

Inside this Issue

- New York Times bestselling author Daniel Wallace to speak at Waccamaw Library, Page 3.
- Tea and Poetry series continues with wildlife writer, open mic, Page 4.
- Registration open for spring youth sports, Page 5.
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day scheduled for April, Page 7.
- Renowned Charleston gospel group returns to library for free performance, Page 10.

Calendar

Feb. 18 – Georgetown County offices and facilities are closed in observance of Presidents Day.

Feb. 21 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse on Screven St.

Feb. 26 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse on Screven St.

March 6 – Last day to register for Spring Adult Kickball League. See page 4.

March 12 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse on Screven St.

March 15 – Board of Elections and Voter Registration Public Hearing, 10 a.m. See page 2.

March 21 – Groundbreaking Ceremony for new Southern Georgetown Library branch. See page 10.

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Volume 7, Issue 3

February 2019

County readies for Bassmaster Elite

Week of activities to include Heritage Festival, free concert series and more

Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway could be accused of sounding a little like Fred Sanford these days.

"Yep, this is the big one," he has told folks countless times over the last few months, since Bassmaster announced it will bring its Elite Series back to Winyah Bay April 11-14. The event will again also feature the Winyah Bay Heritage Festival and a free concert series.

The County has hosted a Bassmaster event annually since 2015, including its first Elite Series in 2016. Ever since, residents have been clamoring for the Elite Series' return.

"Every time we announce another Bassmaster tournament, people ask me 'is this the big one?'" Hemingway said. "Now, I finally get to tell them again, 'Yep, this is the big one. This is the one you've been waiting for.'"

The Bassmaster Elite Series is the highest level of professional bass fishing tournaments. After setting the world standard for professional bass tournament competition, B.A.S.S. announced several months ago that it would introduce historic changes for this year's Elite Series, "elevating the sport to levels never seen before." "We just celebrated our 50th anniversary at B.A.S.S., and made the decision to create an environment sec-



Fans cheer as Elite anglers parade in their boats and trailers to the weigh-in stage on the final day of the 2016 Bassmaster Elite Series in Georgetown.

ond to none in the world of professional bass fishing," Bruce Akin, CEO of B.A.S.S., said. "Our anglers have been loyal to the Elite Series, and we want to not only reward that loyalty, but also redefine what it means to be a professional angler. We feel the new Elite Series format accomplishes these goals, and also provides bass fishing fans with more of the content they crave."

When Georgetown County hosted the Elite Series in 2016, it drew one of the largest crowds in Elite Series History, with 27,500 people in attendance. Additionally,

See "Bassmaster," Page 7

County officials advocate for permanent river gauges

Temporary river gauges installed in Georgetown County during the area's most recent flooding events were helpful. But they aren't good enough, county officials said recently in a meeting with the S.C. Disaster Recovery Office.

The office is expected to receive more than \$157 million in the near future to spend on hazard mitigation within the state. County officials want some of those funds to be used on installing permanent river gauges in key locations within the County.

"That is priority Number One for

Georgetown County," Sam Hodge, the county's Emergency Manager. "The closest gauge we have is in Jamestown."

The lack of permanent gauges directly correlates with the county's other biggest issue in regard to flooding — modeling flooding in tidal waters. The lack of accurate modeling for tidal waters was a huge setback for Georgetown



Sam Hodge

County Emergency Management last year during Hurricane Florence. The state is responsible for flood modeling, and the models available for Georgetown County were either inaccurate or not available at all due to the difficulty of predicting flooding in tidal areas.

"I know it's a challenge, but I also know it can be done, and that's something we have to have," Hodge said. "It's huge for us; it's the difference between evacuating 60 people and evacuating 6,000. And being

See "Mitigation," Page 6

Public hearing on residency claims moves to March

A public hearing to investigate accusations against County Council Member Austin Beard concerning his residency has been postponed to March 15. The delay is the result of a medical emergency experienced by Beard's attorney on the morning of Jan. 18, when the hearing was originally scheduled. Due to the circumstances, the board and the complainant's attorney were agreeable to the postponement.

The public hearing will be conducted by the Georgetown County Board of Voter Registration and Elections. It was scheduled following a complaint issued against Beard by groups including the local branch of the NAACP and the West End Citizens Council. Representatives from these groups addressed County Council and the board in January with claims that Beard does not reside in the district he represents — Council District 5. They have asked that Beard resign immediately.

