

# Senior News

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*Meet Brian Rust...*

*Augusta's Fine Artist!*

*Story on Page 7*

March 2013  
Vol. 27, No. 3

# Poets' Corner

Editor's Note: If you have written a "well-worked" poem which you would like considered for publication, please forward it to: Senior News, P. O. Box 8389, Warner Robins, GA 31095-8389. Please include your name and address on your poem. We will publish selected poems (or excerpts) as space permits.  
\*\*\*\*\*

## HOW QUICKLY TIME GOES BY

by Frankie Lee

*Times passes much to fast  
It seems so unreal  
You're young and energetic and  
having fun  
You think it will stand still*

*But soon the journey begins to  
happen  
And much to quickly too  
And you celebrate your 50th  
birthday  
Where did the time go by?*

*You never even though time goes  
away  
You only had fun and used to play  
The future, My God, seems so far  
away  
You really felt that time was on*

*your side  
Until this very day*

*A birthday and a card from AARP  
You look in the mirror  
And say, This can't be me?  
Where did it go, and how so fast  
I thought this youth  
Would last and last*

*And suddenly, here I am  
Feeling fine and well until  
I look out of my eyes  
And the mirror did tell*

*I am older not old, just older that's  
all  
I am wiser not shorter and just as  
tall*

*I think I look fine  
Different as I used to be  
But still the same person  
In the mirror looks back at me*

*It's funny we seem the same  
But know deep inside that we aren't  
We are now older and things have  
changed*

*Another birthday  
I should be glad  
But in reality  
I am a little sad*

*I wanted this life to last and last  
And now it goes by  
Not slowly but so FAST*

*I want my youth back  
And how it used to be  
And then I thank God  
For just being me  
\*\*\*\*\**

## NOBODY KNOWS

by Minnie Pearl Ellis

*Nobody knows what the Lord has  
for you.  
You just have to wait and see.  
You have to open up your heart.  
In order for the Lord to help you.  
You just have to wait and see.*

*My life was in a real mess.  
He came along one day and  
surprised me.  
He filled my heart full of joy,  
And saved my soul.  
That's what the Lord did for me  
that day.*

*Nobody knows.  
\*\*\*\*\**

## HOMeward BOUND

by Vera King

*"Welcome to my world" and  
The elderly masses of Medicare  
To the ramps and slopes for sliding  
On the slippery ice of age  
Like toddlers taking careful steps  
With approval hanging in the  
balance*

*Welcome to our wealth of wisdom  
Once sought by schools of knowl  
edge  
And now ignored for almost naught  
By well-meaning family members  
And high priced places of  
placement  
"While the days dwindle down"  
To the end of our days and nights  
For a far better place to abide  
And the Welcome Mat waits  
To welcome us back Home.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## ON GOD'S HEALING BALM WE CALL

by Henry N. Goldman

*When illness our frail form over  
takes,  
These mortals, some unknown  
sickness rakes,  
And no cure be found to heal our  
soul;  
Then to God we turn to make us  
whole.*

*Is this His way of testing us,  
To see if we in Him do trust?  
Or, is it some forgotten pledge,*

*Makes Him, remove from us His  
hedge?*

*If it be, Lord, I've failed some task,  
Then Your forgiveness I ask.  
Whatever the reason my illness be,  
I pray Your healing hand on me.*

*Only You can heal this weakened  
soul,  
May Your sweet balm this frame  
enfold.  
Give me strength and renewed  
health,  
Restore me Lord to my normal self.*

*And when Your healing is  
complete,  
And I'm once more upon my feet,  
I'll not forget Your lifting me,  
With all my heart I will praise  
Thee.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE PRECIOUS GIFT OF KINDNESS

by Frankie Lee

*Treat each day as a holiday  
And you will have the best year  
ever.  
Treat each word you say as special  
And your regrets will be almost  
never*

*Find the best in everyone  
And look only for the good  
In a long way you will shine  
Just the way you always should*

*Start the day with a smile  
And kindness in your step  
Makes you walk an extra mile  
Not shouldering any regret*

*Life is what you make it  
It is up to you  
In a long way what you reap  
Always comes back to you*

*Plant a garden filled with flowers  
Water it each day  
Fills your life with beauty  
As you go on through your way*

*Life goes quickly and things  
happen  
But what we feel makes it better  
It's about the heart inside  
That conquers any weather*

*Even if it's cold outside  
And you feel alone  
Make a special effort in life  
Pick up that phone*

*Call the ones you love so much  
Send a card or two  
Fill your day with kindness  
In everything you do  
In a long way what you reap  
Always comes back to you.*

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## Taking Care

# Attitude is everything as we age

by LISA M. PETSCHÉ

**T**here is no shortage of information in the media about how to improve your health through positive lifestyle changes such as eating more nutritiously, exercising and not smoking. Did you know, though, that changing your mental attitude can go a long way toward improving your well being?

Even if you do not consider yourself a naysayer, make it a point over the next few days to scrutinize everything you think and say; you might be surprised.

For instance, how much of your self-talk and communication with others contains the words “can’t,” “don’t,” “shouldn’t,” “couldn’t” and “never?” Do you frequently start sentences with “if only,” “I cannot believe” or “I hate it when?” And do you use phrases such as, “it’s impossible,” “I have not choice,” “that’s terrible” and “why me?”

Unfortunately, it is much easier to be pessimistic and critical of yourself, others and the world in general than to be optimistic and enthusiastic.

It does not help that the mass media thrive on disaster, failure and discord. All this publicity not only perpetuates the negativity but also creates more. And it is true that misery loves company: when we complain aloud, other people usually join in, reinforcing the gloom.

