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Calendar

Jan. 24 – Car seat safety check at Midway Fire Rescue, 1-4 p.m. See page 11.

Jan. 28 – Get your Real ID from the SCDMV at the Litchfield Exchange, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See page 10.

Jan. 28 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

Jan. 29 – Blood drive at the Waccamaw Library, 12 -5 p.m. See page 5.

Feb. 4 – Special Election for Georgetown County Sheriff. See page 7.

Feb. 11 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse.

The Georgetown County Chronicle



A monthly e-newsletter produced by Georgetown County, S.C., for its residents and visitors.

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County receives APWA reaccreditation

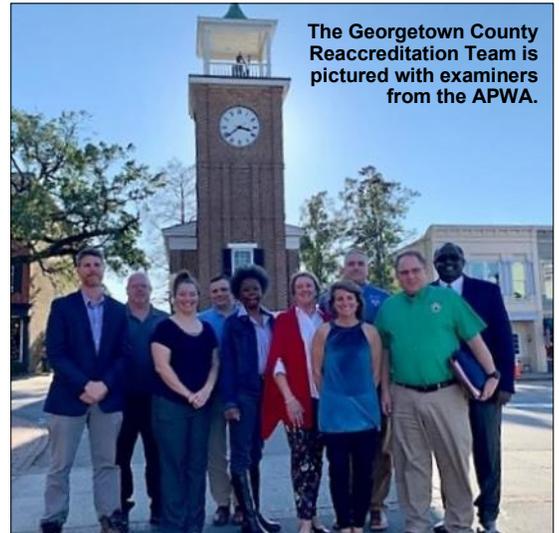
Following a process that lasted nearly a year and a half, the Georgetown County Public Services Department has received reaccreditation from the American Public Works Association.

Examiners from the APWA spent a full day on site in Georgetown last week, scrutinizing more than 150 of the department's standard operating procedures and accompanying policies. It was the final component of an arduous process for reaccreditation, and the Georgetown County Public Services Department passed with flying colors. Not only did it achieve a score of 100 percent, but the county was commended for three of its best practices:

- Development of a comprehensive safety manual,
- Development of a countywide asset management system, and
- A policy that has managers review proper personal protection equipment usage annually with staff.

"This is no small feat," said Ray Funnye, director of the Georgetown County Public Services Department. "This shows our department is operating at the highest standards, going well beyond standard requirements. Only five such agencies in South Carolina are accredited by this esteemed international organization. Georgetown County was only the second in the state to receive accreditation back in 2011."

The APWA serves the United States and Canada.



The Georgetown County Reaccreditation Team is pictured with examiners from the APWA.

"Thank you for perpetuating what right looks like," said John Lawlor, part of the APWA examination team, upon announcing the reaccreditation.

The APWA accreditation program recognizes governmental agencies that go beyond the requirements of the management practices established in the public works industry. The program involves a self-

See "Reaccreditation," Page 3

Kilcullen selected as county's new Finance Director

Ed Kilcullen, who has served as Georgetown County's accounting manager for more than a decade, was announced this month as the Finance Department's new director. Kilcullen will replace Scott Proctor, who will retire on Jan. 31. Proctor has been the county's Finance Director since 2004.

Kilcullen joined Georgetown County's finance team in 2009. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Internal Auditor with substantial experience in governmental accounting. Prior to coming

to work for the county, he worked on the finance teams of the Medical University of South Carolina and the City of Charleston, among others, and was Deputy Finance Director for Berkeley County.

"Ed is an excellent fit for this



Kilcullen

position, and I believe that with his institutional knowledges of our processes, software and our people, this transition will go very smoothly," said County Administrator Sel Hemingway.

Kilcullen will begin training with Proctor to take over as director next week. He said Finance staff will use the remainder of this month to finish up on projects already under way. Kilcullen will begin looking at vision and direction for the department in February.

IN MEMORIAM:**County mourns longtime employee**

Herbert Linnen, a longtime recycling center attendant with Georgetown County Environmental Services, passed away on Dec. 23, 2019. He was 89 and had worked part-time for Environmental Services since August of 2006.

He is sincerely missed by his colleagues in the Environmental Services Division and the Georgetown County Public Services Department.

Mr. Linnen was a fixture at the Maryville Recycling Center. It was said by his colleagues that there was not a better attendant, and that he "worked circles around staff members half his age." He was proud of his work and would always say that he "had a few more years to work." His hard work, dedication and good cheer will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Mr. Linnen was the husband of Florene Linnen. The couple would have celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary this month. Their union produced seven children. The couple also had many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Linnen was retired from the Sampit Lumber Co. and worked several years for Dawson Lumber before going to work for Georgetown County. He was a member of Nazareth AME Church, where he sang in the choir.



Herbert Linnen
1939-2019

County to celebrate National County Government Month with Taxpayer Academy; register now

For residents who have wondered how their county tax dollars are spent or who just want to know more about what their local government does, Georgetown County has a program for you.