The meeting will take place at 10 a.m. in Council Chambers, located in the historic county courthouse at 129 Screven St., Georgetown.

Public Hearing

When: March 15, 10 a.m.
Where: County Council Chambers, 129 Screven St., Georgetown.

Library to celebrate S.C. Gullah/Geechee heritage with film series

On Feb. 19, the Friends of the Georgetown Library will celebrate South Carolina's Gullah/Geechee culture by hosting a free "mini film festival" as part of its "Tuesdays With..." program.

The event will feature two short documentaries on the Gullah culture of the South Carolina Lowcountry, provided by the Gullah Geechee Heritage Corridor Commission. An introduction will be provided by Heather Hodges, executive director of the commission, which is based on Johns Island.

The first of the films is "The Language You Cry In," the story of how an important language link between the Gullah/Geechee and the people of Sierra Leone was documented and reclaimed. The second is "From Whence We Came," a look at what happens when members of Gullah/Geechee communities gather for a Watch Night service commemorating the date of Jan. 1, 1863, when enslaved people in the Lowcountry, the Sea Islands and throughout the United States emerged from bondage as a result of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

The program will begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, in the Georgetown Library Auditorium. Please note this program will be slightly longer than usual programs in the series, and will end at 11:30 a.m.

Coming to Georgetown, S.C. April 11-14, 2019



Featuring the Winyah Bay Heritage Festival

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

Plus 2 Free Concerts
 by Country Music Stars



Admission is free for concerts, festival and viewing of daily boat launch and weigh-in. All activities take place at the Carroll Campbell Marine Complex, 101 Riverwalk Drive, Georgetown.



WWW.FISHGEORGETOWN.COM

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

'Big Fish' author Daniel Wallace to speak at Waccamaw Library

New York Times bestselling novelist Daniel Wallace will bring the magic from his novel "Big Fish" to life as part of a celebration of the work this month.

Wallace is scheduled to appear at the Waccamaw Library at 10 a.m. Feb. 21, where he will read from his work, then participate in a question and answer period. The library is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. The event, to take place in the DeBordieu Auditorium, is free and open to all.

Wallace's reading is part of a series of related events at the library that will include a screening of director Tim Burton's film version of "Big Fish" on Feb. 15 at 2:30 p.m., as well as a live performance of songs from the Broadway musical version of "Big Fish" on Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. In addition, there will be a special children's storytime on Feb. 22 at 10:30 a.m. featuring "The Cat's Pajamas," a children's book written and illustrated by Wallace.

These events are also free and open to the public, and will take place in the library's DeBordieu Auditorium. All events are sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library.

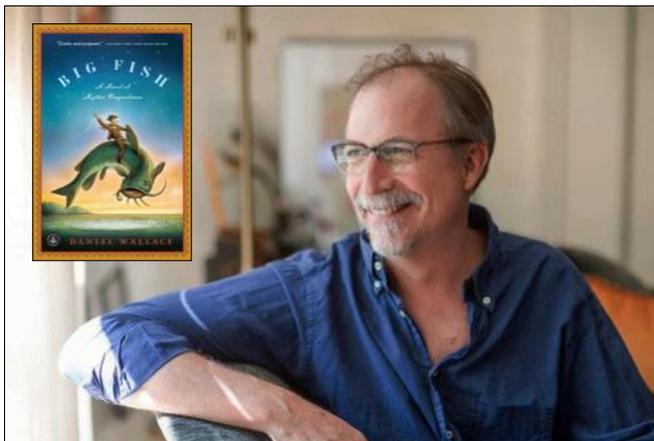
Wallace is the acclaimed author of six novels, including "Big Fish" (1998), which is his best known novel, thanks to the movie and Broadway musical. "Big Fish" follows main character Edward Bloom, a charismatic storyteller, along adventures in the small-town South that mix reality and myth.

Wallace's other novels include "Ray in Reverse" (2000), "The Watermelon King" (2003), "Mr. Sebastian and the Negro Magician" (2007), "The Kings and Queens of Roam" (2013), and most recently "Extraordinary Adventures" (2017). He has published dozens of short stories in venues such as "The Yale Review," "Shenandoah," "The Georgia Review," "Long Story Short," and "The Best American Short Stories," and he is a regular contributor to "Garden & Gun" magazine. His work has been translated into 18 languages. In addition to his writing, Wallace is a skilled illustrator and cartoonist; as a result, his stories reflect a strong visual sense. He has also written and illustrated children's books.