Negative thinking takes many insidious forms: doubt, worry, cat-

astrophizing (magnifying the importance of upsetting events), focusing on our own shortcomings or those of others, seeing only the flaws in proposed plans, dwelling on what we perceive to be lacking in our lives, approaching life from the perspective of entitlement (believing that we are owed certain things), denial, inflexibility, hopelessness, and regarding the world as an uncaring, even hostile place.

By-products of such thinking include self-absorption, depression, defensiveness, self-criticism, destructive criticism of others, sarcasm, distrust, blame, jealousy, bitterness, self-pity, avoidance, indecision, chronic complaining, low self-esteem, resistance to change, helplessness and passivity.

Negativity is harmful not only to your physical and mental health – generating stress that can lead to illness – but also to your spiritual well-being and the well-being of people around you.

### Accentuate the positive

Here are some ways to accentuate the positive instead:

- Limit your exposure to the news
- Use positive self-talk. Emphasize phrases such as “I can,” “I will,” “I choose.”
- Be generous with praise and encouragement and cautious with criticism (giving only the constructive type)>
- Cultivate a healthy sense of humor.
- Accept realities you cannot change and focus instead on those you can influence.
- Seek out inspirational stories of people who have beat the odds.
- Trust that there is a valuable

lesson in every type of adversity. And remember that no matter what happens, you always have a choice about how to respond.

- Stay connected to people who care. Minimize contact with those who are negative or self-centered.
- Find an outlet for expressing your thoughts and feelings, such as talking with a friend or keeping a journal.
- Pick your battles; do not make a major issue out of every concern.
- Do not dwell on past mistakes, hurts or other unpleasant events.
- Look for the good in people and situations. Demonstrate empathy; give others the benefit of the doubt and practice forgiveness.
- Do something you enjoy each day; read, listen to music or take up a hobby.
- Identify sources of stress in your life then eliminate as many as possible and learn to manage the rest. Practice relaxation techniques, such as deep breathing.
- Seek help from your primary physician or a counselor if you

continually feel sad, angry or overwhelmed. Depression is treatable.

- Let go of the need for perfection and be flexible about plans and expectations, Take things one day at a time.
- Be receptive to leaning new ways of doing things and try new activities.
- Practice random acts of kindness.
- Set aside some quiet time each day; it nurtures your spirituality and helps to keep you grounded.
- Finally focus on the good things in your life, such as supportive relationships, and seek beauty and tranquility through appreciation of various kinds of art as well as nature. Be sure to count your blessing and learn to live in the moment, enjoying life’s simpler pleasures. It makes for a happier and healthier you.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Lisa M. Petsche is a social worker and a freelance writer specializing in boomer and senior issues.*

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## Avoiding fraudulent tax preparers

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

**T**ax evasion scams, including fraudulent tax return preparation, cost taxpayers billions of dollars every year. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reports that criminal investigations into fraudulent tax return preparers continue to rise.

Dishonest tax preparers can commit fraud in a number of ways. They can claim inflated personal or business expenses, false deductions, unallowable credits or excessive exemptions on returns prepared for their clients. Fraudulent preparers also may manipulate income figures to obtain fraudulent tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Missing the signs that a preparer could be abusive could cause the taxpayer considerable financial problems. Some of the most common signs include:

- Claiming that they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers.
- Basing their fee on a percentage of the amount of the refund. Fees should be based on the complexity of the return, never on the size of the tax savings or refund.

• Claiming they can get you immediate payment of your return. Keep in mind that this is a loan. Fraudulent tax preparers often pad their pockets by giving cash up front at a high interest rate while presenting it as an instant refund from the federal government.

• Refusing to sign the tax return or provide the taxpayer a copy for his or her records. Always make sure that you have something in hand that shows proof of what transpired and you should have a receipt for services rendered.

Taxpayers should be very careful when choosing tax preparers. While most preparers provide good service to their clients, a few unscrupulous tax preparers file false and fraudulent tax returns and ultimately defraud their clients. It is important for taxpayers to know that even if someone else prepares their return, they are ultimately responsible for all the information on the tax return. The Better Business Bureau, along with the IRS, recommends that taxpayers follow these tips when hiring a preparer:

- Get referrals from satisfied clients and check their BBB Business Review.
- Ask the preparer about their training, experience and current knowledge of tax law.

• Find out whether the preparer has ever represented taxpayers in an audit, or has ever been denied eligibility to do so.

• Consider whether the individual or firm will be around to answer questions about the preparation of the tax return months or even years after the return has been filed.

Most importantly, taxpayers should always review their return before signing, ask questions on entries they do not understand, and get a copy of the return for their records. Finally, do not ever sign a blank tax form or one filled out in pencil!

For more trustworthy consumer tips, visit [www.bbb.org](http://www.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](http://www.bbb.org) or E-mail: [info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org](mailto:info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org) or [info@csra.bbb.org](mailto:info@csra.bbb.org).*

## Spiritual Notes

# Called to Discipleship

by **Dr. Bill Baggett**  
Minister to Seniors  
Dunwoody Baptist Church

**O**n March 17th many Americans will celebrate St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick is the Catholic Patron Saint of Ireland. Historians tell us that he was an Englishman who became a missionary to the people of Ireland.

There are many legends attributed to the saint. One of the tales was that St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland; when, in reality, there were no snakes in Ireland. There are other symbols that have

emerged around this celebration. The Shamrock is used to explain the Holy Trinity. The leprechauns, dressed in green, are tiny creatures with magical powers for good and evil. Popular food for this day is corn beef and cabbage as well as the green beverages.

Cities and towns around the world have created their own ways of celebrating this holiday. Rivers and streams are turned green, religious services are held by many faith groups, and numerous other activities are reported each year. St. Patrick's Day Parades are held in numerous cities, the first one in New York City on March 17, 1762.