In celebration of National County Government Month, which takes place each April, Georgetown County will offer a free Taxpayer Academy. The program will take place each Wednesday in April and will give participants a behind the scenes look at the operations of various county departments and divisions, from law enforcement, to the airport, to the county recycling facilities and everything in between.

This is the first time the county has offered this program. It was inspired by a week-long summer camp program for kids the county hosted two years ago.

"While the program was for kids, they of course had adult chaperones with them, and the adults were as interested in the activities as the kids. We heard quite a few adults say they wished the county offered something similar for adults, so we decided to give it a shot," said Jackie Broach-Akers, the county's Public Information Officer.

Space in the program is limited. Find an application at www.gtcounty.org. Email jbroach@gtcounty.org for info.

*Is getting in shape part of
your new year's resolution?*



**Georgetown County Parks & Rec.
has plenty of programs to help!**

- *Weight and cardio rooms* • *League sports* • *Zumba*
- *Barre Fit* • *Line dancing* • *New programs added regularly*

***We have facilities located throughout the County,
and more facilities coming online.***

Freelance program instructors are always wanted.

Call to inquire.

Call (843) 545-3275 for information

Get the Chronicle

At Georgetown County, we want our residents and property owners kept abreast of what's going on inside their local government. That's why we created the Georgetown County Chronicle. It's a vehicle for information about county services and events, important messages from county officials and behind-the-scenes glimpses at how government works.

You can find the Chronicle on our website at www.gtcounty.org or through our Facebook page. If you'd rather have it delivered to your inbox, e-mail jbroach@gtcounty.org with the subject line "send me the Chronicle."

That's also the place to send questions and comments about this newsletter and its content. We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

www.gtcounty.org

Ask our Environmentalist: How do I properly dispose of carpet?

Historically, carpets were woven with wool, but these days they're more often made with synthetic fibers. These synthetic fibers are made from petroleum, the same substance used to make plastic and gasoline.

The great thing about your threadbare carpet is that it can be recycled into other petroleum products or plastics! Keep reading to learn more.

Where Can You Recycle Carpet?

In Georgetown County, the County Landfill accepts carpet and carpet padding for recycling. For County residents, the first 1,000 pounds of carpet you discard are free. For commercial waste or businesses, disposing of carpet costs just \$20 a ton. When bringing carpet for recycling, ensure that it is only carpet and carpet padding, as carpet with other debris (including nails and wooden strips) cannot be recycled.

Why Recycle?

The average lifespan of carpet is about 5 years. When it comes time to replace it, most people toss it in the landfill, resulting in around five *billion* pounds of carpet being thrown away each year nationally. That's enough carpet to cover more than 43,000 football fields!

Not only does recycling the carpet keep it out of our landfills, it makes new products and can generate new electricity. About 197 million pounds of carpet were recycled nationwide in 2013, which is less than 4 percent of the amount being thrown away.

How is Carpet Recycled?

After you have "recycled" your old carpet, it goes to a center where its contents are evaluated and then separated to be recycled appropriately. The fluffy part of the carpet can be shaved off and remade into recycled nylon yarn, while the remainder can go to other companies to become products such as car parts, landscaping products or other plastics.

Do you have a question for the Georgetown County Environmental Services Division? Email Alex at alitz@gtcounty.org.



Alex Litz
County
Environmentalist

Public Services staff members achieve erosion protection certification

Three Georgetown County Public Services employees are now newly Certified Erosion Protection and Sediment Control Inspectors. They are

James Coley, Project Planner with the Capital Projects and Engineering Division;

Christopher Hancock, Senior Compliance Inspector with the Stormwater Division; and **Jacob Nesmith**, Senior Construction Inspector with the Capital Projects and Engineering Division.

Coley, Hancock and Nesmith attended a day-long class in Columbia to prepare them for the qualifying test, which was a rigorous three-hour exam the following day. All three passed with flying colors, and are now certified CEPSCI Inspectors.

This is a very significant achievement, said Ray Funnye, director of the Georgetown County Public Services Department. A "Land Disturbance Permit" is issued in Georgetown County whenever any residential subdivision or commercial project disturbs an acre or more, if the project is located with a half-mile of a receiving water body (ocean, river or any substantial tidally influenced water body), or if the project is part of a larger common plan. Once this Land Disturbance Permit is issued, compliance inspections are required to be performed at least weekly by a CEPSCI-certified inspector or a licensed professional engineer.

Inspectors need to ensure all erosion is being controlled on site, that sediment is not being routed off-site, and that all proper documentation is in order—ensuring the site is being constructed per the plans. The inspector must execute all required reports and alert the proper authorities of any issues that need to be rectified.

"Now that Georgetown County has three additional qualified CEPSCI inspectors, we have the capacity to inspect on all levels—not simply the construction plan/specification level of a project. This will streamline the workflow and assist our contractors in complying with DHEC regulations to avoid penalties and fines," Funnye said.

