hold him oh so near. I'm reminded he's a part, Of one I love so dear.

Grandmother's role is a privileged

So help me Lord to take Advantage of each precious moment I pray, for Jesus' sake!

THE SWING

by Dot A. Jones

We have memories to share of just about everything. One special one is the endearing swing.

School yard swings, now a thing

of the past bring thoughts of reaching to the sky with dreams to last. Someone to push as higher we went, until tiring arms brought a descent.

A yard swing with slats of wood to sit in and watch as the world goes by, as the clouds overhead made figures in the sky. In the cool of the morning and evening time the swing brought leisure to life, as the chain needing oil brought a whine.

A porch swing was a joy to many. Young couples sat holding hands, stealing a kiss or two, hoping adults would stay inside, so in their reverie they could abide. Often, a young man brought a proposal and a ring, as he and his true love sat in the swing.

Swings are usually made with loving hands. A child is watching in joyful glee as the swing is hung from ropes in a tree. Maybe an old tire or a wooden seat, either was fine, as neighborhood children wound a path to it beat.

Older folks have shared many happy memories sitting side by side in the old wooden swing. Times spent with children on their lap, lulling them into a quiet nap. Sometimes, songs were sung or stories told as the swing rocked back and forth, soothing cares of life, removing stress and strife.

If you have never enjoyed a swing

in your life, you have missed so much. I recommend you acquire a swing and see what a difference it will bring. You will hear the birds sing, the crickets chirp, the croak of the frogs, the hoot of an owl. The world will be calm and you will feel close to God, as you listen to His psalm played out in the sway of the swing and lifted on an angel's wing. There is nothing like a swing, joy to bring.

WHERE I'M FROM by Kelly Baldwin

I'm from granite hills and whippoorwills.

I'm from slamming doors on the back porch.

I'm from black-eyed peas and grits and sardines.

I'm from rocking chairs and "I do declares."

I'm from railroad tracks and "that sure takes me backs."

I'm from brown eggs in the fridge and "come on, Little Pidge."

I'm from cheddar cheese and Russian iced tea.

I'm from a red brick house on Green Street. I came from all of these and all of these are what make me, me!

Georgia Council on Aging applauds Governor's Proposed Budget

In-Home Care Provides Critical Help for Georgia's Seniors

Atlanta, GA (January 11, 2017)

Submitted by DINA CONKLIN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT CSRA Regional Commission DCONKLIN@CSRARC.GA.GOV

Jovernor Deal's 2017 state budget proposal announced recently includes \$4.2 million in new funding for a program critical to Georgia's 1.3 million seniors. The program -Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) - reflects the budget recommendation made in the Fall of 2016 by Georgia's Department of Human Services. Seniors from across Georgia voted this program as a top priority for CO-AGE (the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly). In addition, the Governor earmarked \$750,000 in additional funding for

meals to fight senior hunger.

"We applaud the Governor for listening to our seniors." says Jeanette Cummings, CSRA Area Agency on Aging Director. "This age group continues to grow dynamically in Georgia; in fact, we have the 11th fastest growing senior population in the nation. Our waiting lists are long; thousands of our seniors and their caregivers need these services."

The HCBS funding covers home modifications and a myriad of other services, including home-delivered meals, adult day care, respite care, and more.

At this point, over 9,000
Georgia seniors are on waiting lists
for in-home services that would
allow them to stay home with support and save significant taxpayer
dollars. Sixty-six year old Michael
in Augusta, Georgia is a great example of how the HCBS funding benefits seniors locally. Michael has
Parkinson's Disease, and the new
grab bars in the shower – funded
through HCBS to the local
Operation Independence – help

make his life safer and more comfortable. He first noticed a problem when he started having trouble with his legs; he felt weak and unbalanced as a result, a very new feeling for him. He regrets having to give up his favorite pastime of fishing and other activities, but he's grateful for the home modification help he received that keeps him from worrying about falling and getting hurt.

For details on the two senior programs, reach Eric Ryan at 470-728-0989 or visit www.gcoa.org to learn more about Georgia's senior services.

The Georgia Council on Aging (GCOA)

The Georgia General Assembly was created GCOA in 1977 to advise the governor, assembly, and state agencies on matters relating to Georgia's seniors. Members of the 20-person council, drawn from every region of the state, also advocate for aging Georgians and their families and make recommendations to lawmakers and agencies on programs for seniors.

AGENCY ALERT: I Do NOT Remember Signing Up for a Store's Credit Card?

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

ave you ever felt you've been tricked into signing up for a store card, a recurring subscription



Kathleen Ernce

or some other type of payment you don't recall agreeing to?

While you may have complaints they are not always outand-out scams because the scammers tread

the thin line between legal and questionable. Have you ever signed up for what you thought was a "rewards card" when making a purchase, and thought you were getting an instant discount on whatever you happen to be buying? What you actually did was sign up for a store credit card, for which the clerk may earn a commission.