While all the celebrative events and symbols are significant to the Irish and to descendants of Ireland worldwide, we should not forget Patrick's calling. His reason for being in Ireland was to convert pagans to Christianity. His sacrificial and selfless ministry was the reason for his ultimate Sainthood.

In the book of Matthew 28: 19-20, Jesus instructed His disciples to: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

I believe Patrick understood these words of our Lord and followed His command. There are many present day disciples, like St. Patrick, who are called to be missionaries in foreign lands. Obviously, we are not all commissioned into foreign service; however, we are called to be disciples of Christ. A disciple is defined as "One who subscribes to the teaching of a master and assists in spreading his teaching."

Enjoy Saint Patrick's Day and give thought and prayer to your personal discipleship.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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## AGENCY ALERT: The five most important accounts to examine every week!

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

**A** 2012 study from ACI Payment Systems found that 42% of Americans were victims of credit, debit or prepaid card fraud over the past five years.



**Kathleen Ernce**

Checking financial accounts and statements allows consumers to catch fraudulent charges sooner rather than later and helps individuals determine if

they're over budget according to MarketWatch senior consumer reporter Kelli Grant. The five most important accounts to examine every week are: credit card; cell phone bill; online checking account; retirement account; and, budget account software.

Grant says credit card companies offer the best consumer protections against fraudulent charges as federal law stipulates that consumers are liable to pay up to \$50 for fraudulent charges; however, the majority of credit

card issuers will delete suspicious charges if flagged.

Banks offer less-friendly consumer policies. An individual's liability for spurious debit card charges ranges from \$50 (if the problem is reported within two business days) to \$500 (two to 60 business days). Consumers are on the hook for all fraudulent charges if no documentation has been filed after 60 days.

A Center for Responsible Lending study determined that Americans age 18 to 24 pay nearly \$1.3 billion in overdraft fees every year compared to \$6.2 billion for individuals aged 55 and older. The typical overdraft averages \$20 to \$34, Grant notes.

Monitoring one's cellphone or smartphone bill online can prevent costly text, talk, and data charges. Most wireless carriers will send free text alerts to users if they are close to exceeding their cellular plan ahead of schedule; however, it is very easy to lose track of minutes and texts without monitoring.

Finally, individuals should track their weekly expenditures on budget accounting Web sites like Mint.com to get a complete picture of where and how they're

spending that hard-earned cash. These online sites allow users to review their balances and transactions for all accounts – credit cards and retirement accounts included – usually at no extra cost.

Grant says it's a good idea for consumers to look over their spending habits every few days to

see if adjustments need to be made and to prevent an extravagant shopping spree that may be regretted later.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Senior Citizens Council is located at 218 Oak Street North, Suite L, Augusta, Georgia 30907.

## CSRA Area Agency on Aging Information Sessions at KROC Center Augusta

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

**T**he CSRA Area Agency on Aging (AAA) staff invites you to join them once a month at KROC Center Augusta, 1833 Broad Street, for a 30-minute information session. The 30-minute session provides an



**Jeanette Cummings**

opportunity for attendees to hear about community resources and programs to keep their loved ones and them healthy and happy in their own homes and communities. The sessions are held in the Senior Lounge and offer a small, comfortable learning environment.

**Upcoming Session Dates & Time**  
 • March 18th: 1:00 p.m.  
 • April 25th: 12:30 p.m.  
 • May 20th: 1:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Lee Walker, Resource Specialist at 706.922.8348 or 866.552.4464. The CSRA Area Agency on Aging is a division of the CSRA Regional Commission.

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## Five easy steps to a low maintenance eco-friendly landscape

Gardening expert Melinda Myers provides a step-by-step plan to transform your landscape while saving time, money and a natural resource.

by MELINDA MYERS  
Gardening expert, TV/Radio Host,  
Author & Columnist

Photo by Melinda Myers, LLC



It's possible to create a beautiful landscape and be kind to the environment even with a busy schedule and while staying within budget. "All it takes is a bit of planning and a few low maintenance strategies," says gardening expert and author Melinda Myers.

Myers recommends these five strategies to create a low maintenance eco-friendly landscape this season.

### Be Waterwise

Save money on the water bill, time spent watering and this precious resource, water. Start by growing drought tolerant plants suited to your growing environment. Once established they will

only need watering during extended dry spells. Mulch with shredded leaves, evergreen needles, woodchips, or other organic matter to conserve moisture, reduce weeds, and improve the soil as they decompose.

Fertilize with a low nitrogen fertilizer, like Milorganite <<http://milorganite.com/>>, that promotes slow steady growth instead of excessive greenery that requires more water. Plus, it won't burn even during drought.

Put rainwater to work all sea-

son long by using rain barrels to capture rainwater off your roof or directly from the sky.

### Recycle Yard Waste in the Landscape

Minimize the amount of yard waste produced, reuse what can be in other areas of the landscape and recycle the rest as compost. These are just a few strategies that will save time bagging, hauling, and disposing of yard debris. And better yet, implementing this strategy will save money and time spent buying and transporting soil amendments, since it will be created right in the backyard.

Start by leaving grass clippings on the lawn. The short clippings break down quickly, adding organic matter, nutrients and moisture to the soil. Grow trees suited to the growing conditions and available space. That means less pruning and fewer trimmings that will need to be managed.

### Make Compost at Home

Recycle yard waste into compost. Put plant waste into a heap and let it rot. Yes, it really is that simple. The more effort put into the process, the quicker the results.

Do not add insect-infested or diseased plant material or perennial weeds like quack grass, annual weeds gone to seed, or invasive plants. Most compost piles are not hot enough to kill these pests. And do not add meat, dairy, or bones that can attract rodents.

### Manage Pests in Harmony with Nature

A healthy plant is the best defense against insects and disease. Select the most pest-resistant plants suited to the growing conditions and provide proper care.

Check plants regularly throughout the growing season.