When a consulting firm completed these DHEC-mandated inspections, it resulted in a cost to the project of between \$500 and \$1,000 per inspection. Coley, Nesmith and Hancock can now join certified CEPSCI Inspectors **Matthew Miele** (Project Coordinator, Capital Projects & Engineering) and **Kevin Stimpson** (Traffic Control Specialist), as well as licensed engineer and Capital Projects/Engineering Manager **Art Baker** and licensed engineer and Stormwater Manager **Tracy Jones** in saving Georgetown County considerable time and thousands of dollars over the course of the many concurrent construction projects ongoing in Georgetown County.



From left are **James Coley**, Public Services Director; **Ray Funnye**, Christopher Hancock and **Jacob Nesmith**.

Reaccreditation

Continued from Front Page

assessment process, in which staff documents its own work procedures and practices on a daily basis before an accreditation team conducts an on-site evaluation. The process is voluntary and self-motivated.

Funnye said this achievement was made possible by his staff, who worked tirelessly on the project, including Georgetown County Stormwater Manager Tracy Jones, who headed the project with a small team. Team members included Cassandra Coleman, Facilities Services Division; Chris Hancock, Stormwater Division; Kevin Stimpson, Public Works; Janet Combs, Administrative Assistant; James Coley, Capital Projects and Engineering; Michelle LaRocco, Environmental Services; and Stephen Williams, Public Works.

The Waccamaw Library and the Poetry Society of SC
are pleased to announce the



2017 Litchfield Tea and Poetry Series

The Waccamaw Neck Library, 41 St. Paul Place
Third Thursday, January-April, 10 a.m.



Four convivial meetings,
each featuring thought-
provoking poets



Homemade confections
and tea provided



Book signing following
each reading



Free and open to
the public

February 20



Al Black has published two poetry collections, "I only left for Tea" (2014) and "Man with Two Shadows" (2018). He also co-edited "Hand in Hand, Poets Respond to Race" (2017) and is published in anthologies, journals and periodicals. He hosts arts events, co-founded the Poets Respond to Race Initiative and was Jasper Magazine's 2017 Literary artist of the Year



Gary Jackson is the author of the poetry collection "Missing You, Metropolis," which received the 2009 Cave Canem Poetry Prize. His poems have appeared in Callaloo, Tin House, the Los Angeles Review of Books, and elsewhere. He teaches in the MFA program at the College of Charleston.

March 19



Shelby Stephenson served as Poet Laureate of North Carolina from 2015-18. His recent books include "Paul's Hill: Homage to Whitman," "Our World" and "Nin's Poem." He was editor of Pembroke Magazine from 1978 to 2010, when he retired from the University of N.C. at Pembroke.



Open Mic. For our March event, everyone in the audience is invited to read a short poem that he or she has written. (Please keep your reading to a single poem no longer than a page.) We all look forward to hearing a variety of voices, including yours. Please join in and encourage others to do so as well!

For more information, contact Dan Turner at dtuner@gtcounty.org
or at (843) 545-3363.

Annual French film festival returns to Waccamaw Library

The Waccamaw Library is excited to announce the schedule of films for 16th Annual French Film Festival. The highly popular Festival will be held at the Library over two weekends in 2020: Jan. 24-26 and Jan. 31-Feb. 2. Once again, Festival organizer Josette Sharwell has lined up six fabulous films, otherwise unavailable in the U.S.

The Waccamaw Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. The Festival is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library and Institut Français.

Tickets for individual films (\$3 per film) will be sold at the door during the Festival. Limited movie passes for all six films (\$10) are available **only** at Art Works located in the Litchfield Exchange at 14363 Ocean Hwy., Pawleys Island. Art Works is open Mondays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For information about movie passes, please call (843) 235-9600.

The schedule of wonderful films is provided below.

Friday, Jan. 24 at 5:30 p.m.: ÔTEZ-MOI D'UN DOUTE (Just To Be Sure) 2017. Forty-something widower Erwan works as a bomb disposal expert, clearing remnants of the two World Wars in Brittany, when a DNA test reveals that the man who raised him is not his biological father. Also his feisty daughter Juliette is pregnant, but does not know who the father is. Erwan hires a detective and finds that his biological father lives close by...or so it seems. In the meantime he meets charismatic Doctor Anna and falls for her. *The film premiered at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival to a standing ovation.*

Saturday, Jan. 25 at 2:30 p.m.: LE MYSTÈRE HENRI PICK (Henry Pick Mystery) 2018. An editor, Daphné, discovers a novel she considers to be a masterpiece in a library whose specialty is to collect manuscripts rejected by publishers. The text is signed Henri Pick, a Breton pizza maker who died two years earlier and whose widow says he only wrote shopping lists. A TV critic doubts the authenticity of the best-seller and with Pick's daughter investigates the life of the enigmatic author.

