

Senior News

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Information For Ages 50 PLUS!



December
Holidays are
Coming!

Story on page 5

December 2018
Vol. 32, No. 12

Taking Care

A Little Holiday Planning Goes A Long Way

by LISA M. PETSCHÉ

The holiday season is a hectic time for many of us, due to the preparations and festivities that typically take place. It's even more challenging, though, when you're caring for a relative with chronic health problems – a demanding role at even the best of times.

To keep stress manageable and make your holidays more meaningful, follow these suggestions.

Set realistic expectations, and be prepared to alter traditions. Keep it simple, and let relatives and friends know your needs and limitations. Decide what is really important to you, focus on that and forget the rest.

Set a budget for holiday-related expenses and stick to it. If finances allow, consider arrang-

ing for a housecleaning or a catered meal (or both) to save precious time and energy.

Whatever tasks you decide to take on, ask for help and delegate responsibilities. Make plans and start necessary preparations well in advance. Make lists to stay organized, and keep them handy.

Include your relative in preparations to the best of his or her ability. Contributing in even small ways – such as deciding what decorations to put where, or helping to select gifts from a catalog – will make your relative feel valued and create a feeling of partnership.

Reminisce to help you both get into the spirit of the season. Share special memories, bring out photo albums or home movies, and listen to favorite carols.

If you accept an invitation, do so on the condition that you may back out at the last minute if you or your relative doesn't feel up to the occasion. Take things one day

– and one event – at a time.

Give yourself permission to attend an event without your relative. If it's not feasible to take your relative with you but you'd really like to go and can arrange respite care, go.

Space out activities as much as possible by scheduling quiet days between busy ones.

Look after your health: get adequate rest, eat nutritious foods and try to fit in some exercise. A stationary bike or a treadmill is a good choice year-round, since it may be hard to get out for a walk, let alone to a fitness center.

Find something relaxing you can do to give yourself a break, whether it's quietly enjoying a cup of tea, reading something uplifting, writing in a journal, calling a friend or listening to some favorite music. Make it a priority to continue this daily time for you in the New Year.

Take responsibility for your well-being by doing something nice for yourself. Some caregivers treat themselves to a special gift at this time of the year.

Look for moments of joy in which to delight. If you slow your pace and keep your priorities in check, you'll be sure to find them.

Special tips for Alzheimer's caregivers

Keep decorations minimal and out of reach as much as possible if your relative is prone to rummaging or hiding things. Don't put out anything that's valuable or breakable, or that could be dangerous if ingested. Avoid lights that flash or play music, as well as sound- or

motion-activated items that can startle.

Schedule activities during your relative's calmest time of day. Generally, the earlier in the day the better, since behavior tends to worsen as fatigue sets in.

Stick to routines as much as possible to avoid anxiety and confusion.

Entertain at home rather than take your relative out to an unfamiliar place.

Keep gatherings small, to minimize noise and confusion for your relative. Otherwise, situate him or her in another room, and have guests visit one or two at a time.

If you're planning to go out visiting, ensure there's a quiet spot your relative can retreat to if he or she can't handle the stimulation.

Whether you're at home or out somewhere, be prepared for escalation of challenging behaviors and have a plan in place. If your relative is at risk for wandering or likes to rummage, enlist the help of a family member or friend to ensure he or she is occupied in a harmless manner while you're mingling or engaged in hosting duties.

Don't pressure your relative to participate in festivities. Previously enjoyed events may now cause distress if he or she doesn't understand what's going on or no longer recognizes family members and friends.

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

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ENOPION to present: A Nativity Story

Special to Senior News

Each year at Christmas, Arthur and Gladys Templeton place their Nativity Scene in front of the fireplace. It is a complete set with Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus, wise men, shepherds, an angel and animals. But this year the set is a little different. The angel doesn't quite look the same, some of the sheep are not there, a couple of figures have been replaced with "Non-Nativity" characters. But, the most precious figure of all in the set, is missing!

This one hour musical production is a wonderful story for the entire family. It will touch your heart this Christmas and remind you that Jesus is the reason for the

Season.

Show Dates:

- Saturday, December 1st: 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, December 6th: 7 p.m.
- Friday, December 7th: 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, December 13th: 7 p.m.
- Saturday, December 15th: 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, December 22nd: 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$10 adult and \$5 children. Our brand new Ivory Box Theatre seats 45. To reserve the full room for your group the rate is \$360.