It is easier to control a few insects than the hundreds that can develop in a week or two. And when problems arise, look for the most eco-friendly control. Start by removing small infestations by hand. Consider traps, barriers, and natural products if further control is needed. And as always be sure to read and follow label directions carefully.

### Energy Wise Landscape Design

Use landscape plantings to keep homes warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. Homes will have a more comfortable temperature throughout the seasons and energy costs will be reduced.

Plant trees on the east and west side of a house to shade windows in the summer and let the sun shine in and warm it up through the south-facing windows in winter.

Shade air conditioners, so they run more efficiently and be sure to collect and use any water they produce for container gardens.

Incorporate these changes into gardening routines and habits over time. Soon these and many more strategies that help save time and money while being kind to the environment will seem to occur automatically.

\*\*\*\*\*

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including *Can't Miss Small Space Gardening*. She hosts the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* segments which air on over 115 TV and radio stations throughout the U.S. She is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and writes the twice monthly "Gardeners' Questions" newspaper column. Melinda also has a column in *Gardening How-to* magazine. Melinda hosted "The Plant Doctor" radio program for over 20 years as well as seven seasons of *Great Lakes Gardener* on PBS. She has written articles for *Better Homes and Gardens* and *Fine Gardening* and was a columnist and contributing editor for *Backyard Living* magazine. Melinda has a master's degree in horticulture, is a certified arborist and was a horticulture instructor with tenure. Her web site is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).

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*On the Cover*

# Meet Brian Rust, Augusta's Fine Artist!

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

Images courtesy of Brian Rust

Cover: Expanding Leaf – digital photograph with kaolin and pigment

**R**ight here in Augusta, we have an impressive and gifted artist who creates for us magnificent pieces from his love and curiosity of natural materials and inspires many students who take one of his art classes at Georgia Regents University to focus their creative energy on the basic forms of natural architecture. Brian Rust, whose works of collages, drawings, large-scale sculptures, and installation pieces are displayed in many areas of the country, has taught at August State University, now known as GRU (the university's new name as of January 2013), since the early 1990s. Raised in Washington state, Brian came to Augusta after receiving his B.F.A. from the University of Washington in Seattle and his M.F.A. from the University of California at

Berkeley. Now, as the only full-time sculptor instructor at GRU, he teaches sculpture classes including 3-D design, bronze casting, sculptor installation, wood carving, and world multi-media, as well as art appreciation.

Although the vast majority of his students are art majors, many students are art minors or retired seniors, who take his classes for self-fulfillment for the sheer joy of creating art forms.

Brian is currently researching and trying new art forms. Although his early background is in ceramics, he has spent several years creating large-scale outdoor installations, creative sculptures and collages using natural materials, earth materials, and clays. Brian has a great love of natural materials and recently exhibited several collages at Sacred Heart Cultural Center. Many pieces are bird's nests, which were scanned into a large-scale scanner, thus creating a high-resolution digital image and printed on a large-scale printer. Brian then creates his collages and adds pigments, kaolin clay, and performs washes, thus creating unusual definitions to each beautiful piece.

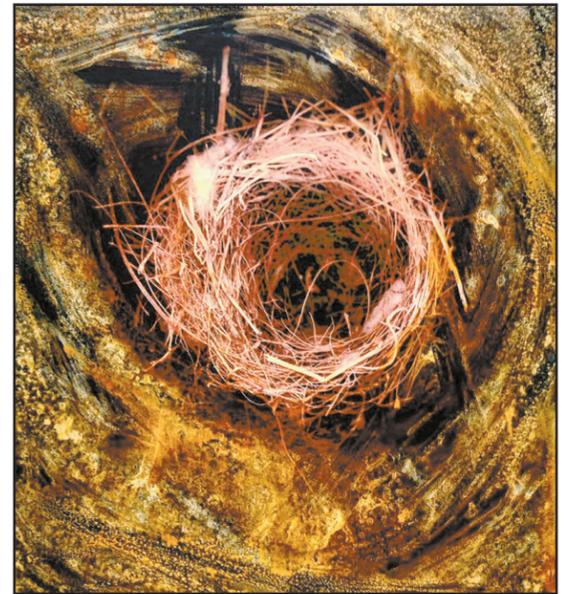
As part of his creative process, some projects take just a few days, while others can take several months. Brian never runs out of ideas or enthusiasm to create. In addition to his series of collages, including nests, he has recently created a series of found objects from old furniture, chairs, desks, tables and makes them into vertical and spiraling installations. We can visualize Brian in a forest creating environmental art made from the natural elements of the earth and created for a specific reason. "I like making things people will hang out in or



Resting Nest

pause to study because they seem mysterious," says Brian. "This is art that will return to the natural elements in time, back to the earth. My art allows me to explore impermanence and to make something that fragility is part of." We might have seen one of his outdoor works, "Stone Leaf" at the entrance to Bartram Trail off Columbia Road. Online, we can view his artwork at <http://brianrust.weebly.com>.

Brian's work has been exhibited in venues around the country, including the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia in Atlanta, the Henry Lay Sculpture Park in Missouri, the South Carolina Botanical Garden in Clemson, and Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. His works are currently on display at the



Rusted Nest, digital print, with pigment and clay

Madison Artists Guild, at Town 220, in Madison, Ga. Check out the pre-eminent art forms of Brian Rust!



Artist Brian Rust



Terra Mudra wood, with steel, paint

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Go Anywhere.

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Senior citizens age 62 or older are eligible to enroll in college full time and receive **free tuition**. Call us or stop by campus for more information.