A native of Alabama who attended Emory University and the University of North Carolina, Wallace has lived nearly all of his life in the South. He serves as the J. Ross MacDonald Distinguished Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In April, Wallace will be honored for his career-long literary accomplishments as recipient of the 2019 Harper Lee Award.

Wallace describes his writing process as a mix between improvisation and discipline. While he is at heart "an improvisational writer" who likes to "let the story go and trust that it is going to evolve in its own way," he also cautions that years of practice may go into writing a single good story. "It's like playing basketball," he noted, drawing an analogy from his beloved UNC Tarheels. "When you're in the moment out on the court, you're not thinking about a crossover dribble or faking left and going right. It's something you do instinctively from repeated practice."

This balance between improvising and structure is reflected in the style of his first novel, "Big Fish." At the time, Wallace was a new father. "Because of my son, I didn't have time to write a 30-page chapter," he recalled. "I wrote during his naps, and, like the rings of a tree, you can see the length of the chapters as being the length of the naps he took."



At top: Daniel Wallace, author of the novel "Big Fish," will talk about his work at the Waccamaw Library on Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. A special storytime one Feb. 22 at 10:30 a.m. will feature his children's book "The Cat's Pajamas." Above: a scene from the movie "Big Fish," which will be shown on Feb. 15 at 2:30 p.m. at the library. That evening at 5:30 p.m., the library will also host a free concert featuring songs from the Broadway musical adaptation of "Big Fish." All events are free and open to the public, thanks to sponsorship from the Friends of the Waccamaw Library.



One of the finest contemporary comic novelists, Wallace expands the genre of comedy through fiction that is funny, yet serious. He uses humor to explore some of our darker fears about family, failure, disability, lost time, and death. His stories lighten us up as they enlighten us.

"Basically, I love jokes. Life is hard, and laughter is good," he said. "I want to talk about things that aren't necessarily enjoyable, but I want readers to enjoy the enjoyable. It's really hard to make somebody cry, but I can easily make you laugh. And the source of both of those emotions is not quite in the same place, but definitely in the same neighborhood. If you can approach that place through humor, then the chances of getting into deeper emotional places later are much greater."

Annie Stewart named Community Volunteer of the Year by Georgetown County

Annie Stewart, who has volunteered her time for Georgetown County Fire/EMS since 2015, has been named Volunteer of the Year for 2018 by Georgetown County government. She was recognized by Georgetown County Council at the group's Jan. 22 meeting.

Stewart worked full-time for Georgetown County Fire/EMS for nearly 20 years. After she retired, she found she wasn't entirely ready to leave it behind. She decided to continue her service to the community through the department as a volunteer for the Department's Station 14. She also assists in other capacities within the department as needed, said Fire Marshal Jesse Cooper.

Known around the department as "Ms. Annie," Stewart serves in the capacity of liaison at Station 14, assisting the fire marshal in training and meetings. She is described as a reliable individual who corresponds with volunteers at Stations 8 and 14 regarding updating file information, courses offered, participating in upcoming events, budgets, criteria for maintaining active status as a volunteer firefighter and much more.

Her spirit encourages others to do their best, remain positive and know that the work done at Georgetown County Fire/EMS makes a difference in the lives of others, Cooper said.



Ms. Annie Stewart is pictured with County Council Chairman John Thomas. Stewart was recognized by Council on Jan 22. as the county's Community Volunteer of the Year for 2018.

ADULT KICKBALL LEAGUE

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

MAR. 11 THRU MAY 1, 2019

EAST BAY PARK GEORGETOWN

FEE: \$100 PER TEAM, OPEN TO AGES 16+ (16/17 YEAR OLDS W/ PARENTAL CONSENT)
CAPTAIN'S MEETING/FEE DUE ON MAR. 6, 2019

SINGLE PLAYERS/FREE AGENTS WELCOME!

TO REGISTER, CALL OR EMAIL RANDY AKERS
(843) 359-6419 | BAKERS@GTCOUNTY.ORG

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation
 2030 Church St. Georgetown, SC 29440
 (843) 545-3275
www.GTCParks.org

@GTCParks

Tea and poetry Series continues in March with wildlife writer, open mic

After a successful start earlier this month with a program featuring Tim Conroy, brother to the late Pat Conroy, the 2019 Litchfield Tea and Poetry Series will continue in March with a noted wildlife writer.