Sunday, Jan. 26 at 2:30 p.m.: PREMIÈRE ANNÉE (The Freshmen) 2018. Antoine begins his first year of medical school...for the third time. He passionately wants to become a doctor, but the dry material does not come easy to him and this third year effort drives him to the brink. Benjamin arrives directly from high school, his father is a neurosurgeon, and he is familiar and relaxed about the whole process. They become friends and study pals, up to their necks in books and material as they cram late into the night. *The film garnered a nomination for Best Actor at the 2019 Césars.*

Friday, Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m.: LE GRAND BAIN (Sink or Swim) 2018. The film is based on a true story of a Swedish Club. It is in the corridors of their municipal swimming pool that Bertrand, Marcus, Simon, Laurent, Thierry and the others train under the relative authority of Delphine, former glory of the pool. All seven

See "Film Festival," Page 5



County attorney moves on after 12 years



Jan. 17 was Wesley Bryant's last day as Georgetown County Attorney. He has held the position for nearly 13 years. Bryant accepted a position with Waccammaw Regional Council of Governments as Director of Government Services and Compliance. He will still work in partnership with the county in this new role. Bryant will also handle legal matters on a contractual basis for the county until a replacement can be hired. With County Administrator Sel Hemingway scheduled to retire at the end of February, plans are to hold off on hiring of a new attorney until a new administrator is in place. Currently, County Council has not yet selected a replacement for Hemingway. Georgetown County thanks Bryant for his years of dedicated service and wishes him all the best in his new venture. In the meantime, we look forward to continuing to see him at County Council meetings this winter until a new attorney is hired.

French Films

Continued from Page 4

of these sad-sack, middle-aged men bond together, putting all their energy into a discipline previously owned by women: synchronized swimming. Through training, talking, and learning to redefine their masculinity, they will let go, live a little, and love again. *Number one at the Box Office in France for 2018, the movie earned eight nominations at the 2019 Césars.*

Saturday, Feb. 1 at 2:30 p.m.: REMI, SANS FAMILLE (*Remi, Nobody's Boy*) 2018. Based on a novel by Hector Malo, the film tells of the adventures of young orphan Rémi, who is taken in by the gentle Madam Barberin. At the age of 10, he is snatched from his adoptive mother and entrusted to Signor Vitalis, a mysterious itinerant musician. At his side, Remi learns the harsh life of an acrobat and how to sing to win his bread. Accompanied by the faithful dog Capi and the small monkey Joli-Coeur on his long trip through France, he ultimately discovers the secret of his mysterious origins.

Sunday, Feb. 2 at 2:30 p.m.: LA FINALE (*In the Game*) 2018. In Lyon, France, everyone in the Verdi family takes great care of Roland, the grandfather, who is starting to lose his mind. Everyone, except JB, the teenager who has only one goal: to go to Paris with his basketball team to play in the championship final. However, his parents leave JB in charge of his grandfather for the weekend, asking JB to give up his dream of playing in the final to help out his family. But JB decides to go to Paris anyway...and takes his grandpa along. Nothing on this trip will go as planned!



GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY

GEORGETOWN COUNTY BLOOD DRIVE

**JANUARY 29, FROM NOON TO 5 P.M.
AT THE WACCAMAW LIBRARY**

41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island

Donors are encouraged to schedule an appointment at redcrossblood.org, but walk-ins are also welcome.

This event is proudly sponsored
by Georgetown County Government & the Waccamaw Library

Women's Fitness Classes

with Sheila Spinks

**Monday through Friday at 8 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.,
and Saturdays at 8 a.m.**

*Walk-ins Welcome. Classes are \$5 each or \$30/month
Zumba, yoga, Women on Weights, and more...*

**At Beck Recreation Center,
2030 Church St., Georgetown**



Live music series returns to Waccamaw Library

Musicians Series Welcomes Pied Piper Youth Theater

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library (FOWL) Musicians Series will be back in full swing throughout the winter and spring of 2020. Come tap your toes, snap your fingers, and clap your hands to an array of performers, including traditional carols, swing and Dixieland jazz, Broadway love songs, Caribbean steel drum music, Americana and country, and "Roaring 20s" jazz. All concerts are free and open to the public. The Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

Come feel the love on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m. On the eve of Valentine's Day, the troupe of talented young performers from the Pied Piper Youth Theater will put on a delightful performance of favorite Broadway love songs to celebrate the power of love. Some of the songs will be drawn from the one-act musical *Once on This Island*. Set in the French Antilles and full of Caribbean flair, the musical tells of the relationship between a peasant girl and an upper-class boy, and illustrates love's ability to cross social lines. Located in Murrells Inlet, the Pied Piper Youth Theater teaches children the importance of dramatic arts and the value of teamwork in the theater. The PPYT players' energetic performances of great love songs will warm your heart up for Valentine's Day!

Libraries to livestream commemoration of Liberation of Auschwitz

The Georgetown County Library System is joining South Carolina ETV (SCETV) and the South Carolina Council on the Holocaust in a special event honoring the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz.



Elisha Wiesel

The special commemoration will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the University of South Carolina Alumni Center in Columbia, and SCETV is live streaming to ensure that every student, teacher, and resident in South Carolina can participate.