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COLLEGE

A LIBERAL ARTS JUNIOR COLLEGE

## BBB advises consumers on handling debt collectors... both legitimate and phony

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

**C**onsumers who owe money or are behind on their bills may be legitimately contacted by debt collectors to pay off debts. The BBB warns consumers, however, that phony debt collectors are lurking. Collection agencies are consistently ranked in the top five in number of complaints received by Better Business Bureaus. With more than 15,000 complaints, consumers need to be aware of the best practices for when it comes to handling debt collectors.

Debt collectors seek to reclaim funds on past-due accounts on behalf of creditors, businesses or individuals. But, sometimes the "debt collector" calling turns out to be an identity thief who is trying to get you to divulge personal or financial information, such as your Social Security, bank and credit card numbers. Oftentimes, scammers will impersonate legitimate debt collectors to illegitimately obtain financial information. These fraudulent calls can be harassing and threatening.

Consumers need to know the red flags for fraudulent debt collectors. If the collector refuses to reveal the name of their agency or demands that the payments be made in cash or money transfer only, consumers need to report this immediately.

It's important for consumers to verify the alleged debt before taking action. The BBB recommends doing the following:

- Request written proof. Get documentation to help determine if the callers are actually identity thieves or if a debt is actually owed. By law, a debt collection agency must provide a validation notice within five days of contacting you about the debt. Within 30 days of receiving their validation notice, send the debt collector a written request to further verify the debt details. Do not provide personal or financial information unless the validity of the debt and the debt collector has been confirmed.
- Verify the legitimacy. Get the debt collector's name and contact information to research the agency further. Search on the Internet to see if they have a website or a BBB Business Review at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org). Cross-check contact information and call them using a phone number from a public or online directory. Verify that the representative who called is affiliated with the agency.

If you do not owe the alleged debt, the BBB recommends doing the following:

- Don't ignore the collector. It is best to respond immediately, even if you don't believe the debt is yours. Otherwise, the collector may continue contacting you or file a judgment.
- Don't pay. Do not claim a debt that isn't yours or make a payment on a bill just to make the collector "go away." Even just one payment can indicate that you are accepting the full responsibility of the debt. The invalid debt could also reflect as a liability on your credit report.
- Contest errors. If no debt is confirmed, contact any involved parties to clear up inaccuracies on your credit report, such as: the debt collector; the creditor or company claiming unre-

solved accounts; and the major credit bureaus. Write a detailed letter and include supporting documents to prove your case. The Federal Trade Commission provides additional resources for reporting errors on their website at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov).

- Check for identity theft. If contacted by a collection agency regarding erroneous bills or debts, it could be an indication of identity theft; an imposter may be using your identity to make purchases, open accounts and obtain credit. Review your credit report to quickly identify fraudulent activity or make corrections; visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) for a free credit report and get FTC advice for resolving specific identity theft problems relating to debt collectors.

The BBB recommends doing the following for debt you do owe:

- Know your responsibilities. It is not against the law for a debt collector or creditor to contact you regarding unpaid debts. Try working with them to resolve issues. Discuss doing a payment plan and request all promises and obligations in writing.
- Complain about abusive practices. Report harassment, threats and other

violations of federal telemarketing laws to the FTC. File a BBB complaint if you believe a debt collector is acting unethically. Also, research state laws on debt collectors, which may vary.

- Stop collector calls. According to federal law, a debt collector cannot continue to contact you — at work or home — if you tell them to stop. Write a letter stating not to contact you anymore. Save a copy of the letter then send the original via certified mail and request a return receipt. If a debt is owed, the collector or creditor can still take legal action to collect funds and may contact you to inform you of their action.

- Seek help for debt. Try using the BBB's free online program Managing Credit – Made Simpler at <http://www.bbb.org/credit-management> or find a reputable credit counseling firm at [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).

Know your rights. Review the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), which sets standards for collection agencies and prohibits abusive tactics. The FDCPA is enforced by the FTC and violations should be reported. Debt collectors:

- May not make false or deceptive

claims.

- Are not allowed to make idle threats, express or implied, or use abusive or profane language.
- Should not discuss consumers' accounts with unauthorized third parties.
- May not inaccurately report credit information and pressure consumers to pay debts they do not owe.
- Must investigate the validity of a dispute over a debt.

For more information on debt collection or any other topic, visit [www.bbb.org](http://www.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](http://www.bbb.org) or E-mail: [info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org](mailto:info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org) or [info@csra.bbb.org](mailto:info@csra.bbb.org).*

## "The Bible," a new mini-series begins March 3rd

Special to *Senior News*

**"T**he Bible" is an epic five-week, 10-hour television miniseries premiering March 3, 2013 on the History Channel from Emmy-Award winning husband and wife team, Mark Burnett and Roma Downey. For two hours each Sunday night, millions of viewers will see the Bible come to life in a way never before seen. The final episode of the series will air on Easter Sunday (March 31) and will feature the death and resurrection of Jesus. To help ensure the accuracy of the miniseries, many Christian scholars served as advisors and hundreds of

Christian leaders have given their endorsement.

"In terms of importance, nothing we've ever done, not *Touched By An Angel*, not *Survivor*, not *The Voice*, not *The Apprentice*, none of this could possibly compare to 'The Bible,'" Burnett says. "This is not a TV show to us. It's images, sound and sacred text that people will still watch, way after our grandchildren are old people."

Famed television producer Mark Burnett tackles his projects with passion, but "The Bible" is a special labor of love.

The 10-hour, five-part docudrama will span the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, presenting some of its best-known stories, including Noah's

Ark, the Exodus, Daniel in the lions' den and the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

Former *Touched By An Angel* star Roma Downey, Burnett's wife and fellow executive producer, heads a large international cast in the role of Mother Mary. Keith David, an Emmy winner for voice-over performances, will narrate with a musical score by Oscar-and-Grammy-winning composer Hans Zimmer.