Pat Riviere-Seel will take the floor at 3 p.m. March 7 at the Waccamaw Library in Pawleys Island. She is the author of three poetry collections. Her most recent, "Nothing Below but Air," is a semifinalist for the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award. Her chapbook, "The Serial Killer's Daughter," received the Roanoke Chowan Award.

Riviere-Seel

Additionally, Riviere-Seel has taught in the University of N.C. — Asheville's Great Smokies Writing Program, and was the N.C. Poetry Society's Distinguished Poet for Western North Carolina from 2016-2018.

After Riviere-Seel's reading, an open mic session will take place. All who attend are invited to read one of their own poems (no longer than one page, please).

In April, the series will feature acclaimed poets Ashley Mace Havird and David Havird, who will return to their native South Carolina to read their work on Thursday, April 4. Ashley is the current Poet Laureate of Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and has published three collections of poems.

Tea and homemade confections are served after readings. Programs are free and open to the public.

Early Walker named Employee of the Quarter for end of 2018

Early Walker, an equipment operator and crew chief with Georgetown County's Public Works Division, has been named Georgetown County's Employee of the Quarter for the last quarter of 2018. He was recognized by Georgetown County Council on Jan. 22.

The Employee of the Quarter Award recognizes full-time and part-time employees of Georgetown County for excellence on the job. Walker has been employed with the county for 14 years. He was nominated for the award by Public Services Department Director Ray Funnye.

In his nomination letter, Funnye states that Walker "possesses an impeccable work ethic and can be counted on to respond above and beyond whenever necessary."

In his day-to-day duties, Walker works hard to ensure that grading and maintenance in his assigned area happens efficiently and effectively. He supervises the activities of a work crew, receives and handles resident complaints, investigates matters of concern and performs a variety of duties involved in the maintenance and operation of equipment used for construction and road maintenance. He was nominated for the last quarter "because he has risen to the challenge of a leadership role thrust upon him suddenly due to a colleague's medical leave." Walker successfully ensured continuity of service in his assigned area without missing a step, Funnye said.

Walker's current job involves monitoring and motivating a crew,



Early Walker, left, is pictured with County Council Chairman John Thomas. Walker was recognized by Council at its Jan. 22 meeting.

as well as ensuring professional road projects outcomes. He must ensure projects are done properly the first time on the site in order to stay in budget, despite having projects that often change due to difficult or unforeseen conditions on the site. He consistently offers solutions that are reasonable to get the job done. Further, he must continually inspect equipment and serve as a safety role model to his crew. Walker's calm, easy-going demeanor is valued in the field. His workers take his direction and respect his judgment. He is known as a team player and is a valued asset to the county.

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER SPRING YOUTH SPORTS



TRACK & FIELD

Registration Closes March 2, 2019

FEE: \$10 per Child

Practices held on Mondays & Wednesdays at 5:30pm

Meet days & times TBA

FLAG FOOTBALL

Registration Closes March 30, 2019

FEE: \$25 per Child

Practices/Games held on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 5:30pm



ALL SPORTS OPEN TO AGES 4-12

PRACTICE DAYS & TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF VOLUNTEER COACHES

VOLUNTEER COACHES NEEDED!

GEORGETOWN COUNTY
PARKS & RECREATION
2080 CHURCH ST. GEORGETOWN, SC 29440
(843) 545-3275
WWW.GTCCPARKS.ORG



Ride with Us
for the 2nd Annual
**Tour de Plantersville Discovery
Ride & Cultural Festival**
10, 25 or 40 mile ride
Saturday, April 27, 2019
REGISTER TODAY
www.tourdeplantersville.com

Hammock Coast | The Village Group

Mitigation

Continued from Front Page

able to model that all starts with a good data set from river gauges. It's vital to us being able to prepare our communities and plan ahead."

Local governments have been asked to submit projects they would like to see funded to the state Disaster Recovery Office. There is no limit on the number of projects communities can submit, but projects are not guaranteed funding.

The Disaster Recovery Office was notified of the incoming funds through an announcement from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. Though the Office is still waiting for more details, it is expected that at least 70 percent of funds will be required to have a provable impact on low to moderate income residents, said J.R. Sanderson, the Office's program management director.