The Georgetown County Library branches will stream the commemoration on their auditorium movie screens and all are welcome to come view it, no reservation required.

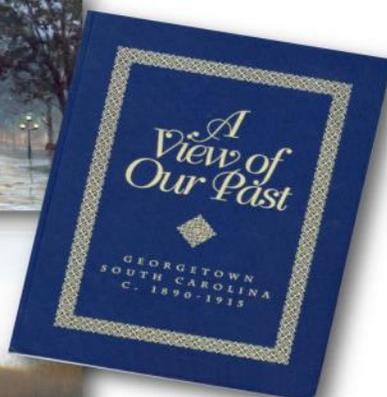
"We are opening our auditoriums at our branches in Georgetown, Andrews, Waccamaw, and Carvers Bay," explained Library Director Dwight McInvaill. "You'll be able to see the commemorative event as it happens, and honor those who suffered under the Holocaust and those who helped end this horrible chapter in the human story."

Elisha Wiesel, son of Holocaust survivor and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, will serve as the keynote speaker. This event will also include remarks by Holocaust survivors, members of the armed forces and elected officials, as well as a special musical performance by the Clover High School Chorus.

SUPPORT LIBRARY PROGRAMS FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BE A FRIEND!

Join the Friends of the Georgetown Library with a membership donation and receive a copy of *A View of Our Past* or one of two local historic prints for FREE.



Single Membership: \$12 Family Membership: \$20

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Visit our website at www.gtcounty.org. You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram. Just search for GtCountySC.



General Election for Sheriff is Feb. 4

Carter Weaver's name will be the only one on the ballot on Feb. 4, when the general election to fill the office of Georgetown County Sheriff takes place. But Weaver will still face a challenge in the election as Birt Adams has launched a write-in campaign.

Adams was initially supposed to appear on the ballot, having filed to run for the seat as a Democrat, but he failed to submit legally required paperwork to the state by the deadline.

Weaver won the Republican primary election against his opponent Darryl Carr in December to advance to the general election ballot. Weaver was appointed interim Sheriff in September following the unexpected death in office of Lane Cribb, who served as Georgetown County Sheriff for nearly 30 years. Weaver previously served as Assistant Sheriff to Cribb.

Polls will be open Feb. 4 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Voters should bring a picture ID to the polls with them. Acceptable forms of ID include a valid S.C. driver's license or ID card issued by the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, an S.C. Voter registration card with photo, a federal military ID or U.S. Passport. Voters can check their registration, find their polling place, learn about voting absentee, learn about South Carolina's new voting machines, and more at www.scvotes.org.



McIntyre is Manager of the Year



Tamara McIntyre, second from left, is pictured with Georgetown County Council Chairman John Thomas, left, Library Director Dwight McInvaill and Trudy Bazemore.

Tamara McIntyre, branch manager for the Waccamaw Library for just under three years, has been named the county's Manager of the Year for 2019. She was nominated by Library Director Dwight McInvaill.

In a relatively short time with Georgetown County, Tamara has made an excellent impression on her superiors, as well as library patrons, as she manages one of the busiest facilities in the county.

In Fiscal Year 2019 alone, the Waccamaw Library was the site of 854 community meetings attended by more than 16,000 people. The library staff and the Friends of the Waccamaw Library also hosted 409 public library programs with a turnout of nearly 9,200 people. On top of that, there were 32,114 customer checkouts, more than 10,000 uses of library computers, 25,000 inquiries at the reference desk, and more than 86,000 items borrowed.

Since the Waccamaw Library reopened in a new, larger space in 2015, the branch has been an enormous success and has become a true community center for residents on the Waccamaw Neck, said Library Director Dwight McInvaill. McIntyre has played an important role in that process.

- Among projects McIntyre has taken on are:
- Creation of a new development expenditure and production tracking process,
 - Improving reporting methodologies for services at the Waccamaw Branch,
 - Providing support for a Highway 17 Charrette hosted at the library,
 - And introducing quarterly blood drives at the Waccamaw Library.

McIntyre supervises 14 employees and has oversight of a \$600,000 budget. In her time at the library she has truly made a connection with the community she serves.



**2020 YOUTH
BASEBALL &
SOFTBALL
REGISTRATION**



INTERESTED IN REGISTERING YOUR CHILD FOR YOUTH BASEBALL
OR SOFTBALL THIS SPRING IN GEORGETOWN COUNTY?
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL BOOSTER CLUB:



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 : @phdixieyouth



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WACCAMAW YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

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County recognizes Eastham, Geathers as Volunteers of the Year

Georgetown County Council recognized two individuals for volunteer service this month. Cedric Geathers was named Georgetown County Volunteer of the Year for 2019 and Lesley Eastham was named Employee Volunteer of the Year for 2019.

