



The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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Calendar

Feb. 9 – Workshop at the Georgetown Library teaches how to preserve family photos and other memories, 5:30 p.m. See page 3

Feb. 9 – Friends of the Waccamaw Library Fat Tuesday dinner, 6:30 p.m. See page 4

Feb. 9 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

Feb. 15 – All county offices and facilities are closed in observance of Presidents Day

Feb. 18 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

Feb. 23 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

Visit www.facebook.com/gtcountysc for more events

Volume 4, Issue 6

February 2016

Howard Center renovations near completion

Renovations to the Howard Center in Georgetown are substantially complete and Georgetown County hopes to have the facility ready to reopen this spring.

“The interior work is essentially done,” said Georgetown County Public Services Director Ray Funnys, whose staff has been responsible for the renovations. “We have the auditorium and the multi-purpose room finished. The basketball court is finished and we just have to install the basketball hoops and the bleachers, which have already been ordered.”

Next is site work, including parking areas, and some work to the building’s exterior. Funnys said. The projected completion date is March 15, at which point the Parks and Recreation Department will



The renovated auditorium in the Howard Center in Georgetown.

take control of the building and begin making plans for a grand re-opening.

The Howard project, along with a number of others, suffered a set-

back in October when the county experienced record flooding, and Public Services staff had to redirect all its efforts to roadwork, drainage

See “Capital Projects,” Page 6

Chickens now allowed in five more residential zones

Since Georgetown County Council took action in late January to allow chickens in more densely populated areas, there has been a great deal of misunderstanding and misinformation surrounding the action that took place.

Prior to an amendment, passed by Council on Jan. 26, only people in areas zoned “Forest Agriculture” or who had a residential lot of at least 2 acres in areas zoned “R-1AC” or “R-5AC” could have chickens. With the new allowances in the ordinance, at least some number of chickens are now legal on residential lots in five additional zoning districts. The affected districts are: R-1/2AC, MR-10,000sf, R-3/4AC, VR-10,000sf and R-10,000sf. Outside of these five zoning districts, there has been no change.

The five zoning districts chosen were selected because the intent of this amendment was to address the issue of chickens not being allowed in more densely populated neighborhoods. Nationwide, raising chickens has become a common practice in urban and sub-

urban communities and, recognizing that, county staff and County Council deemed it was time to update county rules to allow that where appropriate.

Again, this amendment only applies to five of 26 zoning districts. Yet somehow the ordinance has been perceived as a countywide chicken ban, said County Administrator Sel Hemingway. Additionally there are rumors that the ordinance prohibits activities such as gardening and outlaws horses, cows and other livestock in rural farming areas. “That is absolutely untrue,” Hemingway said of the rumors.

To help alleviate some of the confusion, the County recently released the following list of what the amendment to the ordinance does and — perhaps just as importantly — what it doesn’t do.

The ordinance does:

- Make it legal to keep chickens in five residential zoning districts where they were not allowed before. All other zoning districts are unaffected. In areas

See “Chickens,” Page 5

Free program aims to help businesses reach tournament participants

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation will roll out a new program this year to help businesses benefit more from visitor traffic resulting from tournaments at county-run facilities.

There is no cost for businesses to participate, but restaurants, shops and other entities are encouraged to offer a perk for tournament participants who come in. The perk can be a free drink with a meal, a discount off a total purchase price or whatever the business deems appropriate.

Participating businesses will be provided with signage to display at their business letting tournament participants know the business is part of the program and perks are available to tournament participants who shop or eat there. Additionally, a business listing with address and phone number, as well as particulars of the deal offered at the business, will be available via an online directory on the County's Website. The link will be made available to participants at all tournaments booked at County facilities.

The plan is for participating businesses to be able to identify tournament participants by a

bracelet that will be distributed by the County during tournament registration events.