Though mitigation monies were previously handled by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, he said HUD spent so much repairing and rebuilding after disasters in recent years that it is now trying to head off future damages through mitigation.

Mitigation efforts qualifying for

this funding will include actions that would aid communities, improvements of public facilities or potentially government buyout of property that has been repeatedly damaged by events such as flooding.

As project recommendations are received from local government agencies, they will be pooled, and evaluated and ranked by a contractor. Projects will then be completed in order until the available funding is exhausted, Sanderson said.

Ricky Martin of the City of Georgetown reiterated Hodge's comments, highlighting the difference between flooding predictions on Front Street versus actual flooding experienced during Hurricane Florence. Predictions were for upward of six feet of flooding. Normal King Tides were actually experienced. That kind of discrepancy costs public trust in future events and could cost lives if residents choose to ignore recommendations from public safety officials, he said.

Georgetown County Emergency Management and other departments will work to put together a package of projects that will be submitted to the Disaster Recovery Office for consideration for funding. Neighboring jurisdictions will be doing the same, so competition for funds is likely to be high.

Save the Date: Public hearing on hazard mitigation plan will take place this spring

On May 7, residents of Georgetown County will be asked for their input on an update to the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan will be posted on the county website in advance of the meeting.

Residents with an interest in the plan are asked to make plans now to participate. The meeting will take place at 2 p.m. in the county's Emergency Operations Center at 2222 Highmarket St. Look for more information as it becomes available closer to the meeting date.

Council discusses how to handle vacancies on boards, commissions

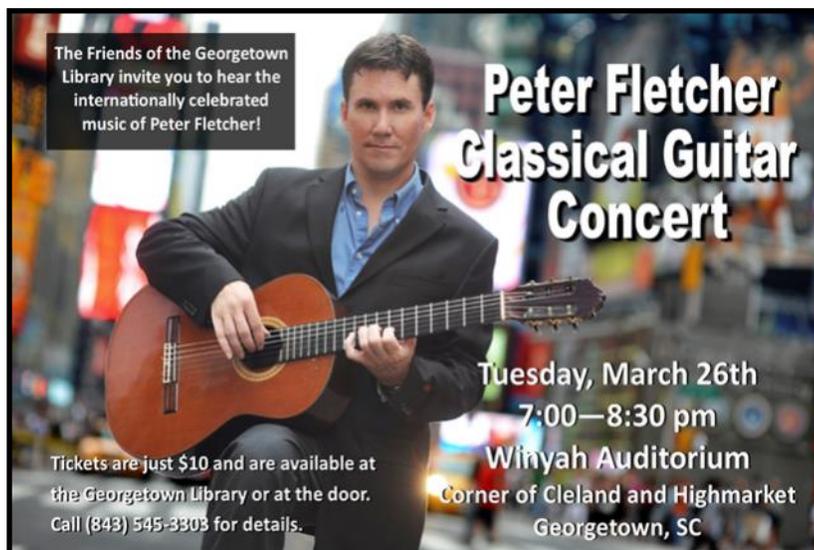
Georgetown County Council members hope to make members of the public more aware in the future of opportunities to serve their community on council-appointed boards and commissions.

Council took up the issue at its Feb. 12 meeting. Vacancies on many such boards and commissions, which often need members with specialized knowledge, have historically been difficult to fill.

Council said it wants to more heavily advertise open positions on boards and commissions in hopes of generating more public interest and having a broader field of applicants. County staff will come up with a policy, which will include utilizing local media as well as county resources such as its newsletter and website, to bring more attention to opportunities to serve on boards and commissions.

Council members discussed changing existing limits on terms — members are currently limited to two four-year terms, after which a four-year gap is required before they can be appointed again to the same board. They decided against that, but did direct staff to scrap a 90-day limit on how long members can remain after their terms expire when a replacement cannot be found. Members will now be able to remain for an indefinite amount of time while a replacement is sought.

Staff will make changes to the existing ordinance to reflect the wishes of Council. It will then go back to Council for three readings.



The Friends of the Georgetown Library invite you to hear the internationally celebrated music of Peter Fletcher!

Peter Fletcher Classical Guitar Concert

Tuesday, March 26th
7:00—8:30 pm
Winyah Auditorium
Corner of Cleland and Highmarket
Georgetown, SC

Tickets are just \$10 and are available at the Georgetown Library or at the door. Call (843) 545-3303 for details.