Tickets are now on sale!

For more information, contact us at 706-771-7777.

Agency Alert

“Deeds & trusts can help avoid probate issues”

KATHLEEN ERNCE
Executive Director, The Senior Citizens Council Augusta, Georgia
kernce@seniorcitizenscouncil.org
706-868-0120

I know the holidays can be confusing with everyone rushing “to get things done!” However, now is the perfect time (with loved ones around) to discuss “getting our ducks in a row!” Many times children refuse to discuss the topic of “What happens when Mom or Dad is no longer around?” However, Here is a question: I live in a condo in a 55+ community and want to help my children avoid probate when I eventually pass away. What should I do?

A: Because of my mother’s foresight with this question we were about to take action that will spare us the expense and hassle of having to probate her home.

Everyone must remember that everyone's situation is unique and a newspaper column is not a substitute for the advice of an estate planning attorney. That being said here

are three good choices depending on your situation:

- The first choice is a Life Estate Deed, where property owners retain ownership of the home for their lifetimes, and when they die, the home passes to their choice of recipients without any further action being required. Simply, once the "life-tenant" passes away, the chosen person (or people), known as the "remainderman," automatically becomes the owner. The downside to this choice is that the chosen remaindermen are "vested," meaning their interest in the property is locked in and the remainderman must give their permission to the property owner to sell or even mortgage the property without the remainderman's consent.

- To fix this problem, an Enhanced Life Estate Deed was developed. This type of deed became known as a "Lady Bird Deed" following an article years ago illustrating its uses by a prominent Florida attorney. The name stuck, as did the document because of its usefulness. This type of ownership is very similar to a standard life estate, but the remainderman's interest in the property is not vested, meaning the homeowner can freely change his or her mind about

who takes the property afterward, and can sell or mortgage the property without anyone's consent. This flexibility can also be a downside, since some seniors are susceptible to influence and may be coerced into making changes that are not in their best interest.

- The final choice is to set up a Living Trust. This choice provides flexibility and is best for people with more assets to plan for. While trusts are almost all upside, the negative is they are significantly more expensive and complicated to set up

than either type of life estate deed.

We urge everyone to contact an Elder Law Attorney or an Estate Attorney to make sure what you want done is carried out when you are no longer around. For comments or questions, please call me at the number stated above.

Source: Gary M. Singer is a Florida attorney and board-certified as an expert in real estate law by the Florida Bar.



Kathleen Ernce

Augusta Mini Theatre to present “Sisters”

Special to Senior News

Tickets are now on sale for the Augusta Mini Theatre’s play, “Sisters.” The play will run January 18 at 8:00 p.m.; January 19, 20, and 21 at 3:00 p.m.; January 26 & 27 at 3:00 p.m.; and, February 16 and 17 at 3:00 p.m. The play will take place at the Judith Simon Studio on the campus of Augusta Mini Theatre, 2548 Deans Bridge Road, Augusta, GA.

Tickets are \$15.00 adults; \$10.00 students/children (ages 2-18) and senior citizens (ages 65 & up); and, \$8.00 for youth & senior citizen

(ages 65 & up) groups (10 or more in each group).

Two female teens, one black, one white. Both dealing with assault and racial bias, strive to become “Sisters.” The play showing that all humans are created equal and no one is created or less than.

For tickets or to make a donation call 706-722-0598 or visit www.augustaminitheatre.com.

Augusta Mini Theatre offers classes in African/Modern Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, Piano (ages 6-19) and Teen Pregnancy Prevention Workshop - Making Proud Choices (ages 14-19).