Cedric Geathers has been a dedicated volunteer with Georgetown County Fire/EMS since 2014. He is always willing to assist County Fire/EMS in any capacity he is asked, said Chief Mack Reed. Over the last two years, he rendered his service to help during Hurricanes Florence and Dorian. He stayed day and night at the fire station, where he did everything from cooking for the team to running emergency calls. On a daily basis, he spends the majority of his time at the fire station, often arriving at 8 a.m. and sometimes staying until 10 p.m., assisting the Fire/EMS family and waiting to serve the residents of Georgetown County. Cedric is well known for saying, "I'm always ready whether I'm at home or at the Fire Station," and "If you stay ready you won't have to get ready."

Cedric volunteers at Station 10, where he often can be observed mentoring children and teens. He helps with recruiting teens and other volunteers to join the Fire Department, and loves teaching kids about fire safety. He is always willing to assist at public education events, especially those involving youth. He says "It's one of my callings from God - to mentor and guide children".

Cedric was in the NJROTC program at Georgetown High School for four years. He said that's where he received a lot of knowledge about mentoring and learned how to communicate with children. "Being in the NJROTC program and in uniform, a lot of kids seemed to respect that and wanted to talk to me and ask me questions. Even though I would be in a rush to go somewhere, I would always take the time to talk to them," Cedric said. He also said that the fire department has taught him to teach fire and life safety to young people.

As part of the Fire Department, Cedric has witnessed his share of tragic calls. This has motivated him to promote campaigns that advised young people against drinking and driving and texting and driving, as well as basic fire safety.

"It's not just about working those emergent calls for Cedric; it's about teaching and helping others from lessons learned," said Chief Reed. "He has a very loving, caring and giving heart. We need more people like that."

The Employee Volunteer of the Year award is presented at the end of each year to recognize one county employee who also volunteers their time and service to one of the county's many departments and divisions outside the course of their regular job. Lesley Eastham was selected as this year's winner for outstanding service rendered to Georgetown County Fire/EMS and her community.

Lesley has been employed with Georgetown County for 28 years and has been volunteering for 20 years. In addition to her work as a firefighter/paramedic and Infectious Control Officer with County Fire/EMS, she volunteers significant time to helping teach CPR and medical courses. She frequently teaches these courses to department personnel while off duty. She especially likes teaching pediatric and stroke patient care courses, because she sees how vitally important these courses are to caring for communities. On her own



Eastham, center, is pictured with County Council Chairman John Thomas, left, and her partner Andrew Dougan.



Cedric Geathers (third from left) is pictured with his family, County Council Chairman John Thomas and Jesse Cooper of Georgetown County Fire/EMS.

time, she takes courses to improve her knowledge and skills in these areas. She also volunteers to teach CPR, AED and First Aid courses at schools, day cares, churches and local businesses.

If that's not enough, Lesley is a volunteer supporter of David's Blankets of Hope, which handmakes and donates blankets to sick children. These blankets are made in the children's favorite colors or with images of their favorite cartoon characters to provide comfort and warmth while children recover in the hospital.

"Lesley has an amazing passion for teaching as many people as she can," said County Fire/EMS Chief Mack Reed. "She believes the more people that are knowledgeable in helping provide medical care to sick or injured people, the more lives that can be saved. She is also very modest in her volunteer efforts."



Find regular updates from Georgetown County on our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/gtcountysc](https://www.facebook.com/gtcountysc).

Library series to explore major authors in modern American literature

From January through April, the Waccamaw Library will feature a monthly lecture by scholarly expert on a major author in modern American literature. The series will begin on Jan. 30, with a presentation from Benjamin B. Alexander, Ph.D., on Flannery O'Connor.

Authors to be featured later in the series include Toni Morrison, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Harper Lee. The lectures are free to attend, and are sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library. The Library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

Alexander is the editor of a new book of uncollected letters between Flannery O'Connor and friends, and will offer a fresh and unique perspective on this captivating writer. A question and answer session and book signing will follow the presentation.

Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964) is one of the greatest, if at times misunderstood, modern American writers, exploring spiritual grace through the marginalized and forgotten figures in her native South. She wrote two novels — "Wise Blood" and "The Violent Bear It Away" — as well as 32 short stories and a number of reviews and commentaries.

Throughout her life, O'Connor maintained a wide correspondence, including with writ-



ers Robert Lowell and Elizabeth Bishop, English professor Samuel Ashley Brown, and playwright Maryat Lee. After her death, a selection of her letters was published under the title "The Habit of Being," and much of

her best-known writing on religion, writing, and the South is contained in these and other letters.

Alexander will expand on particular letters, including O'Connor's exchanges with Walker Percy, author of the National Book Award winner, "The Moviegoer." Percy is known to have done some of his best writing at a big cottage on Pawleys Island.

A college literature teacher for more than 40 years, Alexander's new collection of letters has been praised by Publishers Weekly as an "important addition" that appeals to anyone looking for a better grasp of the literary landscape surrounding O'Connor, the writers and thinkers who influenced her, and her steadfast beliefs, expressed charitably and humorously.