"We've been wanting to do something like this for a while now," said Beth Goodale, director of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation. "I think we're now bringing in enough tournaments that it would really benefit local businesses and would be another way to make people coming into town for events feel welcome and appreciated. It's another way to hopefully make sure they want to keep coming back."

The program is just gearing up, Goodale said, but businesses are encouraged to go ahead and sign up, and let the Parks and Recreation Department know what offers they would like to provide for tournament participants. The county hosted more than 50 tournaments last year and already has that many 2016 events scheduled, with more expected.

For more information, contact Georgetown County Parks and Recreation's tournaments and events division at tournament@gtcounty.org or call (843) 545-3275. Businesses that sign up may withdraw from the program at any time.



Kids invited to enjoy 'Masterpiece Mondays'

Children are invited to the Waccamaw Library on Mondays in February and March to learn about some of the world's most famous artists and one of their masterpieces, and create their own art in the featured artist's style.

The program is free and open to children age 5 and up. Programs will be from 3-4:30 p.m. through March 21. Please pre-register by calling (843) 545-3349 or sending an email to aking@gtcounty.org.

The program kicked off on Feb. 1 with Van Gogh's "Starry Night." The schedule for the remaining sessions is as follows: Feb. 8, Georgia O'Keeffe's "Red Poppy;" Feb. 22, Jackson Pollock's "Number;" Feb. 29, Georges Seurat's "A Sunday on La Grande Jatte;" March 7, Wassily Kandinsky's "Several Circles;" March 14, Piet Mondrian's "Composition C;" March 21, Pablo Picasso's "Three Musicians."

Georgetown County Parks and Rec. Presents

Adult BASKETBALL

5v5

League Begins: March 7
Registration Ends: Feb. 26
Games: Monday Nights
Ages: 18+
Max Teams: 6
League Fee: \$250 Per Team
Captains Meeting: Feb. 29, 6 p.m.
Season + Tournament

Leagues in Georgetown and Pawleys Island!

To register, call (843) 520-9621
 or email jblomdahl@gtcounty.org

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

Georgetown Library offers workshop to help families preserve memories

The Georgetown Library staff wants to make sure local residents don't lose links to their family histories — no matter what the future may bring. A free workshop on converting old documents into digital formats and preserving the originals will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 9, at 5:30 p.m.

"We inherit old photos in a shoebox, we store old certificates and our kids' artwork in a drawer. We want to keep these pieces of family history safe," said Julie Warren, the library's digital archivist. "Digitizing these items and creating a system to store and share them is surprisingly easy."

Warren is responsible for the Georgetown County Digital Library at www.gcdigital.org. This online archive has more than 40,000 items related to the history of Georgetown County and its residents. For the past eight years, she has worked closely with local museums and private residents to preserve their historic photos, letters and other ephemera. "As great as our digital copies are, we always hope to preserve the originals forever," she said.

The workshop will provide information on the best storage options and archival products to help minimize bending, yellowing and brittleness. For information, call Warren, (843) 545-3316. Registration is not required.

Sharks, road trips, art and more coming up in Library's 'First Thursday' series

The Friends of the Waccamaw Library's "First Thursday" series, which moved to an earlier time slot this year, continues next month with Dr. Dan Abel, a marine science professor at Coastal Carolina University.

Abel will discuss shark attacks that occurred last summer. His presentation at the library begins at 10 a.m. on March 3. Abel says sharks tend to be more likely in local waters as the days get longer and temperatures reach 70 degrees or so.

Looking ahead, on April 7 Tom Poland's presentation, "Classic Carolina Road Trips," will be based on his book by the same title. The book provides a photo-illustrated, armchair sojourn down the backroads of South Carolina. Poland will discuss some of the most interesting places he has visited and that you'll surely want to see.

On May 5, Zinnia Willits, director of Collections at Charleston's Gibbes Museum of Art will give the scoop on major renovations at the museum and the museum's grand reopening.

On June 2, Susan Hoffer McMillan, a local author, historian and archaeologist, will present findings from archaeological digs at rice plantation sites on local properties, including Brookgreen Gardens.