Since the entire Bible can't be covered in 10 hours, the miniseries, which was filmed in Morocco, focuses on a select group of stories and features such compelling figures as Abraham, Moses and David. Some stories had to be compressed for artistic purposes.

### U•R•Ready for UniHealth Post-Acute Care - Old Capitol.

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310 Hwy 1 Bypass, Louisville, GA

# Augusta/CSRA CALENDAR

## The Senior Citizens Council

218 Oak Street North, Suite L  
Augusta, GA 30907; 706-868-0120  
www.seniorcitizenscouncil.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 Heather Kooms; 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 Euclaw 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 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; 706-456-2611

- 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.)

- 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

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## 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 Vacluse 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

\*\*\*\*\*

## Augusta Area Libraries

Headquarters Library  
706-821-2600; TTY: 706-722-1639;  
823 Telfair St, Augusta, Mon-Thu, 9-9;  
Fri-Sat, 9-5:30. Sun, 2-5:30

Adult Activities @ headquarters

- March 9th, 10:00-1:30 pm, Poetry Workshop With Lucinda Clark
- March 9th, 10:30-12:30 pm, Preparing Raw Food & Vegetarian Dishes. Sponsored by: The CSRA Vegetarian Society

- March 9th, Magnolia Civil War Cemetery Tour. Conducted by Russell Liner. We will tour the Civil War section and General's Row at Magnolia Cemetery and discuss the people who are buried there. Mr. Russell Liner, will lead the tour.

- March 21st, 6:30-8:45 pm, Book Discussion. It's Your Book Club. Will discuss: Dare Dream Do By Whitney Johnson. New members welcomed! "Diverse Dialogue with Passion"

- March 26th, 6:30-8:45 pm, Book Discussion. Talk the Talk Ladies Book Club. Will discuss: The Rapture of Canaan By Sheri Reynolds. New Members Welcomed!

Talking Book Center  
706-821-2625; 823 Telfair St., Augusta, Mon-Fri 9-5

## Augusta-Richmond Co. Branches

Appleby Branch Library  
2260 Walton Way, Augusta, 706-736-6244; Mon, 9-7; Tue-Fri, 9-5:30; Sat, 10-5:30

Diamond Lakes Branch Library  
101 Diamond Lakes Way, Hephzibah, 706-772-2432; Mon & Wed, 9-8, Tue, Thu & Fri, 9-5:30; Sat, 10-5:30

Friedman Branch Library  
1447 Jackson Rd, Augusta, 706-736-6758; Mon & Wed, 9-8; Tue, Thu, & Fri, 9-5:30; Sat, 10-5:30

Adult Activity  
• March 4th, 6:00-7:30 pm, Workshop: Tips for Successful Resume Writing and Interviews Job hunting? With

Jackie Brown, MBA  
Maxwell Branch Library  
1927 Lumpkin Rd, Augusta, 706-793-2020; Mon, Wed, & Fri, 9-5:30; Tue & Thu, 9-8; Sat, 10-5:30

Adult Activity  
• March 26th, Maxwell Morning Book Club, 10:00-12:00 Noon, Will continue the discuss: "The Island of Lost Maps: A True Story of Cartographic Crime" By Miles Harvey

Wallace Branch Library  
1237 Laney-Walker Blvd. Augusta, 706-722-6275; Mon & Wed, 9-5:30; Tue & Thu, 9-8; Fri-Sat, 12:30-5:30

## Computer Classes @ Wallace

- March 5th, 6:00-7:30 pm, Introduction to Computers
- March 7th, 6:00-7:30 pm, Introduction to the Internet
- March 19th, 6:00-7:30 pm, E-mailing for Beginners
- March 21st, 6:00-7:30 pm, Creating flyers & Business Cards

- March 26th, 6:00-7:30 pm, PowerPoint

- March 28th, 6:00-7:30pm, Introduction to Excel

Burke County  
Burke County Library  
130 Highway 24 South, Waynesboro, 706-554-3277; Mon, 9-8; Tue-Fri, 9-6; Sat, 9-1

Midville Branch Library  
149 Trout St., P.O. Box 428, Midville, 478-589-7825; Mon & Wed, 12-6; Fri, 10-6

Burke County  
Sardis Branch Library  
750 Charles Perry Ave., P.O. Box 57 Sardis, 478-569-4866; Mon & Wed, 12-6; Fri, 10-6

continued on page 10



## THE LEDGES APARTMENTS

- Quality, Independent Living For Seniors
- Must Be At Least 62 Years Old
- Rent Based On Adjusted Income (HUD Guidelines)
- Utilities Included In Rent
- Two Floor Plans – Efficiencies (Perfect For One) One Bedroom If You Need More Room
- Emergency Call Systems In Each Apartment
- Added Safety Features In Bathroom
- Elevators For Your Convenience
- Coin Operated Laundry Rooms On Each Floor

INDEPENDENT RETIREMENT LIVING IN THE HEART OF NORTH AUGUSTA WITHOUT LEAVING FAMILY, FRIENDS, COMMUNITY AND CHURCH AFFILIATIONS

Applications Taken at 550 Sikes Hill, North Augusta, SC



**803-279-1776**



## CALENDAR from page 9

### Columbia County

**Columbia County Public Library**  
7022 Evans Town Center Blvd  
Evans, 706-863-1946; Mon, Tue & Thu  
10-8; Wed, Fri, & Sat 10-5;  
Sun, 2-5

#### Computer Classes @ Evans

• March 6th, 10:00-3:30 pm, Computer  
Boot Camp Part 1, Must attend part 1  
& 2

• March 13th, 10:00-3:30 pm,  
Computer Boot Camp Part 2  
• March 18th, 10:00—12 noon, Out of  
the Box (for cameras). Learn how to  
use your digital camera.

• March 18th, 1:00-2:00 pm, Out of the  
Camera (for cameras). Learn how to  
use print & store your pictures.

