

Senior News

Serving AUGUSTA & the CSRA

Information For Ages **50 PLUS!**



*Say it with a song
this Valentine's Day!*

Story on Page 6

February 2012
Vol. 26, No. 2

Love Shouldn't Hurt —

by Marie Young of Walton Options
Member of the Elder Rights
Team of the CSRA.

Walton Options for Independent Living came out of a vision from the Director of Walton Rehabilitation Hospital to have available a continuum of services in the CSRA for persons with disabilities, which may begin with their entering a hospital or rehabilitation facility and ending with their living at home and independently in the community. But as many of us already know, far too many people with disabilities are vulnerable to physical, psychological and sexual abuse. So living independently is often the goal but fear of being hurt can be a barrier. Awareness of the problem is a step toward solving it. Empowerment is another step toward solving the problem. Teaching the tools to prevent abuse - violence - neglect is crucial to ending its cycle.

Approximately 9 years ago, a staff member by the name of Jean asked if she could develop and run a support/advocacy group for people with depression. The group met regularly and near the end of the first group cycle, it became overwhelmingly clear to Jean that there was a direct correlation between the

depression many of the group members expressed and the violence they had previously endured. Jean shared a very personal poem she had written years earlier with her group at their final meeting. It was entitled, "Love Shouldn't Hurt." From this another idea was born; why not offer the independent living's vantage point through a workshop?

A committee was formed and the first year, two workshops/seminars were held on or near Valentine's Day. All of the key stakeholders were invited and many either attended or actually spoke. Some of the organizations were: Safe Homes of Augusta, the Cumbee Center to Assist Abused Persons from Aiken, the Guardian Ad Litem Program, South Carolina Department of Social Services, DFCS, the Sheriff's Department and local public safety, Legal Aid, Counselors from the Center for Care and Counseling, and several others. Each year the program has refined itself. Somewhere along the way, another idea came to fruition.

The Vicky (or Victor) Victorious Award is given to the person/survivor nominated and chosen to represent someone who has not only survived, but thrived since the time of their abuse. The community relations representative from Build a Bear,

Lauren Hoffman, will be sponsoring the award this year. The idea originally was to have the winner keep the bear for a year and then present it to the next year's winner along with their personal journey story; however, it became quite obvious that the winners simply would not part with their award.

The workshops range in attendance from 15 to as many as 60 people. However, it is not the number of people who show up that drives this labor of love; it is the survivors, their stories, their courage and perseverance, and their support of one another that really makes this event so near and dear to our hearts. People with disabilities are much more likely to be abused for a longer period of time and to suffer abuse from more than one individual, many times their caregiver.

We here at Walton Options for Independent Living are committed to "empowering persons of all ages with all types of disabilities to reach their highest level of independence, community inclusion and employment." To truly be independent, we understand that a person must also be free from fear of abuse. Love Shouldn't Hurt is one avenue Walton Options takes to help educate others about this all too often silent epidemic. This year the event will be held

on February 14, 2012 from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. in North Augusta. Please contact Laura Smith at (803) 279-9611 v/tty for more information about how you can participate.

Letters Article Appreciated

Dear Publisher/Editor:

Just a note to say that, as long-time square dancers, we greatly appreciated the article about square dancing that was written by Carolyn Brenneman and which appeared in the January 2012 issue of Senior News, Serving Augusta and the CSRA. We congratulate Ms Brenneman for doing such a fine job of recounting the many health benefits and pleasures that are inherent to square dancing and that are enjoyed by all participating dancers, especially our empty-nested seniors. She did this by keeping the piece light, informative, interesting. As time and space may allow, we hope she will continue to explore and report on this family-oriented traditional American folk-dance recreation. We thoroughly enjoyed her work.