You may not mind this deception; but you deserve to know it's a credit card, not just a rewards card, before agreeing for the card. And don't forget whenever you sign up for a store card like this, it will automatically go on your credit record and could affect your credit score.

Other times, Internet users discover a surprising recurring charge appearing on their credit card account. This happened recently to one of my co-workers who was seeking contact details for a particular individual. He paid \$19.99 to one of the many online personal data providers to obtain the person's address and phone number. The following month, a recurring charge of \$19.99 appeared on his credit card for "membership" to the website.

He quickly visited the website and discovered that in setting up his account to get the original information he was seeking, he had become a "member" of the site and was now subject to the charge. We searched through the agreement but was unable to find any reference to how this happened. But rest assured, it was buried somewhere in the small print or the site's Terms & Conditions. Fortunately, it was easy to cancel the membership and stop further charges but I was still \$19.99 out of pocket."

According to Scambusters; many Internet users have fallen for similar sign-up ruses; such as, one individual trying to set up an online loan found that he had somehow agreed to a monthly \$14.99 payment to a third-party organization that provided information on loans.

Other victims include people who agree to take online surveys and when they click on a "Yes" response to a question, they're also signing up to pay a monthly fee.

This has even happened to people responding to telesales surveys in which victims subsequently discover either unrecognized charges on their phone bill or that they've been switched to another long-distance service provider – scams known as "cramming" and "slamming" respectively.

A recent news report told how one victim who discovered his service had been switched phoned the new provider to complain. They played back to him an earlier "survey" he had answered in which he could be heard simply grunting "Mmhmm" and, in so doing, seemingly consenting to the switch.

So how can you avoid getting trapped by this type of scam? Here are five important things you must do:

 Always read the small print, including Terms & Conditions, whenever you sign up for anything, whether it's on paper or online. Yes, this is tedious but it's the only way you can be sure of what you're agreeing to.

 Look for check boxes that already have a checkmark in them and read what you are effectively signing up for by default. And never click a "yes' box or say "yes" in a phone survey without thinking about what you're agreeing to.

If you are dealing with a company or service provider that's new to you, check out the company's reputation online.

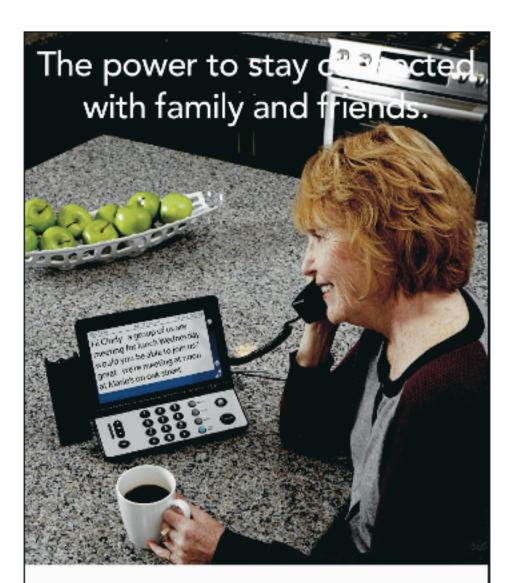
- 4. Use a one-off credit card number (also known as a virtual account number) to pay. Beware. Some card issuers do allow virtual numbers to be used for recurring payments, but they do allow users to set a maximum ceiling for any payment.
- Watch out for "Reward Card" come-ons in stores. If you're offered a discount for signing up, it's almost certainly going to be for a store credit card. Ask the clerk

for a copy of the signup form and then read it thoroughly before signing.

The incidence of these scams is on the rise, so always make sure you regularly check your credit card and phone bills – both for mobile and landline services, and immediately take action to dispute charges and cancel services.

And remember, it's easy to say "yes" in reply to a question but it can be difficult to undo the consequences of saying it. So, think carefully. You could be falling for a signup trick.

Information source: http://www. scambusters.org/recurringpayment. html



If you or someone that you care for have trouble hearing over the phone, Georgia Relay can help with services like Captioned Telephone (CapTel*). CapTel allows users to listen while reading every word the other person says on an easy-to-read screen.



CapTel is a registered trademark of Ultratec, Inc.

To learn how you can obtain a CapTel phone at low or no cost, call 1-888-269-7477 (Voice/TTY) or visit www.GeorgiaRelay.org today!

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Additional Senior Services & Events Information Available at www.seniornewsga.com

AUGUSTA/CSRA METRO AREA Senior Services & Events Directory For additional Services & Events listings, please visit our website at: seniornewsga.com.

