



The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

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- Communities encouraged to participate in Wildfire Preparedness Day, Page 6
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Calendar

- March 11** – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the old courthouse.
- March 17** – Last day to put storm-related debris in public right-of-way for roadside pickup.
- March 20** – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the old courthouse
- March 25** – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the old courthouse.

For more upcoming events, visit www.gtcounty.org/calendar.html or hammockcoast.com/calendar.

Volume 2, Issue 7

March 2014

National fishing tournaments headed to Campbell marina

A national catfish tournament coming to Georgetown in April will be the first of three major fishing tournaments the county will play host to over the next 14 months, attracting national attention and hundreds of fishermen and their families from across the country.

Cabela's King Kat Tournament Trail will stop in Georgetown for a two-day super event on April 25 and 26. Anglers will compete for cash prizes up to \$5,000, with a guaranteed payout of \$10,000. Weigh-ins will take place at the county's Carroll Ashmore Campbell Marine Complex on the Sampit River. During the King Kat tournament, the Campbell Marine Complex will also feature a free kids fishing rodeo sponsored by Cabela's, Crappie USA and Georgetown County Parks and Recreation. Signup for that event starts at 8 a.m. April 26, with the rodeo running from 9-11 a.m. Children age 12 and under are eligible to participate and enter to win one of six \$1,000 scholarships.

The Inshore Fishing Association Redfish Tour and Kayak Tour are additionally scheduled for Georgetown this year, from Aug. 15-17. And county officials re-



ceived word just last month that Georgetown County will be host to the weeklong B.A.S.S. Nation Southern Divisional Championship April 19-25, 2015.

The B.A.S.S. Nation event alone is expected to draw more than 100 fishermen, filling up hotel rooms and other rentals, said Beth Goodale, Georgetown County's director of parks and recreation. Each state sends a team of its top anglers to its respective divisional to

See "Fishing," Page 5

New director outlines game plan for county's economic development

It's a new era for economic development in Georgetown County. That's what Brian Tucker, the new director of the county's economic development department told local leaders in business and government Tuesday at an inaugural Economic Development Outlook Summit.

The event, organized by and hosted in cooperation with Horry-Georgetown Technical College, took place at the school's Georgetown campus and gave attendees a glimpse at where economic development efforts are headed under

Tucker's leadership. Present were representatives from local industry, County Council, Georgetown City Council, Andrews Town Council, Georgetown County School District, the Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce and the Alliance for Economic Development, as well as strategic workforce development partners.

"We're working with a blank slate," said Tucker, who joined the county's staff in January. He said he's starting fresh and plans to use the county's existing assets to lure

industry and create job growth, rather than allowing plans to hinge on dredging of the Georgetown Port and securing interstate access, which have long been identified as two of the area's biggest hurdles in achieving economic growth.

"What we have done here before today does not matter. We all understand there are challenges we face, but that's not important," Tucker said.

While efforts to see those projects completed will continue and

See "Tucker," Page 8

Severe Weather Awareness Week a great time for refreshers on safety, preparedness

As South Carolina Severe Weather Awareness Week draws to a close with the first full week of March, local and state emergency management officials say it's a great time for families to brush up on weather dangers and make sure they're prepared.

Gov. Nikki Haley proclaimed March 2-8 as the state's Severe Weather Awareness Week for 2014. The S.C. Emergency Management Division, the National Weather Service, and the S.C. Broadcasters Association jointly sponsor the week to remind people that severe storms, tornadoes and flash floods are significant hazards in South Carolina and people need to take proper safety precautions. SCEMD and the National Weather Service heavily promoted awareness of procedures that help keep people safe during tornadoes.

"The severe weather period for us really starts in mid-April to May," said Sam Hodge, who heads the Georgetown County Emergency Management division. "That's when we really start seeing the afternoon thunderstorms, along the coast especially, and those bring the potential for tornadoes, lightning strikes and hail."

South Carolina has averaged 11 tornadoes each year since 1950, resulting in 47 fatalities and 1,057 injuries, according to the S.C. Emergency Management Division.

Additionally, South Carolina ranks 26th in the U.S. in the number of tornado strikes, and 18th in the number of tornadoes per square mile.

Following are tips to help families be prepared for a tornado:

Before a Tornado

Be alert to changing weather conditions:

- Listen to a NOAA weather radio or to commercial radio or TV newscasts for the latest information.
- Look for approaching storms.
- Look for danger signs including a dark, often greenish sky; large hail; a large, dark, low-lying cloud (particularly if rotating); and a loud roar, similar to a freight train.