These programs are always free and open to the public.



Dr. Dan Abel

GEORGETOWN COUNTY LIBRARY
405 CLELAND STREET

DE-STRESS
YOUR
WEEK!

— BEGINNER —

YOGA

WEDNESDAYS
AT NOON

A FREE HALF HOUR OF
TONING MOVES TO
ENERGIZE AND STRETCH

FEBRUARY 3, 10 & 17

For information,
call Heather,
(843) 545-3327

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 Georgetown County Emergency Management Division via email or phone. Sign up for this free service at www.gtcounty.org (look for the link near the top of our home page) or call (843) 545-3213.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation presents

Line Dancing Classes in Georgetown

You never need a partner! Classes are at the Beck Recreation Center

Mondays & Wednesdays — Soul Line Dancing
4-5 p.m., \$3 per class or 6-7:30 p.m., \$5 per class

Active Older Adults Class — every other Tuesday, 4-5 p.m., \$3 per class

Call (843) 359-0840 for information or register at www.gtcounty.org/parks_recreation

Coming to Georgetown, S.C. APRIL 7-10, 2016



Plus 3 Free Concerts

Featuring the Winyah Bay Heritage Festival

*Food, Vendors, Kids' Activities,
SC Duck Calling Championships,
Retriever Trials, Dock Diving Dogs,
and so much more!*

WWW.FISHGEORGETOWN.COM



Vogler named department Employee of the Quarter

Firefighter Luke Vogler of Midway Fire Rescue has been named Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2015 for the Georgetown County Emergency Services Department. Though employed with Midway for only a short time, Vogler has already made quite an impact, said his battalion chief, Brent McClellan.

"He is a dedicated employee and always displays professionalism. He is always pleasant at shift change and ensures that a good pass-on is given. In his time here he has already shown that he holds a great skill set that benefits the department and the community we serve," McClellan said in a nomination letter.

Vogler was recently involved in a rescue of an individual from a residential structure fire. He also put water-related rescue skills learned from serving in the Coast Guard to work during the October flood event. Vogler operated a rescue boat in swift waters during the rescue of a man who was swept away in his vehicle by floodwaters. The man was later located clinging to a tree and transported for medical treatment. For this extraordinary act of bravery directly re-



Luke Vogler, right, is pictured with County Administrator Sel Hemingway.

sulting in the saving of life, Vogler was recently honored with a Meritorious Action Award.

Vogler also recently proved that he feels firefighter fitness is a priority in his life, McClellan said. He not only participated in the Historic Georgetown Bridge2Bridge 5K run wearing full turnout gear, he finished with an excellent time. After completing the race, he turned and ran back to encourage other firefighters running the race.

"Luke is an excellent person and a great asset to our organization and the county," McClellan said.

Chickens

Continued from Front Page

where fowl and poultry were previously allowed, they are still allowed.

- Allow county residents to keep up to four chickens per 10,000 square feet of property in the five zoning districts specified in the amendment and listed above.
- Require that chicken enclosures in these five zoning districts be at least 50 feet away from neighboring homes.
- Require that all birds be kept in an enclosure and any slaughtering be done within an enclosed structure in these five zoning districts.
- Cap the total number of chickens allowed at 16 in the residential zoning districts specified.
- Prohibit keeping male birds in the five zoning districts mentioned above. In all areas where roosters were previously allowed, they are still allowed.

It should also be noted that the new rules do not invalidate any neighborhood restrictions and covenants that may prohibit keeping of chickens.

"That's the extent of the amendment, yet word seems to have spread that with that action the county effectively banned any number of activities," Hemingway said. "We have received calls from residents concerned about their gardens, farmers worried that their horses and other livestock are going to be removed, and more."