Dan and Mary Martin

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Poets' Corner

PRECIOUS GIFTS

by Nina Clauss

*Jesus said to me, I am the way,
Come early morning with Bible I pray.
Early morning when others are asleep,
His book I read, strength and courage
to reap.*

*At five A.M. the phone does not ring,
Concentration unbroken by anything.
I understand better, nothing to disturb,
My mind is ready to read God's word.*

*God is listening when we pray,
He answers prayers His own way.
It's not always what we want to hear,
We can trust His decision without fear.*

*We know our Father gave His own
son,
And by that gift our freedom was won.
Give problems to God and live with
out sin,
A home in Heaven our gift to win.*

*Unite with Jesus, and you will see,
Brothers and sisters in Christ you'll
be.*

THE VIRTUE OF LOVE

by Vera King

*Should I dare to
Attempt a love poem
One with no rhyme
Or reason for being
Except for its mystery
That mystifies the masses
The ecstasy of escape
The tenderness of togetherness
Where two are twined
For a lifetime of giving
And shared secrets bring bliss.*

SISTER

by Frankie Lee

*I have a sister. She is so great
And means the world to me
She is always there
In good and bad
No matter where I'll be*

*She is the youngest of us two
But oh so smart and wise
She is so beautiful too
My greatest gift since I was born*

Christine, that's who

*A sister is a forever friend
She is always in your heart
And makes your life so much richer
And missed when we are apart*

*I love my sister, she is my heart
I am so very lucky to
My greatest gift since I was born
Christine, that is you*



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90-2358

Staff Members Receive International Certifications

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



Jeanette Cummings
Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS).

The exam was hosted in Atlanta on October 20th by United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta. Jackie Sparks, Lead Information and Screening Specialist; Lee Walker, Education and Resource Specialist; and, April Young, Information and Screening Specialist, are now Certified Information and Referral Specialists - Aging (CIRS-A). The AIRS Certification Program awards professional credentials internationally to individuals who have demonstrated competencies in the field of information and referral (I&R) that include the knowledge, skills, attitudes and work-related behaviors needed by I&R practitioners to successfully perform their duties.

AIRS is the professional association for over 1,200 community I&R providers, primarily in the United States and Canada – which brings

people and services together. The certification demonstrates the Agency's quality assurance and strong commitment to constantly improve human service delivery.

To learn more about aging and disability resources or volunteer opportunities, contact the CSRA Area Agency on Aging at 706.210.2018 or toll free 866.552.4464 or log onto HYPERLINK "<http://www.AreaAgencyonAging.com>".



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AGENCY ALERT: Your New Year Money Checklist!

by KATHLEEN ERNCE
Executive Director
The Senior Citizens Council
Augusta, Georgia

We all could use a little help getting on and staying financially right. Here are 11 things to start 2012 off on the right financial foot.



Kathleen Ernce
Rebalance your portfolio. Making sure that your asset allocation is in line with your investment goals is an essential part of managing a portfolio. The beginning of the year is an opportune time to do it, and the process may take only a few minutes.

Track your spending

Whether you use a software program (such as Quicken) or pen and paper, you need to know where your money is going. Break your expenses down into categories – like utilities, insurance, entertainment, and clothing – to identify where you can scale back.

Set short- and long-term financial goals

Whether you want to be debt-free in 10 years or own a house in 5, you're more inclined to save if you have specific goals. So write them down and determine how much money you'll need to save each month to reach them.

Pay yourself first

Create a regular savings plan. Set up direct deposit from your paycheck into a savings account. You won't miss money you never see.

Enroll in automatic payment programs for bills when you can

You'll avoid costly missed payments, late fees, and negative marks on your credit score.

Work toward being – and staying – debt-free

Start by paying down bad debts, such as high-interest credit-card bills and non-tax-deductible debt.

Boost retirement savings

If you can't afford to max out your employer-sponsored 401(k) or SEP plan this year, try to contribute enough to receive the full company match. If you don't have a retirement plan at work, fund a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA and arrange

for contributions to be made automatically from your checking or savings account.

Review all insurance policies – home owner's, renter's, auto, disability, and life insurance

Are the limits adequate? Should the deductibles be raised? Is there a less expensive policy with similar coverage? Are you taking advantage of all the discounts offered to you by your insurance providers?

Check your credit report

Get a free copy of your credit report (the numerical summary of how much you owe and how promptly you pay your bills, which is examined by everyone from lenders to landlords) from annualcreditreport.com.

