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## HOA COMMUNITY & AREA NEWS AND INFORMATION

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### Central Savannah River Area – On the Move

We live in exciting times and beautiful surroundings and the picture just keeps getting better. Recently, Southern Living Magazine listed Augusta as number three in a fifteen city survey of “best place to retire” in the United States. Also, in an October 2016 article, Kiplinger personal finance magazine placed Augusta as number five in its “twelve great places to retire for good health”. Let’s consider three interesting developments in sports entertainment, health care, and business growth.

1. You may know that North Augusta is close to commencing construction of a major development project along its border to the Savannah River. Following a significant and time consuming governmental process, the Project is closing-in on final approval. Known as “Project Jackson” this development is scheduled to commence construction in March of 2017.



The Project, envisioned as a nearly self-contained village, with streets and landscaping, will include, as its anchor, a new baseball stadium for the Augusta Greenjackets. There will also be an amphitheater along the river bank, a large hotel, which will include a conference center, a number of retail buildings, including restaurants, and office and apartment buildings. The 4,500 seat stadium will resemble the lay-out of the San Francisco Giants (the Greenjackets parent) stadium, with the right field seats running along the Savannah River. As with the Giants’ stadium, it is anticipated that long home runs could go into the river, where kayakers will be awaiting the retrieval of the ball. There will also be a café-type

eating area along the right field line. A grassy area will adjoin the left field line, which could include a children’s play area. There will be garages and a parking deck to accommodate the fans and visitors to the complex. The initial phase of Project Jackson will be a 270 unit apartment complex and a 125 unit senior living facility. The stadium is expected to be open by April 1, 2018!

2. Turning to the very important topic of our medical care, both in terms of quality and availability, we are blessed. There are four full service and well regarded hospitals in Augusta. Among these, we are privileged to have a first class academic health center, the Augusta University Medical School and Health Center. Recently, the University Hospital System was recognized as one of the nation’s safest hospitals (measured by how well the hospital protects patients from errors, injuries and infections) with an “A” rating. Also, University Hospital received the CSRA’s 2016/2017 Consumer Choice Award by the National Research Association, grouping it with other outstanding hospitals that health care consumers choose in recognition of their quality and image. Additionally, the Augusta University’s Heart and Cardiovascular center is a nationally accredited chest pain center. This center is the home of Georgia’s first level 1 trauma center. “Excellent” is the word that best describes our medical services arena.



3. As for the economic picture, consider the rapid growth of the cybersecurity profession in our area in recent years. The local U.S. Army base of Fort Gordon is now the home of the Army Cyber Center of Excellence. This relatively new military branch will bring several thousand highly trained military and civilian personnel to our area. This growth, in turn, will predictably bring numerous private contractors specializing in this same discipline. “What’s



certain is there is going to be a lot of cyber jobs coming behind Gate Number One at Fort Gordon. . .” said Tom Patterson. Patterson is the head of global cybersecurity sales at Unisys, which is hiring 700 technicians at its Augusta offices. Additionally, Augusta University is rapidly expanding its education and training in the cyber

field, including a “state of the art” cyber lab. It was recently recognized as a National Center of Academic Excellence in cyber defense education by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security. Joanne Sexton, director of the Augusta University Cyber Institute, recently reflected that “our institution has become a national leader in cybersecurity education.” Augusta University recently announced that it will partner with

Fort Gordon to share resources, knowledge, training and research in this rapidly growing profession.

The continuing movement of cybersecurity and other high-tech workers to the Augusta area has often been called a “game changer” to our economic picture. One observer likens this industry’s emergence in our area to the status of the textile industry in our area in the past two centuries. Whether entrepreneurs, small partnerships, or larger corporate entities, the “cybersecurity game,” with its countless high-tech disciplines, is “on” in Augusta.

Our aim is to keep you abreast in the future of the many facets of our exciting life in the Central Savannah River Area.