The ordinance does not:

- Affect rural farming districts where chickens have traditionally been allowed.
- Create a countywide ban on chickens.
- Have any effect on activities such as gardening. The amendment only deals with keeping fowl and poultry in five densely populated residential zones.
- Affect ownership of traditional pets, including but not limited to dogs, cats, parakeets, rabbits and pot-bellied pigs.
- Affect ownership of livestock (cows, horses, goats, etc.) in areas where they were previously allowed.

Anyone with questions about this ordinance is asked to contact Georgetown County's Planning and Zoning office for correct information. Our staff is always happy to assist you and can be reached at (843) 545-3158. A handout containing facts and frequently asked questions is also available at www.gtcounty.org.



Friends of the
Waccamaw Library

FAT TUESDAY in Pawleys

February 9th at 6:30 pm
Carefree Catering
3151 Ocean Highway

Hand Passed Appetizers

- Spinach, Garlic & Two Cheese French Bread Crostini
- Muffaletta Slider Bites

Buffet Dinner

- Corn, Crawfish and Andouille Chowder
- Oysters Bienville
- Fried Catfish Po Boys
- Creole White Beans with Shrimp
- Spicy Chicken and Sausage Gumbo
- Red Beans and Rice
- Fried Okra

Dessert

- New Orleans Bread Pudding with Bourbon Sauce

Chardonnay, Merlot, Budweiser and Michelob Ultra provided



Tickets: \$37.50
Reservations:
pvr417@aol.com
(843) 237-8839

Capital Projects

Continued from Front Page

and other issues created by flooding. "One thing we are waiting on is for an architect to finish the design of a front canopy, but that should have no bearing on getting the facility open again," Funnye said.

Howard is one of many capital projects county staff has had its hands full with as it continues working through the long-range Capital Improvement Plan and nears completion of the first year of Capital Project Sales Tax collection.

Howard is part of the Capital Improvement Plan.

The Capital Project Sales Tax will fund a very specific set of projects including dredging, new fire substations, a full fire station in the Big Dam Community and road improvements.

The first of these projects to see completion will be a new fire substation in the Yauhannah community, Funnye said. Building construction is complete and site work is all that remains to be finished. Recent rains put that part of the project slightly behind schedule, Funnye said.

A fire substation in Williams Hill is about 80 percent complete, Funnye estimates. The permitting process for a fire substation in Carvers Bay is underway, with approval expected any day now.

Of the projects being funded with the Capital Project Sales Tax, road resurfacing is the one that will directly impact the largest number of residents. Plans are to repair about 45 miles of roadway throughout the county through about 100 projects.

The bidding process for the projects has begun and bids should be received any day now, Funnye said.

The first resurfacing should begin as early as March. Resurfacing will take place in three phases with roads on the Waccamaw Neck comprising much of the first phase. Roads in the City of Georgetown will be part of the last phase, allowing for City utility work that is under way to be completed. All road resurfacing projects should be complete by the end of 2017.

Public Services staff has also resumed work on a Fleet Services building on Highway 51 and is making finishing touches to the Litchfield Exchange building.



At top is the new multipurpose/meeting room at the Howard Center. Above is the renovated basketball court.



Introducing

Junior Book Club

Calling all preteen reading fans!
The Georgetown Library has a new book club just for you.
Stop by on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to share
your favorite books with fellow readers.

For information, call (843) 545-3310

Georgetown County Parks & Rec. presents

Hershey's Track & Field

Registration ends Feb. 29.
Don't miss out!

The program is open to boys and girls
ages 5-14. Contact the Recreation Dept.
for further details.



Call (843) 545-3275
for information, or visit
gtcounty.org/parks_recreation



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



2016 Litchfield Tea and Poetry Series

Waccamaw Neck Library, 41 St. Paul Place

One Thursday each month, 3—4 pm



Four convivial meetings (Jan-April), each featuring thought-provoking poets



Homemade confections and tea provided by Deloris Roberts



All events include "Poet-to-Poet": writing advice, brief Q&A and recommendations of poets to read



Co-founded by Linda Ketron and Susan Laughter Meyers

February 4



Jason Mott is the author of two poetry collections — "We Call This Thing Between Us Love" and "...hide behind me..." — and two novels — "The Returned" (adapted for the screen and aired on ABC network as "Resurrection") and "The Wonder of All Things." He has an MFA in poetry from the University of North Carolina — Wilmington and lives in Southeastern North Carolina.