Make (or update) your will

This ensures that your personal belongings, assets, and investments go to the beneficiaries you choose.

Ramp up your emergency fund

Aim to sock away 6 to 12 months' worth of living expenses so that in the event of an emergency (a job loss, unexpected medical bills), you won't have to sell assets or rely on credit cards.

Spiritual Notes

Another Year Has Dawned

by Dr. Bill Baggett
Minister to Seniors
Dunwoody Baptist Church

2012 is underway with a vengeance! Presidential primaries are in full swing and all our New Year's Resolutions have been made and perhaps some broken already. News of conflicts around the world and at home continues to fill the pages of our newspapers as well as

the nightly news. It seems that in years past we could almost make the same observations. However, there appears to be more tension and "hatefulness" in today's world.

During the holidays I received an email from a friend that was a prayer written in January of 1874 by Frances Ridley Havergal. She was known to have lived the words before she wrote them. Her life was one of constant and complete commitment to God. As I read the

prayer I thought how different our homes, our neighborhoods, and world would be if we all prayed this prayer.

Another Year is Dawning

"Another year is dawning;
Dear Father, let it be in working or
in waiting, another year with Thee;
another year of progress, another year of
praise, another year of probing Thy presence all the days.

Another year of mercies, of
faithfulness and grace, another year of
gladness in shining of Thy face;
another year of leaning upon Thy
breast; another year of trusting, of
quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service, of witness
for Thy love, another year of
training for holier work above.
Another year is dawning; Dear
Father, let it be on earth, or else in
heaven, another year with Thee."

In my view, she has "covered
all the bases" for a committed life
with our Heavenly Father and to
serving others.

Dr. Baggett can be reached at
Dunwoody Baptist Church, 1445
Mt. Vernon Road, Atlanta, GA
30338; phone 770-280-1200.

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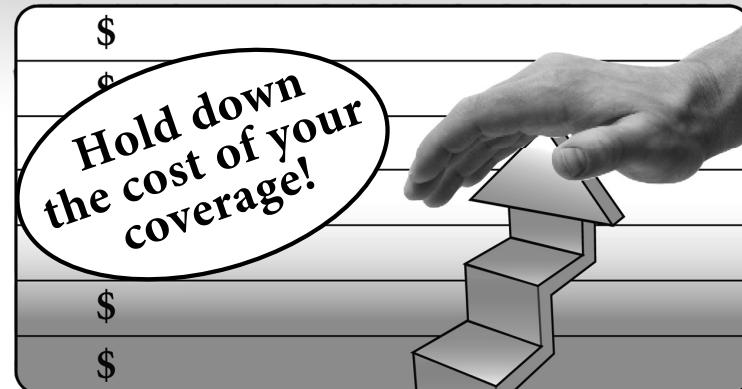
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On the Cover

Say it with a song this Valentine's Day!

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

Photos courtesy of Garden City Chorus

COVER

Left to right: John Phillips, Baritone; Dr. Joe Konzelman, Bass; Charles Youmans, Lead; Colonel Anthony Joyce, Tenor. The recipient is Beverly Weis.

On Valentine's Day, February 14, 2012, several barbershop quartets of the Garden City Chorus will fan out across Augusta and Aiken to deliver Singing Valentines to many special sweethearts. Breath-taking melodies will resonate in restaurants, homes, and offices throughout the area. Wherever the quartets appear, many will stop to listen and will enjoy the lyrical emphasis on heartfelt emotions of love and friendship.

For this special day, rather than cards, flowers or candy, why not try something different? Instead, tell

your sweetheart how you feel with a Singing Valentine. Each Valentine features a live Barbershop Quartet dressed in tuxedos, who will sing two love songs, and present your loved one with a long stemmed red rose. And they are all from the prestigious Garden City Chorus.

The Garden City Chorus is the Augusta chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, an international organization devoted to preserving and encouraging the barbershop style of singing. This chapter was formed in 1963 by a group of dedicated men who wanted to foster a cappella harmony and fill the rooms with beautiful music and harmonies. And so they do as we experience the energy and enthusiasm of the performers as they sing harmonies which evoke gentle emotions and memories from us.

