

how old I am until confronted with certain reminders that have nothing to do with ageism and everything to do with age.

For instance, I can't leave the house without my reading glasses; worse, I waste several minutes a day looking for them.

I can still drive a car at night, but I don't look forward to it. By 10 p.m., I'm ready for a nap, not a highway.

That's not ageism. That's age.

I once considered myself athletic. Today, the muscles refuse to perform, the joints refuse to loosen, the reflexes refuse to snap to.

It's not ageism, it's age.

Not too many years ago, I received a copy of Playboy every month, and the first thing I turned to was the centerfold.

These days, I receive AARP Magazine every month. The first thing I turn to? The crossword puzzle.

That's not ageism, ladies and gentlemen. That's age.

I'm not yet so old that I'm afraid to purchase green bananas. However, a few months ago, a friend in his

deplete the ranks.

South Carolina's woes mirror the Guard's nationwide, where

Stan Spears, the Guard's commander.

On the Guard's Air Force

the war spurs its citizen-soldiers to retire sooner than they had planned, said Brig.

Officials say they will keep a close eye on two of the Guard's largest units that went to Iraq last spring. Nearly 1,000

GEORGETOWN COUNTY CULTURE