Michael White has taught at the University of North Carolina—Wilmington since 1994 and currently chairs the university's Creative Writing Department. His four prize-winning poetry collections are "The Island," "Palma Cathedral," "Re-entry," and "Vermeer in Hell." His memoir, "Travels in Vermeer," was longlisted for the 2015 National Book Award.

March 3



Libby Swope Wiersema is a writer and editor living in Florence. Her chapbook, "The Season of Terminal Cold" (Finishing Line Press), recounts her mother's terminal illness. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in "Calyx," "Kakalak," "Main Street Rag," "Birmingham Arts Journal," "River Poets Journal," "The Other Journal," "Wherewithal," and "Hip Mama."



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 Susan Laughter Meyers at bardow12@aol.com
or Libby Bernardin at libbypoet@gmail.com.*

Visit the Litchfield Tea & Poetry Series page on Facebook.

Safetypup program celebrates 20 years in County; Program sponsors needed for 2016



Sheriff Lane Cribb, center, is pictured with representatives from the National Child Safety Council.

On Jan. 27, a 20-year recognition award was presented to Georgetown County Sheriff A. Lane Cribb. The award was presented by Dale Royer of the National Child Safety Council in recognition of the Sheriff's Office's participation in the Council's Safetypup program.

Safetypup helps children learn and remember the basics of child safety. The diversified program allows the Sheriff's Office to visit with local youth and teach children how to stay safe and drug free.

"NCSC is proud to bring the Safetypup program to Georgetown County. With the help of Sheriff Cribb and his office, we may help to prevent a needless tragedy from happening to a child," said Dale Royer, the council's safety coordinator.

For more than 60 years the Council has helped law enforcement throughout 48 states coordinate effective child safety educational programs. The educator-designed materials the Sheriff's Office receives each year are filled with games, pictures, puzzles, riddles, rhymes and songs.

The Council has developed a way to make the rules of safety fun and easy to learn. Safetypup has become a safety hero and positive role model for children nationwide.

Safetypup, a fun loving puppy, is a visible reminder to stay safe and drug free. The materials reach children with age-level appropriate messages and target topics that can and do affect their everyday lives.

"I feel the Safetypup program helps make safe living fun," said Cribb. "We enjoy visiting the children each year, and never tire of seeing their enthusiasm when they meet Safetypup."

The Safetypup program is financially supported through the contributions of local business, industrial, civic, fraternal and veteran leaders. "Their concern and dedication to the safety and well-being of our young people helps our program to continue each year," Cribb said. "We appreciate the support we have received over the past years," he added.

How to help:

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office is currently requesting contributions for its 2016-17 program, which begins this fall. If you are interested in being a sponsor, checks may be mailed to: Georgetown County Sheriff's Office, Attn Sheriff Lane Cribb, P.O. Box 1292, Georgetown, SC 29442-1292. Checks should be made payable to the National Child Safety Council.

Puckett named Manager of the Year for 2015

Herb Puckett, superintendent of the Facility Services Division of the Public Services Department, has been named Georgetown County's Manager of the Year for 2015.

The Manager of the Year Award is presented at the end of each calendar year to recognize county department/division managers and first line supervisors for excellence on the job.

Herb Puckett has been employed as Superintendent of Facility Services for 13 years. Earlier this year, he was named the Manager of the Year by the S.C. chapter of the American Public Works Association.

He is described by his director, Ray Funnys, as "an invaluable asset, not only to the Department of Public Services, but to

the entire county."

"Herb's willingness to take on new projects almost daily shows his dedication, loyalty and integrity," Funnys said. "He handles a very large workload with patience and an excitement for the job."