• March 20th, 10:00-12:30 pm,  
Microsoft PowerPoint

• March 20th, 1:30—3:30 pm,  
Microsoft Excel

#### Eucler Creek Branch Library

5907 Eucler Creek Dr., Grovetown,  
706-556-0594; Mon-Tue, 10-8; Wed,  
Thu & Fri, 10-5; Sat, 10-4

#### Adult Activities

• March 14th, 1:00 pm, Come and join  
Michele Lewis with our Genealogy  
Club.

• March 28th, 10:30 am, Eucler Creek  
Morning Book Club

#### Harlem Branch Library

375 N. Louisville St., Harlem, 706-556-  
9795; Tue, 9-7; Wed & Fri, 1-6;  
Thurs., 1-7; Sat, 9-1

#### Adults

• March 21st, 4:00 pm, Harlem  
Afternoon Book Club

#### Lincoln County Library

181 North Peachtree, P. O. Box 310,  
Lincolnton, 706-359-4014; Mon & Thu,

9-6; Tues, 9-7; Wed, Fri & Sat, 9-4

#### Warren County Library

10 Warren St., Warrenton, 706-465-  
2656; Tue, 10-8; Wed-Fri, 10-6; Sat, 9-3

#### Free Tax help is available at the following library locations:

• Headquarters Library, (March-April  
12th), Every Wednesday, Thursday &  
Friday, 9:00 AM-3:30 PM

• Maxwell Branch Library, (March-  
April 3th), Every Thursday, Friday &  
Saturday, 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

• Evans Library, (March-April 11th),  
Every Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00  
AM—3:00 PM

• Eucler Creek Library, (March-April  
15th), Every Monday, 10:00 AM—4:00  
PM

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Academy for Lifelong

**Learning, USC-Aiken**

Information: 803-641-3288

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Hearing Loss Association of Augusta

Meetings are held on the 3rd  
Monday, September to April, at  
University Hospital, 1350 Walton Way,  
Dining Rooms 1-6.. For information on  
the organization please contact Gayle  
Tison, President, at  
<http://emptyg3@knology.net/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 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](http://www.the)

[morris.org](http://morris.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art

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

• Mahera Khaleque: *Restoration*, On  
exhibit through April 25

• Agnes Markwalter Youth Art  
Competition and Exhibition: Through  
March 28

• Seventh Annual Spring Artists'  
Market and Festival: March 15-22

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Caregiver Support Group

Are you caring for a spouse or parent?  
Join other caregivers to share experi-  
ences, 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 con-  
tact 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.

• *Southern Litature*: March's Brown  
Bag History Series Lecture: Wed.,  
March 6, 12:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Lucy Craft Laney

#### Museum of Black History

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### "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 Elkdom Court Martinez Ga.

Members, \$7; guests, \$10. No partner  
need! Free dance lesson and a great  
food table. For a group of 6 or more  
first time guests we can make arrange-  
ments for you to come free.

For more information call John  
White at 706-595-7328 or email  
[jwhite355@att.net](mailto: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.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge 1197

1999 Scott Rd., Augusta. For activities  
and events information call 706-495-  
3219.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 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

continued on page 11

# General Business Directory For Seniors

**CASKETS & MORE STORE**  
**Now In Our New Location**  
**1819 Walton Way • Augusta**

Great Savings on a Large Selection of  
Caskets, Monuments and Grave Markers!  
**Direct to the Public!**

**706-738-2999**

"Specializing in all types of grave markers and coping"

**HANDYMAN JACK**  
~ Home Maintenance & Repair ~  
~ Appliance Repair Too ~

call  
**803-270-2414**

**BIBLE BY PHONE**  
**FREE DAILY BIBLE READINGS -- NKJV**  
**706-855-WORD**

Augusta 706-855-9673  
Aiken 803-442-9673  
Thomson / Lincolnton 706-541-3639  
Daily Word • P. O. Box 1234 • Evans, GA 30809

**Goodwill NEEDS YOU!**

**YOUR DONATIONS**  
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.

**CALL: Mid GA: 478.957.9741**  
**OR CSRA: 706.790.5350**

To find a location near you, visit  
**[www.goodwillworks.org](http://www.goodwillworks.org)**

**SENIOR SITTERS of the CSRA, LLC**  
Elisabeth Young, RN  
**803-640-3503**

**"Safe at Home"**

**Non Medical In-Home Care...** Familiar surroundings enable a greater quality of life and help our seniors retain their independence. **Therefore**, we strive to provide quality care to enhance the lives of you and your loved ones in the privacy and comfort of their own home. We conduct background checks on caregivers, are licensed and insured, and locally owned.

**Services Provided**

- Companionship
- Meal Preparation and Light Housekeeping
- 24-Hour Care
- Personal Hygiene/Bathing
- Medication Reminder
- Post-Surgery Assistance
- Transportation
- And Much More
- Personal Grooming

—Hospital, Nursing Home and other Facility Care Available—  
**Call Today to Schedule an Appointment for an In-Home Assessment!**

**Change Your Water...  
...Change Your Life!**

Clean out acid and toxins on the cellular level and have a healthier, vibrant body at any age!

**Dr. Hiromi Shinya says:**

1. Drink the right water
2. Eat 85% vegetables/fruits
3. Exercise
4. Stay happy

To learn about the right water go to  
**[www.ILoveGoodWater.info](http://www.ILoveGoodWater.info)**  
**404-668-2420**

## CALENDAR from page 10

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

### 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.

### 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.

### Phinizy Swamp Events 706-828-2109

#### Find Your Voice

Aiken Toastmasters meet on the first and third Thursday of each month, 6:45 p.m., at Odell Weeks Center on Whiskey Road in Aiken. Guests are always welcome. For additional information call 803-648-7833.