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.



Bassmaster

Continued from Front Page

the Elite LIVE show — broadcast online over three days — put Georgetown County in the national spotlight, generating more than 93,000 video plays and more than 3.2 million minutes of viewing time.

Georgetown County officials hope to top those numbers this year. They also expect to again see a significant economic impact from the Elite series, as anglers and fans alike pack into town, filling hotels and restaurants, Hemingway said.

As always, boat launch and weigh-in will be open to spectators and there is no cost for admittance.

A list of anglers competing in the 2019 Elite Series is available at www.gtcounty.org.

Heritage Festival and Concert Series also set to return

In addition to the level of competition, one thing that makes the Elite Series special for residents and visitors alike is the addition of special events surrounding the tournament.

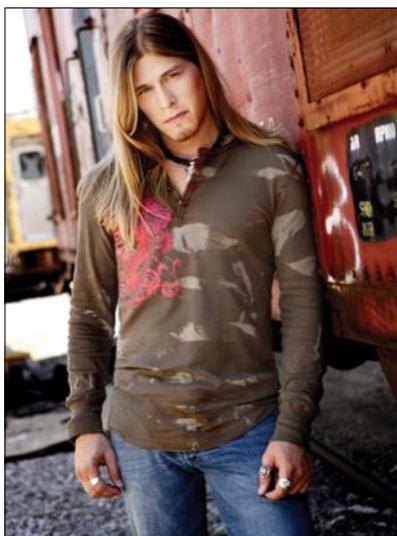
Once again, the Elite Series will be held in conjunction with the Georgetown County Historical Society's Winyah Bay Heritage Festival.

The festival is a celebration of the outdoors and the area's historical ties to a wide range of outdoor activities, including hunting and fishing. Registration is currently open for festival vendors. Event-goers can expect to see a wide range of arts and crafts in keeping with the outdoors theme, including hand carved duck decoys. The festival will also feature activities for kids, the S.C. Duck Calling Championships, retriever trials and sheep herding demonstrations.

The festival will take place on April 13 and 14 at the Campbell Marine Complex. Anyone interested in becoming a vendor or getting involved in the festival is asked to contact info@winyahbayfestival.com.

If that's not enough to be excited about, the Georgetown Business Association is bringing back its free Bass Weekend Music Series, again featuring headliner Jason Michael Carroll. The chart-topping Country crooner will perform on April 13. This will be his fifth annual Bass Weekend performance in Georgetown. He is known for his including "Alyssa Lies," "I Can Sleep When I'm Dead" and "Livin' Our Love Song." Opening performer will be Presley Barker.

Performing on April 12 is longtime Country singer Collin Raye, who



Country music star Jason Michael Carroll has become a regular part of Bassmaster events in Georgetown County. This year's festivities will again include a free concert by Carroll. This year's musical lineup will also feature Collin Raye. The concerts are sponsored by the Georgetown Business Association.



Like the 2016 Elite Series hosted by Georgetown County, this year's event will again feature the Winyah Bay Heritage Festival and a free concert series featuring nationally known country music singers.

produced his first Number One hit, "Love Me" in 1991. The album featuring that son was the first of four consecutive albums he put out that achieved platinum status. Opening performer will be the Josh Brannon Band.

Both concerts will take place from 6-9 p.m. at Francis Marion Park, located at the corner of Front and Broad streets.

Though admission is free, the Business Association is offering VIP ticket opportunities, which include special seating and a meet and greet with Carroll and Raye.

For more information, contact GBASC29440@gmail.com.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY and Paper Shredding Event

Safely dispose of your paper documents. Staples, rubber bands or clips are fine, but no 3-ring binders, please.

The following materials will be accepted: Paint, oil, batteries (alkaline & rechargeable), incandescent bulbs, household cleaners, non-commercial pesticides, fertilizers and anything labeled "warning," "poisonous" or "toxic."

HELP KEEP POLLUTANTS OUT OF OUR WATERWAYS

For more information or to volunteer call (843) 545-3542 or (843) 545-3463

Saturday,
April 6

9 a.m. to noon
at Waccamaw
Intermediate
School, 320
Wildcat Way,
Pawleys Island.