Herb supervises 22 employees on a daily basis. His recent accomplishments include helping the county save more than \$1.5 million on renovations to the historic courthouse and \$1.8 million on renovations to the Howard Center by having his division do most of the work in-house. He also works closely with the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office Re-Entry Services program, training and guiding inmates in learning facility services skills. These skills will



Herb Puckett, left, is pictured with County Council Vice Chairman Ron Charlton.

hopefully give inmates the best opportunity to obtain work and avoid recidivism after release from jail.

As part of his job, Herb oversees all Facility Services budgets

and finances. Additionally, he plans and administers the division's annual budget of more than \$900,000, ensuring compliance with established budgetary guidelines.

Stone named Employee of the Quarter

Rhonda Stone of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation was named the County's Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2015. She has been employed with the county for 15 years and is her department's Tournament and Event Coordinator. She also handles Accounts Payable for Parks and Recreation.

The Employee of the Quarter Award was designed to recognize full- and part-time employees at non-managerial levels in all county departments.

Rhonda started working with the County as a volunteer coach, progressing to part-time gym/field worker, then accounts payable and administrative/program assistant, and finally tournament and event coordinator. On a daily basis, Rhonda handles a wide array of duties from budget tracking and managing inventory of supplies, to coordination of all aspects of sports rentals and large events. Beth Goodale, director of Parks and Recreation spoke

glowingly of her in a nomination letter for this award, calling Rhonda not only her right hand, but the left as well, and stating that Rhonda is always willing to take on any task assigned to her and complete it efficiently and thoroughly.

"Rhonda is always the first to ask how she can help and is always there to assist, whether the need is someone to take a 12-hour shift answering phones in the Emergency Operations Center, serving 500 plates of chicken perlieu in 90-degree weather, or managing a tournament site for a major tournament in the cold rain. She can always be depended on," Goodale said.

Rhonda volunteers to serve as administrative coordinator for the S.C. Emergency Management Association's annual conference, where she manages the registration process and desk during this multi-day convention. She completed a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class with other employ-

ees in 2015. Shortly after, she used her new skills to assist a motorist she encountered while driving home from work, who was experiencing a medical emergency.

Rhonda has also enlisted her family members to volunteer for the county. Her husband in particular has become a valuable member of the Parks and Recreation team, assisting at major events and tournaments in a variety of capacities. Rhonda has a long history with the county and extensive knowledge of her department's operations.

"Rhonda is an advocate for Parks and Recreation at all times and she tirelessly represents the department when working and



Rhonda Stone, left, is pictured with County Council Vice Chairman Ron Charlton.

on her time off," Goodale said. "She understands my desire to do more with less and to always go the extra mile. She lives this philosophy on a daily basis and can always be counted on to go above and beyond expectations when performing the many duties asked of her."

Additionally, Rhonda is always among the first to be involved in employee activities, including blood donation drives and morale committee contests.

Library to have free classic movie showings

The Waccamaw Library at 41 St. Paul Place will offer free Friday night movies all winter, featuring beloved classic films. All movies start at 6:30 p.m. in the expansive new DeBordieu Auditorium. Reservations are not necessary, but call Steele Bremner at (843) 545-3363 with any questions.

The film lineup is as follows:

Feb. 12, "Woman of the Year"

Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy's first film together. Rival reporters Sam and Tess, who fall in love and get married, only to find their relationship strained when Sam comes to resent Tess' hectic lifestyle.

Feb. 26, "Dial 'M' for Murder"

Alfred Hitchcock's creepy detective fiction film starring Grace Kelly. An ex-tennis pro carries out a plot to murder his wife. When things go wrong, he improvises a brilliant plan B.

March 4, "Top Hat"

A screwball musical comedy in which Fred Astaire plays an American dancer named Jerry Travers, who comes to



Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy in "Woman of the Year."

London to star in a show. He meets and attempts to impress Dale Tremont (Ginger Rogers) to win her affection.