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Poets' Corner

THE INNER MAN

by Debra Schultz

*Timing is the path of your life,
who is steering?
What are you tuned in to?
Can you look beyond what is not
in your eyes?
Can you be used as an instrument?
Are you aligned, so the door can
be opened?
Act and His Will will be done
through you.
Act and He can and will have you
work for Him.
In the Spirit, He will call you to
be more effective.
Be not content or satisfied strive
to go deeper.
He dwells with you always, are
you listening?*

OATMEAL

by Mrs. Mildred Carter

*Oh, friend, some people have said
that oatmeal is good for our heart.
But I will tell you that the Word of
God is always very good for our
hearts, minds, bodies and our souls.*

THE LONG KISS OF GOODBYE

by Jennifer Gallagher

*I saw you in my dream last nite
To see you again is so rare.
I treasure your smile as you look
at me
And know as you hold me you
still care.*

*Our eyes met and hearts entwined
I love you still as I did before,
And I must be satisfied
To know you walk in my dreams
And share the Long Kiss of
Goodbye.*

CHRISTMAS FOR SENIORS

by Mary Elliott

*Christmas from the 60's and
beyond
Filled with memories of things
now gone
Even though things and people
are not still here
They pass through our memories,
year after year
The love we had won't fade away
God help me to keep the memories*

alive from day to day.

**THE THEORY OF COMMA:
WHAT GOES AROUND,
COMES AROUND**

by Sydney M. Carter, Sr.

*Sin causes a spiritual imbalance in
the universe. And until that breach is
repented of, the peace of your soul
will never be restored.*

PROUD

by Debra Schultz

*My tears flow because I am
protected by men and women
who know me not.
They stand in the gap for me and
our country.
I thank you for your allegiance
and sacrifice.
Bless the families who have lost a
brave soul for faces never seen.
Know that we see you, not by
name, but by the invisible shield
you put between the enemy and us.
Your service lets us rest our heads
on our pillows and wake up in
freedom.
Thank you is not enough.*

Disability and Experience: Where the Problems Really Exist

by **MARTY TURCIOS, MS**
Executive Director
Marty Turcios' Therapeutic Golf

My monthly column has focused on how disability affects the leisure frame-of-mind. Unfortunately, my experience as an individual with a disability as well as a health care professional serving other disabled individuals, continues to demonstrate that the perception of disability is much more crippling than the disability itself. The experiences that I have had to endure while growing up with severe Cerebral Palsy did not contribute to a positive growth pattern. Keep in mind that while growing up in the '60s and '70s, those with my degree of disability had been institutionalized and segregated away from able bodied children. Special education was provided in the private sector until the "mainstreaming" law was enacted in '74. Two to three years later it became necessary to provide resource classrooms in public education to help students with disabilities better adapt to the mainstreamed environment. Today with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, public entities are required to provide accessibility to all. This does not mean they also show respect.

Too many times have I been grilled in a golf pro shop because I was playing golf. Or, having to overhear someone complaining that he/she "had to let me out on the course" as if I couldn't hear! Try the humiliation of being told I need to show I had money and pay in advance before being served at a coffee shop. Even with the best education, having a disability often opens the door to being undermined with disrespect! Many have referred to me as an incredible golfer. Some have regarded me as the best athlete they ever knew. I did have the opportunity to do exhibitions at large tournaments and on the PGA Tour, but I was bothered by the fact that somebody else would be taking credit for my work and performance. Many have recommended that I should compete in the Special Olympics, which was designed for people with development disabilities. Technically, my condition is a developmental disability, however; I do not suffer retardation which is what the Special Olympics was originally designed to accommodate, therefore, I would be uncomfortable again being grouped with those who are mentally deficient. As a recreation therapist, I have coached quite a few Special Olympic athletes. Yet, while work-

ing with the Special Olympics I found myself working under coaches that had less experience and knowledge than me. I watched a coach working with an individual who had ADD, the same learning disability as Bubba Watson, of the PGA Tour. The coach told the individual that a lot of pros do not practice until getting ready for a tournament and that therefore the athlete should not practice. Not only was he unskilled as a teacher, but he also taught poor work ethics, which is the last thing you ever want to teach any beginning athlete. Again I was in a situation where I was simply not trusted as a professional. Social obstacles like these are all part of the self actualization process, yet many people with disabilities do not continue to participate due to this type of behavior. Our disabilities do not create as many problems as the way we are treated due to our disabilities.

Marty Turcios of Marty Turcios Therapeutic Golf which provides therapeutic at Wedges & Woods in Augusta, Georgia. Marty Turcios provides free therapeutic recreation to anyone with disabilities. Call (706) 854-0360 today and get out and play.

On the Cover

December Holidays are Coming!

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

The December holidays are finally here and they bring many festivities to the CSRA. It is a special month for reflecting, sharing, receiving, and enjoying time with friends and family. Every year, as the Christmas holidays approach, there are many unique and dazzling treasures and shows that are right here in our own CSRA.

