

Columbus Named #1 Place for Single Senior Citizens

Posted: March 3, 2009 05:30 PM EST



By Taylor Barnhill - [bio](#) | [e-mail](#)

COLUMBUS, GA (WTVM) - Columbus seems to receive a lot of unique awards and today living in the Fountain City in your golden year's just got a little bit more interesting. The city has been named "The Number One City for Single Senior Citizens" by U.S. News and World Report. News Leader Nine went searching for the reasons why.

Life-long resident, Henry D. Collins said, "I've been to other places, especially Colorado with my daughter who's trying to get me to stay there, but I keep coming back to Columbus, Georgia."

Columbus has several assisted living and senior communities, but that's just one of the many reasons people over 65 are flocking to the area.

Calvary Community's Site Manager, June Wilhite told News Leader Nine, "We like Columbus because it's a nice sized city, big enough and small enough. It has most anything you need. It's accessible to bigger cities if you need it."

Wilhite says people wanting to live in Calvary Community are all looking for something different in a city, "One thing we've observed is Ft. Benning is a big drawing card. Lots of people have lived here through the years because of their association with Ft. Benning and many times when they retire they return because they liked Columbus."

Collins added, "We began to grow and have a lot of things people enjoy like sports and the arena."

And some seniors chose the area because of variety in entertainment. We spoke with Elfrieda Steakley, who stays active by going to movies and dinners with her friends, "Downtown there's nice places you can go. We sit out there in the summertime, so it's picked up big time."

U.S. News also pointed out that seniors might be drawn to the area because it is a college town and where is a lot to do and tuition is often discounted for people over the age of 60.