March 18, "My Fair Lady"

An arrogant professor wagers that he can teach a poor Cockney flower seller (Audrey Hepburn) "proper" English and introduce her to society, with no one the wiser.

Disaster Recovery Center in Georgetown now closed

A Disaster Recovery Center at Beck Recreation Center in Georgetown closed permanently on Jan. 27. The center housed representatives from FEMA and had been open since October, when South Carolina experienced catastrophic flooding.

With the center closed, anyone seeking information about flood-related federal assistance can receive help by calling FEMA at 1-800-621-3362 or by visiting www.fema.gov/disaster/4241.

Dock-diving dogs will return to Georgetown in April

Palmetto Dock Dogs will bring its competitions back to Georgetown April 8-10, during the Winayah Bay Heritage Festival and Bassmaster Elite Series fishing tournament at the Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex.

Dog owners and their pets can participate in a practice session on April 8 from 4-6 p.m. at the Marine Complex to see if they have an interest in entering their pet in the competition.

Registration and practice begin April 9 at 9 a.m. Dogs do not have to have participated in a Dock Dogs event previously in order to compete. Competitions will run throughout the day April 9 and 10. In the competitions, the pet owner throws a toy into a pool set up for the event. The dog jumps from a platform into the pool and retrieves the toy. Dogs are rated on their performance.

The event is open to spectators and will provide an exciting addition to a weekend of activities that will be all about the outdoors and our outdoor heritage. For more information, visit www.fishgeorgetown.com.

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



Georgetown County Parks and 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

Find us online!

Whether you're looking for jobs, the latest news or to contact a specific department, online is a great way to stay updated or get in touch with us.

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



Georgetown County, South Carolina

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



Library brings free videography lessons to schools



Above, Heather Pelham of the Georgetown County Library system, teaches teens at Carvers Bay High School about videography. At left, teens try out some of what they learned. The library offers free video classes to all middle and high schools in Georgetown County School District. Teachers interested in requesting this service should call Pelham at the library, (843) 545-3327.

The Embers to perform free concert during festival weekend

The Embers, a well-known beach music band, have joined the lineup of performers that county residents and visitors can enjoy for free during the first week of April.

The concert will be part of a three-night run of the Georgetown Business Association's Music in the Park series, scheduled to coincide with the the Bassmaster Elite Series tournament and Winyah Bay Heritage Festival, which will come to Georgetown April 7-10.

The Embers are set to perform at Francis Marion Park on Front Street from 7-9 p.m. April 9, capping off the three-day run that will begin with free performances by two country music stars. The music series kicks off April 7 with Josh Turner and will feature Jason Michael Carroll on April 8.

The Embers are a local favorite, having performed previously in Georgetown County at events including the Pawleys Pavilion Reunion.

"The Embers are a proven hit in this community and will have the added benefit of attracting people who might not come out for the country music shows that we already had scheduled. This gives a whole other demographic one more thing to look



The Embers will perform in Georgetown on April 9 as part of festivities surrounding the Bassmaster Elite Series tournament and the Winyah Bary Heritage Festival. Admission to the concert is free.

forward to during what is guaranteed to be an exciting week for Georgetown County," said Michele Overton of the GBA.

The Embers boast numerous albums and single releases that span decades and all crazes. They continue to exhibit top quality showmanship, musicianship and professionalism.

Having been inducted into the S.C. Rhythm and Blues Hall of Fame and most recently the S.C. Beach Music Hall of Fame, the Embers also carry the moniker of North Carolina's Official Ambassadors of Music.

The Embers have traveled the country and the world, and

have performed at a wide array of events. They have also traveled throughout South Korea to perform at American military bases.

"The Embers are widely considered a musical marvel and have laid the groundwork for what has become known as beach music," Overton said.

According to the band's members, they consider the genre of beach music to be "music with a memory" and have been created lasting memories since its inception in 1958. They describe their music as "heart and soul, rhythm and blues, feel good music."