If you see approaching storms or any of the danger signs be prepared to take shelter immediately.

During a Tornado

If you are under a tornado warning seek shelter immediately.

- Get indoors to a pre-designated shelter area such as a basement, storm cellar or the lowest building level. If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level

(closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors and outside walls.

- Shutter windows and outside doors.
- If in a vehicle, trailer or mobile home, get out immediately and go to the lowest floor of a sturdy nearby building or storm shelter.
- If unable to get indoors, lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands. Be aware of potential flying debris.
- Never try to outrun a tornado in your vehicle. Instead, leave the vehicle immediately for safe shelter.

After a Tornado

- Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- Avoid downed power lines and report them to your utility company.
- Stay out of damaged buildings.

For more information, visit, www.tinyurl.com/SCseverewxwk.

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

Sign up now for Co-ed and Men's Softball Leagues!

A program of Georgetown County Parks and Recreation

Men's League

Registration ends:
March 14, 5 p.m.

First game: March 24
Games on: Monday
and Wednesday nights
Location: Retreat Park



Co-ed League

Registration ends:
March 14, 5 p.m.

First game: March 25
Games on: Tuesday
and Thursday nights
Location: Retreat Park

(843) 545-3319 or gtcounty.org

Residents ask to have storm related debris ready for pickup by March 10

Residents throughout Georgetown County are asked to have any vegetative debris related to Winter Storm Pax placed in the public right-of-way by Monday, March 10, if they want it picked up by county government.

Debris removal contractors engaged by the county are finishing up work on removing limbs left leaning and hanging in trees after the storm, and have already collected more than 740 loads and 37,000 cubic yards of storm-related debris from the right-of-way.

They'll begin another pass for right-of-way debris next week with increased crews. Plans are to start in the northwest portion of the county on Monday. This includes but is not limited to the Plantersville, Pleasant Hill, Carvers Bay and Yauhannah communities. Another team will work in the Waccamaw Neck area of the county on Monday.

Only storm-related vegetative yard debris should be placed in the right-of-way. The public right-of-way is the area of residential property that extends from the street to the sidewalk, ditch, utility pole or easement. This does not include private drives.

Georgetown County debris removal contractors will remove **only storm-generated vegetative debris**. Those who place other types of debris in the right-of-way could be cited. Bagged debris should not be placed on the public right-of-way; only loose vegetative yard waste will be collected. Do not place debris near mailboxes, water meters, fire hydrants or any other above-ground utility.

For residents who would like to drop off debris themselves, it is accepted at all community recycling centers and the landfill on High-



Debris is moved from trucks to a pile at the landfill, where it awaits chipping.

way 51. All storm-related debris collected at any of these locations, as well from the roadside, is being brought to the landfill, where it is chipped and made ready for use.

For more information about debris removal, call (843) 545-3999 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or visit www.gtcounty.org.

'Educators in Industry' head to airport to learn about opportunities for students

Georgetown County's Department of Public Services was recently host to teachers, counselors and administrators from Georgetown County School District as part of the "Educators in Industry" initiative.

A collaborative effort between the Waccamaw Regional Education Center and the S.C. Chamber of Commerce's "Dream It, Do It" campaign, the initiative engages public and private sector leaders to educate students, teachers and parents about advanced local services and industries.

Participants gathered at the Georgetown County Airport terminal building where Ray Funnye, Public Services Department director, gave an overview of the technical services provided to Georgetown County communities by the divisions in his unit — namely facilities services, infrastructure services (public works and capital projects), fleet services, stormwater and environmental services. He also discussed the variety of technical and well-paying career opportunities within the department. Educators had the opportunity to meet and network with 20 members from the department's leadership tier.

"My team and I are fully committed to supporting the 'Educators in Industry' initiative since it is relevant to and reflective of the strategic goals of the Department of Public Services," Funnye said.

He further expressed that the department will continue to create opportunities to teach students about day-to-day operations and coach students to becoming the next generation of Georgetown County's highly-skilled labor force. The department



Ray Funnye talks to educators about the Public Service Department.

aims to provide a talented and sustainable workforce by inspiring meaningful community service, promoting professional growth and encouraging employee retention.