This year again, The Guild of Sacred Heart Cultural Center will present the noteworthy Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, which will take place on December 4th, at 7:30 p.m., under the direction of Keith Shafer. It is based on the traditional English Christmas program that originated at King's College Chapel, Cambridge University, England. The



Rosie ready for the holidays



Gorgeous lights displaying at Winterland



Ice skating is fun for all

night will feature the choirs from the First Presbyterian Church, and readers from the community, choirs from Creative Impressions with Trey McLaughlin, artistic Director, a Brass Quintet and Percussion, and organist, Mark Dickens. Tickets are only \$20, and you can call for more information and reservations, at 706-826-4700. Get your reservation early, as you will not want to miss this event.

Remember Lights of the South? Well now, it is under new ownership and now the holiday festival is called Winterland. It is a Christmas extravaganza, and we can really enjoy the Christmas lights in Grovetown, and also get to enjoy ice skating at the ice rink in Evans, at 7016 Evans Towne Center Boulevard.

With the recent ownership change of Lights of the South and the new partnership with Augusta on Ice, a brand new identity is created which captures the magic of Christmas and holiday events. Winterland, which is Lights of the South, and Augusta on Ice, will have a two mile lights display; and, you can walk around the path and stop at many areas to view the gorgeous lights. Or you can catch the tractor pulled hay ride which is very fun for going in the dark area of the woods. There are also carriages to sit in and many areas for roasting marshmallows and s'mores stations.

We can have fun and a nice enjoyable time with friends and family and take Santa Claus photos.

There is a Candy Land and lots more. Winterland opened November 16th and will remain open until January 6, 2019. The fun starts at 6:00 pm. Get in the Christmas Spirit listening to

holiday music while walking through this spectacular fantasy forest of over 5 million lights! They are located off the I-20, Appling/Harlem exit 183 near Grovetown. The address is 633 Louisville Road, Grovetown, 30813. For more information call

706.556.6623 or visit www.visitwinterland.com.

So get ready for the holidays and make your plans and take part in sharing with family and friends this Christmas holiday!



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BBB Warning: Avoid these holiday scams!

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

Santa isn't the only one keeping track of who is naughty and who is nice! The Better Business Bureau is warning consumers to beware of these common holiday scams:

Be cautious shopping online: Because many retailers now have chip card readers, fraud at bricks-and-mortar stores is down, so scammers have shifted their efforts online. Use a credit (not debit) card online and only shop on secure websites. Look for https in the address (the extra "s" is for "secure") and look for a lock symbol.

Look-alike websites: When shopping online, make sure to use only legitimate websites. Watch out for URLs that use the names of well-known brands along with extra words.

Fake shipping notifications: These can have attachments or links to sites that will download malware on your computer to steal your identity and your passwords. Don't be fooled by a holiday phishing scam.

E-cards: Electronic cards can be great fun, but be careful. Two red flags to watch out for are: the sender's name is not apparent; you are required to share additional information to get the card.

Letters from Santa: Several trusted companies offer charming and personalized letters from Santa, but scammers mimic them to get personal information from unsuspecting parents. Check with bbb.org to find out which ones

are legitimate.

Emergency scams: Be cautious if you get a call from a family member or friend claiming to be in an accident, arrested, or hospitalized while traveling in another country or out of state. Never send money unless you confirm with another family member that it's true.

Phony charities: Everyone is in a generous mood at the holidays, so scammers take advantage of that with fake charity solicitations in email, on social media sites, and even by text. Check out charities at give.org before donating.

Temporary holiday jobs: Re-tailers and delivery services need extra help at the holidays, but beware of solicitations that require you to share personal and/or financial information online or pay for a job lead. Apply in person or go to retailers' main websites to find out who is hiring.

Unusual forms of payment: Be wary of anyone who asks you to pay for holiday purchases using prepaid debit cards, gift cards, wire transfers, third parties, etc. These payments cannot be traced and cannot be undone.

Free gift cards: Pop-up ads or emails offering free gift cards for surveys are often just a ploy to get your personal information that can later be used for identity theft.

Social media gift exchange: It sounds like a great deal; buy one gift and get 36 in return. But it's just a variation on a pyramid scheme and it's illegal.