Their current Director, John Phillips, is known as the consummate Barbershopper. They say he makes rehearsals fun as well as effective. "All the male singers must be involved aurally, visually, and



The Acometi Quartet performs for the audience.

physically in the musical process," says Mr. Phillips. The group delights in evoking strong emotions from their audiences as they sing melodious harmonies.

Teaching the men to sing a phrase musically is a priority for all directors. John always persuades singers to "move the phrase along," and "keep the forward motion or intensity going through the peak of the phrase." Says Phillips, "In an effort to keep things simple, I teach the philosophy of some of the world's greatest Barbershop singers – Sing from the heart, or nothing else matters." He teaches his singers to listen to each other as they sing and to actively participate in the performances by singing for the audiences.

The group performs several functions each year. Last May, they were well received at the perform-



2008 Chorus Photo from the Spring Dixie District Contest and Convention in Greenville, SC.



Quartet Performance to a healthcare provider at a local clinic.

ance at the Maxwell Theatre in Augusta for the 48th Annual Spring Show, "Happy Days are Here Again." This year, their 49th Annual Show will be a rare Fall performance, scheduled in September, when they will once again host the annual "Rally" of The Singing Colonels of the 7-state Harmony Brigade. Also, planning has begun on celebrating their 50th golden anniversary beginning with their Annual Show in May of 2013.

So why not listen to the thrill of beautiful barbershop harmony in a cappella style this Valentine's Day? The Garden City Chorus is the CSRA's Premiere Male Singing Organization.

Visit the group on Tuesday evening at 7 pm, at the North Augusta Church of Christ, 600 West Martintown Road, North Augusta. Also, check out their Facebook page and website at www.gardencitychorus.org or call 803.279.4198 for more information. "A beautiful memory is made with each passing chord as it is sung." – Director John Phillips.



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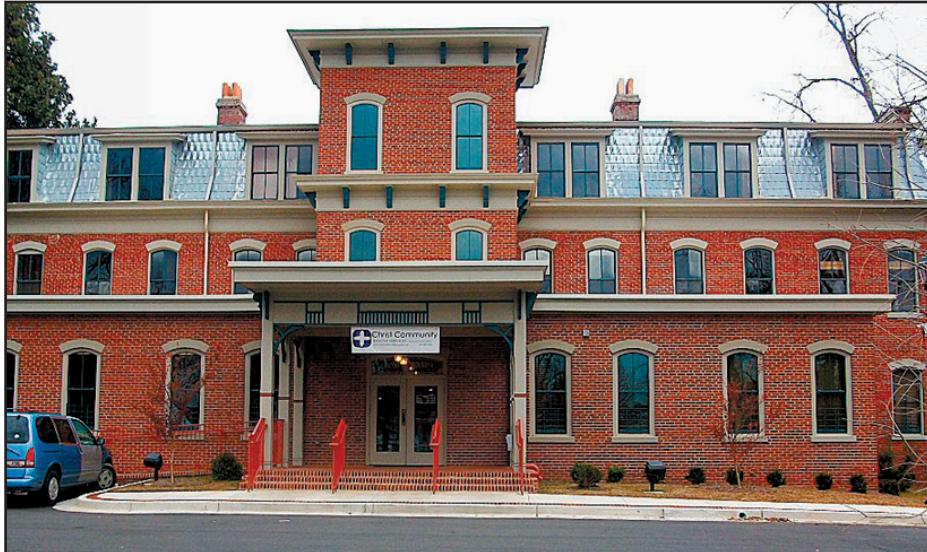
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The Heart of Our Community