The Senior Citizens Council 4210 Columbia Road, Suite 13A, Martinez, GA 30907; 706-868-0120 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 Suuport (CRRIS); Bill and Money Management (MAP); Senior Health Insurance and Education (SHINE) - the Center for the Prevention of Elber 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 "serve up to 20 hours a week with special needs children or adults." Call us at 706-868-0120 for complete details. The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) for individuals looking for "fun and rewarding ways to make a difference in the community" or just get out-of-the-house a few hours a month, RSVP recruits individuals age 55 and over for the opportunity to apply their skills, expertise, and experience to help meet critical community needs while meeting other likeminded folks in our community. RSVP pairs talented volunteers with a

variety of local nonprofit, health care,

governmental, and faith based organi-

zations to assist these groups with meeting the needs of those 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, cards, crafts, Bingo and travel? Interested in staying healthy and active? Tired of eating lunch alone? If you answered YES to these questions, then you need to check out a Senior Center near you!

- Blythe Area Recreation Department Patricia Strakosch; 3129 Highway 88, Blythe, GA 30805; 706-592-6668
- Carrie J. Mays Recreation Center Sheryl Jones; 1015 11th Ave., Augusta, GA 30901; 706-821-2831
- East View Community Center Roberta Sullivan; 644 Aiken St., Augusta, GA 30901; 706-722-2302
- HH Brigham Senior Center Heather Kooms; 2463 Golden Camp Rd., Augusta, GA 30906; 706-772-
- McBean Community Center Willamae Shaheed; 1155 Hephzibah-McBean Rd., Hephzibah, GA 30815; 706-560-1814 or 706-560-2628
- Sand Hills Community Center Lillie Rosier; 2540 Wheeler Rd., Augusta, GA 30904; 706-842-1912 or 706-842-1916
- New Bethlehem Community Center,

Millicent E. West; 1336 Conklin Ave., Augusta, GA 30901; 706-722-0086

- Bessie Thomas Community Center Jeff Asman; 5913 Euchee Creek Dr., Grovetown, GA 30813; 706-556-0308
- Burke County Senior Center Jackie Brayboy; 717 W. 6th St., Waynesboro, GA 30830; 706-437-
- Glascock County Senior Center Anita May; 568 Brassell Park Ln., Gibson, GA 30810; 706-598-3050
- Grovetown Senior Center Jennifer Thomas; 103 W. Robinson Ave., Grovetown, GA 30813; 706-

210-8699

 Betty Hill Senior Citizens Center Cathie Birdsong; 330 Waters Work Rd., Sparta, GA 31087; 706-444-7532 Harlem Senior Center

Tina Sidener; 405 B West Church St., Harlem, GA 30814; 706-449-8400

- Jefferson County Senior Center Marie Swint; 209 E. 7th St., Louisville, GA 30434; 478-625-8820
- McDuffie Senior Center Melinda Hill; 304 Greenway St., Thomson, GA 30824; 706-595-7502
- Jenkins County Senior Center Shirley Chance; 998 College Ave., Millen, GA 30442; 478-982-4213
- Lincoln County Senior Center Pam Parton; 160 May Ave., Lincolnton, GA 30817; 706-359-3760
- Sylvania Senior Center Cathy Forehand; 209 E. Ogeechee St., Sylvania, GA 30467; 912-564-7727
- Taliaferro County Senior Center Allene Oliver, 119 Commerce St., Crawfordville, GA 30631; 706-456-
- Warren County Senior Center Gwanda Murray; 48 Warren St., Warrenton, GA 30828; 706-465-3539
- Washington County Council on 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-
- Shiloh Comprehensive Community 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 &

902 Vaucluse Rd., Aiken, SC 29801; 803-642-7559; 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

Hearing Loss Association of

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.

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-

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.the morris.org.

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 Artrageous! Family Sunday: Lincoln's Tale: Sun., Feb. 5, 2 p.m.

continued on page 7

Missed your copy of Senior News?

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General Business Directory For Seniors

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> CALL: Mid GA: 478-475-9995 OR CSRA: 706-650-5760

To find a location near you, visit www.goodwillworks.org

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Bill Phillips 706-284-1635



EVENTS

from page 6

- Rhythm and Movement: Paintings by James Michalopoulos: Feb. 18-May 14
- Morris Museum of Art Gala. Purchase Tickets Today! Fri., March 3, 7 p.m.

Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art

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

Caregiver Support Group

Are you caring for a spouse or parent? Join other caregivers to share experiences, gather practical resources and find the support you need. The group meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Friedman Branch Library located at 1447 Jackson Road in Augusta. For more information contact Georgia Jopling, Caregiver Specialist, Area Agency on Aging, 706-210-2000 or 888-922-4464.