Make your holidays merry

and bright by becoming informed on holiday scams and keeping your hard earned money in your pocket.

For more holiday tips from the BBB, visit bbb.org.

Kelvin Collins is President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving the Fall Line Corridor, serving 77 counties in East Alabama, West Georgia, Southwest Georgia, Central Georgia, East Georgia

and Western South Carolina. This tips column is provided through the local BBB and the Council of Better Business Bureaus. The Better Business Bureau sets standards for ethical business behavior, monitors compliance and helps consumers identify trustworthy businesses. 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.

The Augusta Museum of History presents the 12th Annual Holiday Gingerbread Village

Special to *Senior News*

A Visual Treat Presented by the Augusta Museum of History: The 12th Annual Holiday Gingerbread Village. A FREE Event!

Elf on the Shelf – Story Time

- Friday, December 7 at 11 am
- Friday, December 14 at 11 am

The Augusta Museum of History announces our holiday program: Elf on the Shelf. From December 20th to the 22nd, the Elf on the Shelf story will be read at the Museum. Afterwards see if you can spot our elf hidden in the exhibits! Tell our front desk staff, and a special treat awaits!

Elf on the Shelf is a holiday tradition where a scout elf flies back to the North Pole to report to Santa the activities, good and bad, that have taken place throughout the day.

Before the family wakes up each morning, the scout elf flies back from the North Pole and hides. By

hiding in a new spot each morning, the scout elf and visitors play an on-going game of hide and seek.

Please come and join us for this special treat for all ages!

ELF ON THE SHELF HUNT

- December 6-9; December 13-16; December 20-23
- Augusta Museum of History's exhibit Augusta Story
- Admission listed below

The Augusta Museum of History is located at 560 Reynolds Street in downtown Augusta. Please call (706) 722-8454 for more information or visit www.augustamuseum.org.

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Social media gift exchange is a pyramid scheme

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

It's back! Scammers are again taking advantage of holiday goodwill. One seasonal scam that has returned this year is a gift exchange; that's actually a pyramid scheme. Look out for this con on Facebook, Instagram and other social sites.

The scam works when you spot a friend's post on your Facebook or Instagram feed. It's inviting you to join a gift exchange, often called Secret Sister Gift Exchange, and it sounds like a great deal. If you buy one \$10 gift for a stranger, you will receive as many as 36 gifts back. Some people are even posting photos of all the gifts they have received in the mail.

This "gift exchange" is the latest version of a hoax that's been around for years. It's the same premise as a pyramid scheme and the pre-Internet chain letters. The idea is that you send money (or a gift) to the person

at the top of the list, cross them off, add your name to the bottom and send the list to more friends. Eventually, you hope, your name will be at the top, and you will receive all the money/gifts. However, the scheme relies on constantly recruiting new participants, making it mathematically impossible to sustain.

This may seem like a harmless hoax but just like any other chain letter that asks for money or items of value: they're against the law. The U.S. Postal Service considers them illegal gambling. That applies whether you get the request via postal mail, email, or social media. And another thing, some social media sites specifically prohibit users from engaging in such schemes. That means it could cause problems with your account and have your page removed.

Protect Yourself from Social Media Scams: Take the following steps to protect yourself and others from scam links shared through Facebook, Twitter and other social

media:

- Don't take the bait. If it sounds too good or outlandish to be true, it's probably a scam. Stay away from promotions of anything "exclusive," "shocking," or "sensational."

- Be careful of shortened links. Scammers use link-shortening services to disguise malicious links. Don't fall for it. If you don't recognize the link destination, don't click.

- Don't trust your friends' taste online. It might not actually be them "liking" or sharing scam links to photos. Their account may have been hacked or compromised by malware.

- Report suspicious links to the site. Whether on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, report any suspicious posts or activity to the site by going to their help link. Your action might save someone else from losing out.

The holidays bring out a lot of cheer and goodwill, but they also bring out scams and schemes that tend to separate you from your hard-earned money.

Take the time to check out anything that sounds too good to be true.

For more trustworthy tips, go to BBB.org.

Kelvin Collins is President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving the Fall Line Corridor, serving 77 counties in East Alabama, West Georgia, Southwest Georgia, Central Georgia, East Georgia and Western South Carolina. This tips column is provided through the local BBB and the Council of Better Business Bureaus. The Better Business Bureau sets standards for ethical business behavior, monitors compliance and helps consumers identify trustworthy businesses. 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.