The new clinic at the Widows Home on Telfair Street

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

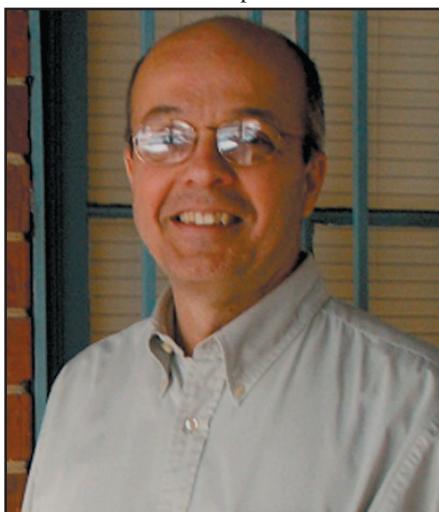
Photos by Carolyn

Christ Community Health Services Augusta is an independent Christian non-profit organization which provides affordable, yet high-quality primary healthcare, to the CSRA's insured and uninsured. About 70% of the patients have no health insurance," says Ron Skenes, Director of Communications and Development. "They are often employed full-time, working one or more jobs, but lack health insurance." Just what is the mission of Christ Community Health Services? "To proclaim Christ as Lord and to demonstrate his love by providing affordable high quality primary healthcare to the underserved of Augusta," says Ron.

And how did it all start?

In 2003, Dr. Robert Campbell and co-founder Dr. Grant Scarborough first met and later opened the doors to Christ Community in November 2007 on D'Antignac Street.

"They had a heart for reaching out to the underserved in the community," notes Mr. Skenes, "and wanted to provide for the community." A few years later, Clay Boardman donated the Widow's Home on Telfair Street to Christ Community Health Services on the condition that it be turned into a health clinic. Now, through the financial support of many donors and the dedicated work of countless of volunteers, the first floor of the clinic at the Widow's Home has been completely renovated. "We opened this new clinic last August and now have 12 exam rooms as well as a laboratory," says Ron. "And, last year we saw over 10,800 patients, of which 70% were without insurance. We now have 6 providers with 4 physicians who specialize in internal medicine or pediatric medicine



Ron Skenes, Director of Communications and Development

and two nurse practitioners."

And just who are these patients? "Everyone and anyone from infants through seniors," notes Ron. "The mission of Christ Community is to provide services to meet the physical and emotional needs of those who primarily lack health insurance to pay for services." Patients make appointments for health-related issues regarding physical problems such as high blood pressure or diabetes. "Our patients understand that the emergency room is not the right place to take care of these issues," Ron says. "We provide primary care, often for someone who has never had that before."

The new clinic has preserved and renovated the Widow's Home so that the original hardwood floors, as well as original brick work in the exam rooms, remain in order to keep the character of the original building intact. The 2nd floor of the clinic will eventually contain meeting and class rooms for the current physicians as well as the new residents completing rotations at the clinic.

As a primary healthcare organization, there is a sliding fee schedule based on household size and income starting at \$25 per visit. A large percentage of their revenue does come from University Hospital, other hospitals, and foundations, and some comes from individual donations. This last December, the Community Foundation for the CSRA awarded Christ Community Health Services Augusta over \$10,000 to

provide both of its clinics with cardiac testing and monitoring equipment. "We do everything we can to make it affordable for the patients," says Ron. Individual donations are always welcome and the clinic offers many ways for us to support CCHSA.

Just a few years ago, two doctors had a dream – to care for those in need regard-

less of ability to pay. Through the generous donations of individuals, foundations and the volunteer work by hundreds who donated services and time to a worthwhile cause, we have now the new clinic at the Widow's Home and the original clinic on D'Antignac Street. Christ Community Health Services is the heart of our community.

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Atlanta, Georgia –

Ever looked through a pair of field glasses or binoculars? Things look bigger and closer and much easier to see.

Georgia optometrist Dr. Brian Saunders is using miniaturized telescopes to help people who have lost vision from macular degeneration or other eye conditions. Dr. Saunders is one of only a few doctors who prescribe bioptic telescopes to help those who have lost vision due to macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and other debilitating eye diseases.

Here are some stories from Dr. Saunders' Low Vision patients:

Randall Day of North Georgia writes, "I am writing this letter to thank you for

changing my everyday living with the bioptic glasses. It has greatly changed my outdoor activities, as well as the things I do in the house – like seeing TV, the computer, and reading books. This letter can in no way explain the changes in my everyday living and no words could ever express my gratitude. I truly thank you."

"I wish to thank you for the telescopic lenses you fitted for me. The game plan of reading the Wall Street Journal and watching FOX NEWS at the same time is working perfectly. Thank you for a good job." J. W. Buckley.