#### DBSA (Depression Bi-Polar Support Alliance)

Meets the 3rd Tues. of every month at 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church of Augusta, Walton Bldg., Room 105., 3500 Walton Way Ext., Augusta. Call 706-722-0010 for complete details or the Friendship Center (see Augusta phone book for number).

#### 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

Anyone with an appreciation of embroidery is welcome. Chapter consists of women with diverse backgrounds, experience, and ages who share an interest and pleasure in needlework. Meetings include a review of local needlework activities, some hands-on stitching, refreshments, and socialization. Meets the 1st Mon. of each month at Alliance Missionary Church, 2801 Ingleside Dr., Augusta. For additional information call Natalie Farrell at 706-736-5508.

#### 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 706-364-1662.

#### Rape Crisis and Sexual Assault Services Seeking Volunteer Advocates

Seeking volunteers for Richmond, Burke, Jefferson, and McDuffie Counties. Advocates answer crisis calls and respond to hospitals in their area

within 30 minutes. Please contact 706-774-2746 or email volunteerrcsas@uh.org for more information.

#### ENOPION Theatre Presents *The Story of NOAH and his Great Big Gopher Boat*

March 14, 15 & 22 at 7 p.m.; March 16 at 3 p.m. & 7 p.m.; March 21 at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m. Appropriate for all ages. Complete details available at www.enopion.com or 706-771-7777.

#### "Boots on the Ground" America Remembers Traveling Memorial

Walk or drive along 1.5 miles of "Boots on the Ground" stretching from the corner of historic downtown Fernandina Beach to the Atlantic Ocean. Memorial to include over 7,000 boots, photos, and flags honoring post 9-11 fallen oif-oef U.S. Service Members and the brave firefighters and police officers of 9-11. Sponsored by "Mothers of America's Fallen, Spc. Kelly J. Mixon Foundation." For addition information concerning the event and your participation, contact Julie Mixon Barger on at 904-468-0733 or at juliebarger@mothersofamf.com.

# General Business Directory For Seniors

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# Enjoy the Amazing Acoemeti Quartet!

by CAROLYN BRENNEMAN

Photograph by Carolyn

**T**he Acoemeti Quartet, an a cappella group, musically amuses and entertains its audiences with a very diverse repertoire from many of the well-known songwriters in music history. This barbershop quartet presents pop standards, vocal jazz favorites, gospel and inspirational songs, doo-wop, and patriotic tunes for all to enjoy. They have been entertaining audiences of all ages and groups all around the CSRA for the past five years with over 100 appearances in the four counties. They entertain at special events, local fairs, office parties, holiday parties, weddings and receptions, luncheons at the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, patriotic events and special community events.

The Acoemeti Quartet is part of the Barbershop Harmony Society, an organization devoted to promoting and preserving barbershop music and a cappella music. Members include Dr. Bob Reichl as lead, a retired Colonel from the US Army and currently an Assistant Professor at GRU College of Dentistry. Harry Kline, takes on as the group's tenor, and

he has sang in many choruses, choirs and family barbershop quartets for many years. He joined the Barbershop Harmony Society in 2007 and blends in well with the group. Bob Green takes the lead as bass, and performs well with the group. Bob is presently a pilot with the Site Security Force at the Savannah River Site and has been actively involved for over fifteen years in PAX, an Academic Exchange program for foreign high school students from all over the world. And, of course, there is our baritone, Jim Fernstrom, a retired Vice President of Thermal Ceramics in Augusta. Jim joined the Garden City Chorus in 2000 and currently enjoys singing a cappella with the group.

So, just where did this group get its name, Acoemeti? Well, it's actually from the Greek word, akoimetal, which means "without rest or unceasing." This group of four professional singers decided



The Acoemeti Quartet (Left to right) Harry Kline, Dr. Bob Reichl, Bob Green, Jim Fernstrom.

on the name since they delight in the pure joy of singing four-part harmony. They can entertain your group or perform at many functions

around town. To find out more about Acoemeti, email [acoemeti@mail.com](mailto:acoemeti@mail.com) or call Bob at 706.831.1579.

## Southern Literature March's Brown Bag History Series Lecture at the Augusta Museum of History

Special to *Senior News*

**A**s part of its continuing Brown Bag History Series, the Augusta Museum of History presents,

Southern Literature a talk given by Mary Lin Maner, on Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 12:30 p.m. Her talk will highlight many of the talented authors and the unique content that distinguishes the literature of the

American South. Characteristics of southern literature include a focus on a common Southern history, the significance of family, a sense of community and one's role within it, a sense of justice, the region's dominant religion, issues of racial tension, land and the promise it brings, a sense of social class and place, and the use of the Southern dialect.

Ms. Maner is the Columbia County Libraries Manager. Ms. Maner is the Columbia County Libraries Manager. She was born and raised in Martinez. She graduated from the University of South Carolina, with her Masters and Specialist degrees in Library Information Science. Ms. Maner currently lives in Evans with her dog, Mocha.

The Brown Bag History Series is an educational lecture series provided monthly by the Augusta Museum of History, and is an ideal lunch-time break for downtown professionals, retirees, and students. The lectures are free to Museum members and \$3 for non-members. Participants should bring a lunch and the Museum will only be providing beverages. Lunch can begin as early as 11:30 a.m.; the lecture runs from 12:30-1:00 p.m.

Augusta Museum of History, the only Museum in the CSRA accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, was established in 1937 for the purpose of preserving and sharing the material history of Augusta and the region. From a 10,000 year-old projectile point to a 1914 locomotive, to James Brown memorabilia the collections chronicle a rich and fascinating past. The museum is located at 560 Reynolds Street in downtown Augusta. Please call 706-722-8454 for more information or visit our website [www.augustamuseum.org](http://www.augustamuseum.org).

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