The Augusta Chorale presents 36th Season CHRISTMAS CONCERT Featuring Robert DeCormier's "Shout for Joy" & Other Christmas Favorites!

Special to *Senior News*

The Augusta Chorale will present "SHOUT FOR JOY," a Suite of Christmas Spirituals by Robert DeCormier in its 36th Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 4:00 p.m., at the Gilbert-Lambuth Memorial Chapel of Paine College, Augusta GA, under the Direction of Dr. Phyllis W. Anderson, with Accompanist, Ms. Angela Arrington.

This event will provide an opportunity to showcase the talent of a local community choir. Mr. Brandon Ball guest Tenor soloist will inspire all who attend. The Aiken Civic Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Adam DePriest, will accompany the choir.

The concert will also feature Christmas Favorites,

selections from Handel's Messiah, "Amen" arranged by Jester Hairston, and, "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" arranged by Kirk Franklin.

The audience will be given an opportunity to sing carols with the Augusta Chorale. The concert promises to be a truly "marvelous" event.

Dr. Anderson, artistic director of the Augusta Chorale, will conduct the production and Ms. Angela Arrington will accompany the Chorale.

Advance tickets are \$15 for adults. General admission tickets on the day of the concert are \$20.00. Children and students are admitted free! Tickets may be purchased online at www.augustachorale.org or by calling (706) 830-0991.

For more information about the Augusta Chorale please call 706.830.0991 or 706.836.9426 or visit our Facebook page.

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Wreaths Across America at Andersonville National Cemetery Call for Volunteers

Special to Senior News

ANDERSONVILLE, Georgia

Andersonville National Historic Site invites you to remember and honor our military veterans during this winter season by participating in our Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, December 15, 2018.

At 12:00 pm the Civil Air Patrol will conduct a brief ceremony honoring America's armed forces in the Andersonville National Cemetery. This ceremony is open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring a wreath for placement on a veteran's grave. After the ceremony, attendees can help remember our fallen veterans by placing wreaths sponsored through Wreaths Across America on graves in the national cemetery.

Wreaths Across America is a national program that encourages individuals, community groups, and families to sponsor wreaths for placement in national cemeteries throughout the United States.

These wreaths may be placed on specific graves, or left undesignated to place on one of thousands of unvisited graves. Each year 500-3,000 wreaths are donated through this program for placement at Andersonville National Cemetery. The park is asking for your help in placing wreaths this year.

Our goal is to ensure that each of the more than 20,000 gravesites in the cemetery is decorated with a wreath at least once. To accomplish this, undesignated wreaths are placed sequentially and rotated from one cemetery section to the next each year. For 2018, undesignated wreaths will be placed in Section F, Civil War Section F, Civil War Section K, and the Memorial Section.

Beginning December 1, 2018, wreaths no larger than 20 inches and floral blankets no larger than 2 feet by 3 feet are permitted in the cemetery. Wreaths should be brought in person, or delivered by a florist, directly to the gravesite. To find the location of a specific grave, please visit <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov> or

stop at the National Prisoner of War Museum for assistance.

"During the rush of the holiday season, the annual Wreaths Across America event offers a moment to pause and reflect on the sacrifices made by our fallen military," said Superintendent Charles Sellars.

"For some, it is an occasion to cherish the memory of a loved one or an ancestor buried here at Andersonville National Cemetery. For others, it is a way to honor a fallen soldier who may no longer be visited by anyone. We encourage everyone to come out and be a part of this special observance in honor of the military men and women who are buried in our cemetery."

Andersonville National Historic Site is located 10 miles south of Oglethorpe, GA and 10 miles northeast of Americus, GA on Georgia Highway 49. The national park features the National Prisoner of War Museum, Andersonville National Cemetery and the site of the historic Civil War prison, Camp Sumter. Andersonville National Historic Site is the only national park within the National Park

System to serve as a memorial to all American prisoners of war. Park grounds are open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The National Prisoner of War Museum is open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., daily.

Admission is free. For more information on the park, call 229 924-0343, or visit www.nps.gov/ande/.

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AndersonvilleNPS or Twitter at www.twitter.com/andeNHS. NPS

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 409 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov. Visit us on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalpark-service, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice.

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