Many states now allow the use of telescopic glasses to help meet the vision requirements for driving.

"After being diagnosed with macular degeneration... This vision loss caused me to be unable to drive unless conditions were perfect. Since obtaining my bioptic telescopic glasses from you, I am now



able to drive with confidence and security. I have gained back much of the independence I had lost thanks to you and your staff." H. H. Paul of Atlanta.

"Telescopic glasses can cost over \$2,000 says Dr. Saunders. Low vision devices are not always expensive. Some reading glasses cost as little as \$475 and some magni-

fiers under \$100. Every case is different because people have different levels of vision and different desires.

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- Fully Equipped Kitchens
- Oversized Bathrooms
- Large Walk-in Closets
- Water and Sanitation Included
- Garbage Disposal
- Mini Blinds
- Single Story, No Stairs
- Handicap Accessible

Community Features

- Community Center w/planned activities
- Individual Gardening Areas
- Gazebo with Flower Gardens
- Horse Shoe Pit

COME ON HOME!

Section 8 vouchers accepted and transferable from Georgia to South Carolina!

Equal Housing Opportunity

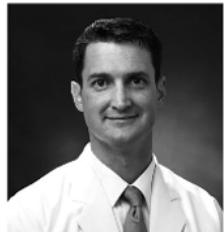
Vintage Gardens
At Sweetwater
3 Murrah Road Extension
N. Augusta, SC 29860
(803) 819-3139

Monday-Friday, 9 am-3 pm
Saturday, by appointment

EYE GUYS ADD ANOTHER GUY



WELCOME RYAN SMITH, M.D.



The newest EYE GUY, Ryan Smith, MD comes from Cincinnati, Ohio, where he worked in private practice as a Cornea and Refractive Surgery Specialist. Dr. Smith graduated from the University Of Cincinnati College of Medicine and completed his Internship in Internal Medicine at The Christ Hospital. Following his Ophthalmology Residency at the University of Cincinnati, he was selected for a Fellowship in Cornea and Refractive Surgery and studied with Durrie Vision at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He is Board Certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Smith continues the tradition of high quality professionalism and the latest medical knowledge for which the Eye Guys Ophthalmology Team is known. We welcome him and feel our patients will benefit greatly from his knowledge and experience.



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Augusta/CSRA CALENDAR

Augusta State University

Continuing Education

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The Senior Citizens Council

218 Oak Street North, Suite L
Augusta, GA 30907; 706-868-0120
www.seniorcitizenccouncil.org

The Senior Citizens Council is open Monday through Friday for the following services:

- Advocacy Programs including: Caseworker Services; Caregiver Support and Information; Bill Paying and Money Management; Benefits Counseling including information about the new Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans; and, Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Prevention.
- Foster Grandparent Program and Senior Companion Program: Limited income persons age 60 and older needed to work from 15 to 40 hours a week with special-needs children or adults. Call for complete details.
- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program: Are you looking for a fun and exciting way to make a difference in the community? RSVP offers persons age 55 or older an opportunity to apply their skills and experience to meet critical community needs. RSVP pairs talented volunteers with their choice of a variety of non-profit, health care, government, and faith-based organizations. Call for complete details.

For additional information or to make an appointment for a needed service, call 706-868-0120 from 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
Pat Jenner; 2463 Golden Camp Rd., Augusta, GA 30906; 706-772-5456
- 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, Inc.
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; 706-437-8007
- Glascock County Senior Center
Anita May; 568 Brassell Park Ln., Gibson, GA 30810; 706-598-3050
- Grovetown Senior Center
Betty Laverty; 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; 706-456-2611

- 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

continued on page 11



THE LEDGES APARTMENTS

- Quality, Independent Living For Seniors
- Must Be At Least 62 Years Old
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- Utilities Included In Rent
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General Business Directory For Seniors

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When you donate your clothing and household

items to Goodwill Industries, the merchandise will be processed by trainees and resold at Goodwill stores to fund job training and placement services for people with barriers to employment

YOUR TIME

Spend an afternoon, or a few hours each week giving back to the community. Make volunteering a part of your family activities.