Augusta Museum of History

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

- Voices of the Past Museum Theater:
- The Other Tubmans: Sat., Feb. 11 · Voices of the Past Museum Theater:
- A Petersburg Boat Pilot: Sat., Feb. 18 Brown Bag Series: Edgefield, Town and County: Bettis Rainsford, Rainsford Development Corporation:
- President's Day: Political Buttons: Feb. 27
- New Version of the Museum Escape Program: Red Scare: Sat., Feb. 18 & 25; March 4, 11, 18 & 25; 11 a.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. \$20 per person; \$25 at the door; \$15 museum member.

Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History

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.

Fraternal Order of Eagles #1197

.......

1999 Scott Rd., Augusta. Like to dance – join us 8-12 p.m. every Saturday. Live country band. Cover charge \$5 at the door. Bingo: Sun., 1:30 p.m.; Mon. & Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Kitchen open one hour prior to Bingo. Steak supper 1st Sat. For details call 706-790-8040 or 803-270-0981.

AARP Augusta Local 266

There is more to AARP than a newspaper and a magazine. The local chapter meets at the Kroc Center, The Salvation Army, 1833 Broad Street, Augusta. For additional information or to join, call Mrs. Catherine B. Butler, Chapter President, at 706-854-0524.******

Al-Anon and Alateen Groups

Al-Anon and Alateen Groups meet in various locations in the CSRA Mon.-Sat. For information or a listing of meeting in the area call 706-738-7984. To locate meeting throughout Georgia call 800-568-1615.

Friday Night Dance

Every Friday, 8-11 p.m., American Legion Post 63, 90 Millege 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. *******

Pieceful Hearts Quilt Guild

Meets on Monday nights, 7-9 p.m., and Thursday mornings, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Martintown Rd., North Augusta. For details call 803-279-6456 or 706-790-4975.

Augusta Chapter Of The Embroiderers' Guild Of America

Meets First Mon. each Month, 6:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 3321 Wheeler Rd., Augusta. Additional information - Call Diana Parfit at, 706-513-5458 or email: dianalparfitt@gmail.com.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

Meets 3rd Tues., 6:30

p.m., Brandon Wilde Retirement Community, Evans. For details call 706-854-3591 or 706-854-3501.

CSRA Parkinson Support Group Meets monthly, St. John Towers Dining Room, 724 Greene St., Augusta. For details call 706-364-

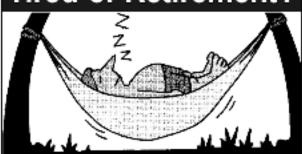
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On the Cover

Don't miss this Fantastic Art Exhibit!

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

Photos displayed with permission from Sacred Heart Cultural Center

Cover: Spring by Mary Ann Baggs



Katherine McCall Remembrance



Mary Ann Baggs, The Face



Jennifer Joseph, Winter Walk

Ley everyone, let's attend Sacred Heart Cultural Center's art exhibit, on view now until February 24th! This is a no charge show featuring four very talented artists and is an inspiring exhibit that we don't' want to miss. This exhibit will feature the artists, Mary Ann Baggs, Jennifer Joseph, Cissy Boyd and Katherine McCall.

Our first artist, Mary Ann Baggs, began art lessons at a very early age, then majored in art education at the University of Georgia and began teaching children's art at many centers. Today Mary Ann currently works in her studio. Mary Ann feels, "The world of art has allowed my life to fall into such pleasant places--especially the joyous and creative world of children. My paintings always seem to turn to living things, much color and in general things that might excite the imagination of a child." Mary Ann's paintings are indeed inspiring.

> Also on display, is the art of Jennifer Joseph, who always dreamed of becoming an artist and so she obtained a graphic design degree from Mississippi State University and later on became a freelance graphic designer. Jennifer explored painting later on in life and now in this exhibit, she demonstrates her remarkable skills using palette knives and brushes, abstracting her beautiful paintings.

Another artist, Cissy Boyd, explored her interest in oil painting as an adult while enrolling in an artist workshop in 2012. Cissy feels that her experiences as an artist have allowed her the freedom to discover her signature brushstroke and embrace her own personal style of painting. Cissy predominantly paints in oils and mixed media and feels, as an artist, that she ventures on a journey of discovery without end, constantly growing. "As an artist, painting provides a soulful retreat, giving time for reflection and an escape from the rawness and bustle of life," states Cissy. "With each new paint color created on my palette and subsequent brushstroke on the canvas, I am inspired and joyfully anticipate watching my



Cissy Boyd, Landscape

sketch come to life before my eyes." Cissy's paintings are vivid and remarkable.

Our last featured artist, Katherine McCall, has painted and done photography since childhood and focused on it as well as sculpture in college. She is well known for her depictions of the natural world and her photographs have been published in many magazines, including Augusta Magazine. Katherine works mainly with watercolors exploring the complexity of people, landscapes and cultures of the South.

So let's mark our calendars and be sure to bring our friends, grandkids, and neighbors to this exhibit at Sacred Heart Cultural Center in Augusta! Exhibit on display until February 24th.

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