Other presentations in the series will include:

- John Charles Williamson, Ph.D., will present "Toni Morrison: An American Visionary" on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 6 p.m.

- Deno Trakas, Ph.D., will present "The Perennial Appeal of 'The Great Gatsby'" on Tuesday, March 24 at 10 a.m.

- James A. Crank, Ph.D., will present "Is 'To Kill A Mockingbird' the Great American Read?" on Friday, April 24 at 1:30 p.m.

Railroad crossings to close for maintenance

A number of railroad crossings in Georgetown County are scheduled to close this month while CSX performs routine maintenance. Closures are expected to last two to five days, and will require rerouting of traffic during this time. Signage will be in place to mark detour routes. Dates are subject to change due to weather or unforeseen conditions.

Among upcoming closures:

On Jan. 28, closures are scheduled to begin at the railroad crossings on Garrison Rd. The following day, closures will take place on Highway 17A, Brick Chimney Rd., Friendfield Rd. and Gapway Rd.

On Jan. 30, railroad crossings will close at Hazard St., Congdon St., Merri-man Rd., Alex Alford Drive, Lafayette Rd. and Ridge St.

Two private road closures will also take place on Jan. 27.

Funds approved for Grate Ave. paving

The Georgetown County Transportation Committee has approved funding that will allow for resurfacing of Grate Ave. in Pawleys Island. The road is heavily used as it connects residents in that area to the Pawleys Island Recycling Center.

The project will come at a cost of \$205,255 and is expected to begin this spring. The project will also necessitate a three-day closure of the recycling center, during which time, residents will be redirected to the Murrells Inlet Recycling Center. Dates for the closure will be announced by the county as soon as they are scheduled.

If the Pawleys Island center isn't closed, the project would likely take weeks instead of days.

Electronic Waste Recycling

E-waste comprises 70% of our overall toxic waste.

Only 12.5% of E-Waste is recycled.

Components of E-Waste are reusable electronic equipments recycled for materials recovery.

Throwing out cellphones, tablets, and computers that are comprised of precious metals such as gold and silver, is throwing out \$60 million annually.

For more information on how to properly recycle your e-waste, visit www.georgetowncountysc.org/recycling

News from our Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Happy New Year to all our veterans! I hope you all had a great holiday week. I hope that you will continue to prosper in this New Year.

First off, I would like to make sure you all are aware that a new Secretary of Veterans Affairs has been named for the State of South Carolina. A military veteran serving as a freshman state lawmaker has been selected as the first secretary of South Carolina's newest Cabinet-level agency. Gov. Henry McMaster has named Greenville Rep. Bobby Cox as his choice to lead the Department of Veterans' Affairs.



Murphy

The pick is subject to Senate confirmation.

In May, McMaster signed a law creating the agency, which had previously been housed within the Department of Administration. The governor pushed to elevate the agency to the level of his Cabinet, arguing the move was appropriate because of the central role the military and veterans' communities play in South Carolina communities.

Over the summer, Cox was among a dozen people who served on a panel advising McMaster about who would be best to lead the department. The group was chaired by former South Carolina Adjutant Gen. Bob Livingston.

Cox, 39, is a combat veteran who served four tours in Iraq as an Army Ranger. He was on active duty from 2002 to 2015, and currently serves as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Cox has been awarded numerous service medals, including the Bronze Star.

Elected in 2018 to the state House, Cox also works as director of government strategy for firearms maker SIG SAUER. Soon after being sworn in earlier this year, he announced he was donating his legislative salary to Upstate Warrior Solution, a nonprofit group that connects veterans to resources. Cox had pledged to give the salary to the group during his campaign.

Cox is a 2002 graduate of The Citadel, where he served as Cadet Regimental Commander in charge of all students. He has graduate degrees from George Washington University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Low Country Veterans Group

On the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Commander Franklin E. Rutledge and his Low Country Veterans Group paused to remember the contributions Dr. King made to our nation, to civil rights and to humanity. The group participated in the annual Georgetown Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade.

Rutledge and the Low Country Veterans Group extend blessings to our community for a Happy New Year. On Dec. 20, 2019, the Low Country Veterans Group held its annual Christmas celebration at Inlet Affairs in Murrells Inlet. All proceeds from the event will be used to assist homeless veterans.

Recently, the Low Country Veterans Group attended a veterans appreciation event held at Saint Stephens AME Church in Georgetown. Each veteran attending was honored with a beautiful certificate of appreciation and Vietnam veterans were awarded a 50th Vietnam War anniversary commemorative lapel pin.

The Lowcountry Veterans Group will host a golf fundraiser at

the Wedgewood Country Club on Saturday, March 21. There are sponsorship opportunities available, and golfers are welcome. For information contact the LCVG at (843)527-6555.

The LCVG maintains a veteran's assistance office at the Georgetown Housing Authority. On Wednesdays, counselors from VA-HUD and the Eastern Carolina Homeless Organization are available from 9-11 a.m. For information, call (843)527-6555. Veterans and volunteers are welcome to join the Low Country Veterans Group and the LCVG Support Group. For further information go to the LCVG website at lowcountryveterans.org.