Florida Jackson Yeldell to be inducted into Georgetown County Women's Hall of Fame

Florida Jackson Yeldell (1915-2006) was born in Georgetown and spent her life as an educator, teaching youth across the country. After her retirement in 1988, she moved back home and dedicated herself to giving back to the community she grew up in, continuing to educate and work with youth. Next month, the Georgetown County Women's Hall of Fame will honor Yeldell and her legacy by making her its latest inductee.

Yeldell's induction will take place during the Hall of Fame Committee's annual luncheon on Thursday, March 14, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Kimble's Restaurant at Wachesaw Plantation. Guest speaker for the event will be Tracy Bailey, an educator, scholar and executive director of Freedom Readers, a growing nonprofit devoted to enhancing literacy and learning among children in low wealth communities.

Cost to attend the event is \$35 per person or \$280 for a table of eight. Seating is limited and reservations may be made at www.visitgeorge.com or by calling (843) 546-8436.

Yeldell was born in 1915 to Janie and Robert Jackson. Her father was one of Georgetown's first African-American mail carriers, and taught his daughter the value of education, sharing with her his dreams of being able to return to school to study history.

At 15, Yeldell went to boarding school at Morris College, where she earned a degree in English in 1936. From there,



she moved to Andrews for her first assignment as an educator. She spent two years in Andrews teaching fifth- and sixth-graders.

Toward the end of the Great Depression, a scholarship from the National Youth Administration gave Yeldell the chance to achieve her father's dream. She was able to study history at Howard University, where she earned her first master's degree in 1941. She would earn a second master's degree – this one in geography – from California State at Chico in the early 1970s.

Yeldell went on to work for the U.S. War Department during World War II before moving on to a long and accomplished career in education. She taught in schools around the nation, covering

See "Hall of Fame," Page 9

Sheriff's Deputies talk local issues with area residents over coffee



The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office had its most recent Coffee with a Cop event at McDonald's in Pawleys Island on Jan. 31. Coffee with a Cop events are held at restaurants across the county throughout the year and offer an important opportunity for Sheriff's Deputies to talk informally with residents about issues happening in their communities.

Serengeti Shall Not Die:
A Strange German Quest to Save the World's Most Famous National Park
 A film and talk by Professor Thomas Lekan
 Friday, February 22 at 10 am Georgetown Library, 405 Cleland Street
 Free—sponsored by the Friends of the Georgetown Library

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Georgetown County

Cattails & Cocktails
Sunday, February 24, 2019
1:00 to 4:00 pm

HOBCAW BARONY

Featuring **Lowcountry Cuisine, Music, & Silent Auction**

Members \$30 Nonmembers & At The Door \$35
Cash Bar Available

Tickets on sale at
The Georgetown County Museum
 or by phone. 843-545-7020

Proceeds Benefit
 The Georgetown County Museum

Construction continues at Andrews Rec. Center



Despite cold and rainy conditions in January and early February, work on the new Andrews Regional Recreation Center is humming along. Weather allowing, the county hopes to see the new facility completed and ready to open sometime this fall.

Council receives annual report on impact fees

Georgetown County collected nearly \$1.9 million in impact fees in the last fiscal year, Planning Director Boyd Johnson told County Council members this month.

Johnson presented his annual impact fee report to council on Feb. 12. Impact fees are fees collected on new construction that help pay for infrastructure, such as roads and new facilities that will be necessitated by growth resulting from the construction.

Georgetown County started implementing impact fees in 2009 to help cover growth-related fees in four specific areas: roads, parks and recreation, law enforcement and libraries.

The total collected for the most recent budget year was just under \$1.9 million. This was more than \$700,000 less than the prior year, but Johnson noted that year was more than \$700,000 higher than the 2016 budget year.

Since their introduction, impact fees have raised a total of more than \$9 million, including \$2.4 million for roads.

To view the full report, visit our [website](#).

Hall of Fame

Continued from Page 8

subjects ranging from western civilization to history and social studies. After World War II, she returned to Morris College to teach English, later moving to Washington, D.C., with her husband, John C. Yeldell, and teaching part-time for Howard University while her husband completed his master's degree. She then worked at New York University and began her Ph.D. at NYU at night, working during the days in the Bursar's Office. For two years, she worked 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and went to graduate school from 6 -10 p.m. During this time, the Yeldells' young son was sent to live with his grandfather in Georgetown.