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OR CSRA: 706.790.5350

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404-668-2420

CALENDAR

from page 10

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 held on the 3rd Monday, September to May, at First Baptist Church of Augusta. For information on the organization please contact Gloria Ireland, President, at 706-733-3034.

Hephzibah Lions Club

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 p.m., Jesse Carroll Community Center, Windsor Spring Rd., Hephzibah. For additional information contact Lion David Usry, President, at 706-592-2752.

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.

• *The Toe Tactic:* Feb 15th

Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art

Located at 506 Telfair Street, Augusta. Call 706-722-5465 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.

- Into the Interior: A History of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company: Ongoing
- Augusta's Story: Ongoing
- Celebrating a Grand Tradition, the Sport of Golf: Ongoing
- The Godfather of Soul, Mr. James Brown: Ongoing

"Dance with Us"

The Augusta Chapter of USA Ballroom Dance invites beginners to pros to our FIRST SATURDAY of each month social dance at

the Elks Lodge 205 Elkhorn Court Martinez Ga. Members, \$7; guests, \$10. No partner needed! Free dance lesson and a great food table. For a group of 6 or more first time guests we can make arrangements for you to come free.

For more information call John White at 706-595-7328 or email jwhite355@att.net.

Augusta Christian Singles Dance

Dances held each Saturday night, 7-11 p.m., at Ballroom Dance Center, 525 Grand Slam Dr., Evans. Admission includes complimentary dance lessons 7-8 p.m., refreshments and soft drinks. Cost: Guests, \$10; members, \$8. For additional information call Theresa Thigpen at 706-294-7195.

AARP Augusta Local 266

There is more to AARP than a newspaper and a magazine. The local chapter meets at Sands Hill Community Center, 2540 Wheeler Road, Augusta. For additional information or to join call Varnell Owens, Chapter President, at 706-790-4388.

Augusta Area Newcomers Club

The Augusta Area Newcomers Club is a non-profit organization that helps people who are new to the area get acclimated, make friends, and get involved with charitable organizations. We offer a variety of activities such as golf, book groups, and dining out. For information please contact hospitality@augustanewcomers.net or call Beth Karimi at 706-868-3668 or Esther Hatzigeorgiou at 706-495-9064.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group
Meets 3rd Tues., 7 p.m., Brandon Wilde Retirement Community, Evans. For details call 706-854-3519 or 706-854-3501.

CSRA Parkinson Support Group
Meets monthly, St. John Towers Dining Room, 724 Greene St., Augusta. For details call 706-364-1662.

Walton Rehabilitation Health System Offerings

- Augusta Stroke & Outpatient Support Group: 2nd Wed., Noon-1 p.m., Walton Rehabilitation Health System Board Room, 1355 Independence Dr., 706-823-5250.
- Brain Injury Support Group: 2nd Thurs., 6-7:30 p.m., Walton Rehabilitation Health System, Walton West, 2501 Center West Pkwy., 706-533-3094.
- Spinal Cord Injury Support Group: 2nd Thurs., 5-6 p.m., Walton Outpatient Therapy Center, 706-823-8504.
- Amputee Support Group: 3rd Thurs., Noon-1 p.m., Walton Rehabilitation Health System, 1355 Independence Dr., 706-823-8504.

Enopion Theatre Company Schedules Auditions

Feb. 16 - March 15, by appointment. For production of *The Prince is Giving A Ball*. Rehearsals begin March 22 & 23. Show dates are Aug. 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 & 19. For additional information and to make appointment, call 706-771-7777.

General Business Directory For Seniors

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<http://www.augustameditation.com/fboa.html>



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Burke County Historic Rehab Offers New Housing for Active Seniors



Located just north of the Waynesboro Chamber of Commerce at 201 Ward Street, lies Burke County's newest independent living community for individuals age 62 and older. The rehabilitation of the historic Waynesborough High School, in addition to twenty newly constructed apartment homes, has been developed into a beautiful apartment community now called Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences.