David Murphy,
Manager,
Georgetown County
Office of Veterans Affairs

Sign up for emergency alerts!

Don't miss out on important information that could keep you and your family safe. Sign up to receive emergency alerts specific to your address from the Georgetown County Emergency Management Division via email or phone. Sign up for this free service at www.gtcounty.org or call (843) 545-3213.

Bringing SCDMV to you!

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Summary Court

14363 Ocean Hwy Suite 1
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

(Located Behind Applewood Restaurant)

10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Items to bring with you:

- * Proof of identity
(Government-issued birth certificate or valid US Passport)
- * Proof of social security number
- * Two proofs of current, physical address
- * Proof of all legal name changes

The SC Election Commission is partnering with the SCDMV on our tour of the states! #NoExcusesSC

Register to vote

Demo the new paper-based voting system



www.scdmnonline.com

SOUTH CAROLINA
ELECTION COMMISSION



Georgetown County, South

County Government

Numbers to know

Animal Control, 546-5101

Assessor, 545-3014

Auditor, 545-3021

Clerk of Court, 545-3004

County Council, 545-3058

Coroner, 546-3056

Elections, 545-3339

Finance, 545-3002

Planning and Zoning, 545-3116

Probate Judge, 545-3077

Register of Deeds, 545-3088

Sheriff, 546-5102

Treasurer, 545-3098

P.O. Box 421270
129 Screven Street
Georgetown, S.C. 29440-4200

Phone: (843) 545-3063
Fax: (843) 545-3292



Midway to host car seat safety check Jan 24



To ensure families across our community have properly installed their child passenger seats, certified child passenger safety technicians from Midway Fire Rescue will offer a free “drive-through clinic” for parents and caregivers. The event will take place Friday, Jan 24 from 1-4 p.m. at Midway’s headquarters station at 67 St. Paul Place in Pawleys Island. The event is held in partnership with SAFE KIDS, and will include public safety partners from Georgetown City Fire Department. The clinic is part of a National Child Passenger Safety certification process, and will include instruction on how to install and use car seats correctly. Technicians will also help determine if your child is in the right seat for their age and size, and explain the importance of registering car seats with their manufacturers so parents and caregivers can be notified if there is a recall. Every 32 seconds in 2017, one child under 13 was involved in a passenger vehicle crash. No parent ever wants to get it wrong when it comes to a child’s safety.

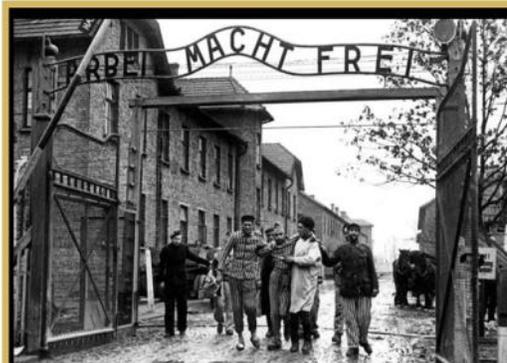
Paid soccer officials sought for Parks & Rec. programs



Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is looking for certified officials to work games for the department’s adult soccer leagues. Pay is \$35 per game, with two to three games usually scheduled back-to-back. S.C. High School League (SCHSL) certification is preferred.

Games occur from 8 a.m. until about noon on Saturdays during the spring, summer and fall seasons. Officials must be able to work during these times and be willing and able to commute to Stables Park in Pawleys Island to qualify. However, officials can work as much or as little as they choose, and do not have to be available for every season.

To apply or for more information, contact Randy Akers at bakers@gtcounty.org or at (843) 545-3321.



JOIN YOUR LIBRARY FOR A STATEWIDE LIVE-STREAMING COMMEMORATION:

75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz

Tuesday, January 28 10:30 - 11:30 am

Andrews Library — 105 North Morgan Street
Carvers Bay Library — 13048 Choppee Road
Georgetown Library — 405 Cleland Street
Waccamaw Library — 41 St. Paul Place

WOMEN EMPOWERED

THE GRACE SELF-DEFENSE PROGRAM FOR WOMEN

6 WEEK SELF-DEFENSE COURSE
AT MURRELL'S INLET COMMUNITY CENTER
February 06-March 12, 2020
Thursday's 1:30 pm- 2:30 pm

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Learn how to thwart potential attacks by making yourself a "hard target."

Learn how to break free from an attacker who grabs you without warning.

Learn how to avoid being taken to the ground by a determined attacker.

Learn how to escape from underarms or attacker pinning you to the ground.

COST
\$60 For Six Week Course

LOCATION
Murrell's Inlet Community Center
4462 Murrell's Inlet Rd.
Murrell's Inlet, SC 29575

DETAILS
Please Call Tonya To Reserve Your Spot!
843-545-3651

RESERVE YOUR SPOT!