Realizing that graduate school could wait, but the rearing of her son couldn't, she accepted the position of Dean of Women and social sciences instructor at Butler College in Tyler, Texas. After two years there, she returned to Georgetown to be with her son, Robert, and taught English for a year at Howard High School. She and Robert returned to Texas the next year and Florida spent the next 25 as an educator there.

For her life's work, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by Coastal Carolina University in 2004.

In 1988, Yeldell returned home to Georgetown County for good, and became active with organizations in the community, including Coastal Carolina University, Brookgreen Gardens and the Friends of the Waccamaw Library. She also partnered with David Drayton, retired principal of the last all-black school in Georgetown County, to teach a popular course on the Black History of Georgetown County for the Osher Lifelong Learning program.

Food waste is the #1 thing we throw away!
Why waste when you can compost and reuse?

Free Compost Bins

Why You Should Compost

1. Reduces waste in landfills
2. Free, organic fertilizer
3. Reduces carbon footprint

What You Can Compost

Fruits and Vegetables

Coffee Grounds

Tea Bags

Egg Shells

Grass Clippings

Leaves

Assorted Paper (shredded)

Wood Chips

Contact Us: 843-545-3443 → recycle@gtcounty.org

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



Famed Charleston choral group to perform traditional spirituals

One of the most respected live gospel groups in the Southeast, The Plantation Singers, will delight area residents next month with lively renditions of traditional spirituals rooted in South Carolina Gullah heritage.

The group's unique brand of a capella singing preserves deep roots across centuries of African-American culture in the Lowcountry. The concert will take place at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, in DeBordieu Auditorium at the Waccamaw Library, which is located at 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. The performance is free and open to the public, but donations for the performers are appreciated.

The concert is part of the Musicians Series, generously sponsored by the Friends of the Waccamaw Library.

Hailing from Charleston, the Plantation Singers' performances are famously inspired and inspiring. Their dedication to preserving Gullah sacred music of the Lowcountry was recognized with Charleston's prestigious Three Sisters Award. For more than 20 years, the Plantation Singers have delivered performances across the United States and abroad. They regularly appear at many of Charleston's historic homes and plantation sites, and they have performed overseas at the Relais and Chateaux Hotel conference in Naples, Italy, the Sori World Music Festival in South Korea, the Gospel Festival in Spain, and before the Prince of Scotland, among other dignitaries.

The Plantation Singers provide an uplifting,



The Plantation Singers of Charleston have performed around the world.

shoe-tapping, hand-clapping, sing-along atmosphere while staying true to the spiritual foundations of Gullah culture.

The Plantation Singers will appear as part of the Waccamaw Library's celebration of Gullah heritage, which includes David Soliday's First Thursday presentation on his aerial photographs of buried rice plantations on March 7 at 10 a.m., a screening of "Daughters of the Dust" on March 15 at 2:30 p.m., and a session on learning to coil a sweetgrass wreath on March 16 at 10 a.m.

After the Plantation Singers performance, there is one concert remaining in the 2019 Musicians Series: Palmetto Blue— "South Carolina's best bluegrass band" — will give a live performance on Saturday, March 30 at 4 p.m. The performance connects with the Library's screening of "O' Brother, Where Art Thou?" on Friday, March 29 at 2:30 p.m.

Save the Date: Groundbreaking date set for new Southern Georgetown Library branch

March 21 will be a big day for the Georgetown County Library system. That evening at 5:30 p.m., the county will finally break ground on a long-awaited fifth county library branch.

The Southern Georgetown Library will be built in the Sampit/Santee area. A reception will follow the ceremony. More information about the event schedule will be forthcoming in early March.

The new branch has been on the county's long-range capital improvement plan for several years, and residents in that area of the county have been eagerly awaiting a start on the facility. Construction is estimated to cost about \$2 million. Look for more information in next month's issue of the newsletter.

SWEETGRASS WEAVING



FAMILY CRAFT EVENT

Saturday, March 9th 10-12am

in the DeBordieu Auditorium

at the Waccamaw Neck Branch Library



Sponsored by the
Friends of the
Waccamaw Library



Come to the Waccamaw Neck Branch Library and enjoy Ruth Habersham's presentation about the history of sweetgrass weaving, followed by a hands on session of sweetgrass weaving. Families will work together on this project and make their own sweetgrass wreath to take home. All supplies are provided at no cost. **Space is limited** so please reserve your family's table by emailing aking@gtcounty.org or by calling 843-545-3349.