With a definite need for quality, affordable senior housing in the area, Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences is a welcome addition to the community. While former students and residents of Waynesboro may associate the building with arithmetic, grammar lessons, and the legendary Purple Hurricanes, those memories have now come to life in a beautiful place that can be called home. Marie Jones, a native of Waynesboro as well as a new resident to Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences, stated, "I absolutely love living at Waynesborough Academy. I feel very comfortable and safe in my new home. I enjoy everything the community has to offer."

The newly renovated community includes thirty-nine spacious one-and two-bedroom apartment homes with rents starting at \$300 per month. The square footage of the apartments varies from 656 to 950 square feet. Waynesborough Senior Academy focuses on an independent, active lifestyle hosting amenities such as a community room, fitness center, walking paths, a fenced community garden, an arts and crafts room, and computer workstations.

Waynesborough Academy features environmentally friendly apartment homes built with comfort and security in mind. Each apartment includes Energy Star rated modern appliances, energy efficient storm windows



Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

and ceiling fans. Patsy Burns, a resident of the community, recently relocated to Waynesboro from Augusta. Patsy has been extremely satisfied with her move to the new community. Patsy says, "I feel very secure living in this community. The architecture and the landscaping are beautiful. I am very proud to live here."

While the old High School has been fully renovated and reconstructed to fit apartment style living, many of the characteristics of the original school were preserved and restored, adding charm and character to the otherwise brand new interior. Chalkboards, along with other original interior structures such as wall paneling, and individual storage "cubbies" found along the hallways previously used for coats and books have been preserved. Memorabilia such as yearbooks, diplomas, and the wall of the original library with past student signatures is on display in the rehabilitated schoolhouse. Henry Tinley, a former student and member of the Waynesboro City Council, responded to the new community by stating, "It is a great way to preserve it and to help us keep our memories."

The apartment community was built by General Construction, Inc. based out of Norcross, Georgia. The equity for Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences was provided by Affordable Equity Partners Inc., of Columbia, Missouri.

The rehabilitation would not have been possible without the combined support of the city of Waynesboro, the Historic Preservation Commission and Georgia Department of Community Affairs. The community was developed by Bridgeland Development, LLC., of Atlanta, Georgia.

Gary Hammond of Bridgeland Development, LLC., stated, "I've worked with the neighborhood and city council to bring forth a project that will complement this wonderful growing community." Since 2000, Bridgeland Development, LLC., in partnership with Hammond Development, Inc., has developed both senior and family communities utilizing the tax credit program.

A ribbon cutting ceremony honoring Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences was held on Wednesday, December 7, 2011. Former student of the historic school, Jesse Stone of the Georgia State Senate, District 23, attended the ribbon cutting and served as the keynote speaker during the ceremony.

Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences is managed by Fairway Management and is actively leasing apartments. For more information on the community, move-in specials, or to schedule a private tour, please contact Sherri Chasm, Property Manager, at **706-554-5205**.

The above photos were taken outside the school in the 1950's.



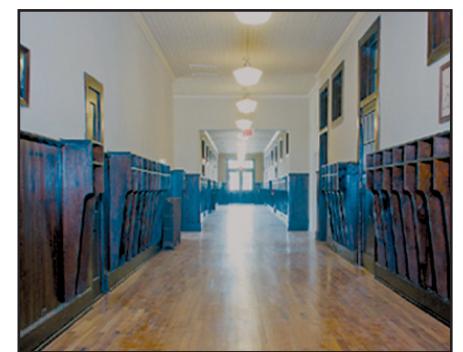
"I feel very secure living in this community. I love the architecture and the landscaping. The residents and other tenants are very nice and happy. I am very proud to live here."

Patsy Burns
Resident of
Waynesborough Academy
Senior Residences



"I absolutely love living at Waynesborough Academy. I feel very comfortable and safe in my new home. I enjoy everything the community has to offer."

Marie Jones
Resident of Waynesborough
Academy Senior Residences



Many of the historic interior features of the original school building were preserved and restored. You will find original elements of the school building throughout the hallways as well as the apartment homes.



Waynesborough Academy Senior Residences would not have been possible without the combined support of the City of Waynesboro, the Historic Preservation Commission and Georgia's Department of Community Affairs.