The department recognizes the intrinsic relationship among exposing students to real-life work environments, inspiring youths to meet their academic and occupational potential and guaranteeing highly trained human resources for the future.

To learn more about the Department of Public Services and its divisions, visit www.gtcounty.org/public_services/ or contact Ray Funnye at rcfunnye@gtcounty.org.

Renowned classical guitarist makes his way back to Georgetown



Peter Fletcher will perform at Winyah Auditorium.

Peter Fletcher, a classical guitarist who has played Caregie Hall and the Lincoln Center, will perform in Georgetown this month.

Fletcher is scheduled to take the stage at Winyah Auditorium on Highmarket Street on Saturday, March 22, from 7-8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Georgetown Library.

“We are so happy that Mr. Fletcher has chosen to honor Georgetown with an encore performance,” said Dwight McInvaill, Georgetown County library director. “The combination of his poetic phrasing and the beautiful Winyah Auditorium can only lead to an evening that rejoices in the arts.”

Proceeds from the Georgetown performance benefit the Friends of the Georgetown Library.

During a career that spans more than 30 years, Fletcher has played

five times at Cornege Hall and has been featured in cultural venues nationwide including the Lincoln Center, the Chicago Cultural Center and the George Eastman House. He has been featured by media outlets including National Public Radio and affiliates, Turner Boadcasting System, Fox and NBC.

For more information about the concert, call the Georgetown Library, (843) 545-3300.

For more upcoming library events, programs, classes and more, visit the library’s website at www.georgetowncountylibrary.sc.gov.



Upcoming programs at the Georgetown Library

March 11

Steve Williams, a local author and historian, discusses his published works, “150 Facts About Blacks in Georgetown, S.C.” and “If You Don’t Push, Things Won’t Move.”

March 18

Patti Burns, head of adult services at the library, talks about “untangling your roots” — finding and organizing family histories.

March 25

Judge David Maring, a retired circuit court judge and local author, discusses his most recent novel, “Winyah Bay.” Set in Georgetown, this novel tells the story of the unforgettable people of the bay.

April 1

A representative from the Georgetown County Autism Support Group will tell of the challenges of raising an autistic child.

April 8

Celebrate National Poetry Month with a poetry reading and discussion featuring local poet Libby Bernadine.

Programs are free and begin at 10 a.m. in the library auditorium. To receive weekly program notices, e-mail pburns@gtcounty.org

Georgetown County Parks and Rec. Announces

Spring Break Camp 2014



Spring Break Week — April 21-25

at Beck Recreation Center in Georgetown and the Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

Fee is \$60 per child.

Call (843) 545-3275 for information or visit www.gtcounty.org.

Fishing

Continued from front page

attempt to qualify to advance to the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship. It is anticipated that fishermen who enter the B.A.S.S. Nation Southern Divisional will make an average of four pre-tournament fishing visits to the county. A similar tournament that took place in Michigan last year had a local economic impact of about \$2 million, Goodale added.

"We're incredibly excited. We think this is going to bring some major exposure for Georgetown County as a fisherman's paradise," Goodale said.

All three tournaments will feature weigh-ins at the Campbell Marine Complex. The facility was opened by the county in 2010 and was constructed under the county's Capital Improvement Plan with an eye toward attracting well-known national tournaments and aiding the local economy through recreational tourism.

The county's wealth of water resources, in conjunction with the Campbell complex — a 20-acre facility with six boat launch ramps, outdoor event stage, courtesy docking and parking for 200 vehicles with trailers — were imperative in securing the King Kat, IFA and B.A.S.S. Nation tournaments, Goodale said.

Goodale and her staff, along with County Administrator Sel Hemingway have been working hard over the last couple of years to get national tournaments to take an interest in Georgetown County. The catfish tournament was booked last year when Goodale attended the National Association of Sports Commissions conference in Kentucky. It wasn't initially an easy sell as tournament officials didn't associate Georgetown with the type of fishing their event focuses on, she said. But after a site visit, those same officials not only changed their thinking, but were enthusiastic enough about Georgetown County to express interest in having it host a championship in

the future.

Jon Stewart, director of B.A.S.S. Nation, recently said one of the things he likes best about the organization's divisionals is the "opportunity to go places that you don't often think of as well-known tournament destinations." It gives the organization a chance to shine a light on little-known but excellent fishing spots, garnering interest from fishermen across the nation. As host site for the southern divisional, Georgetown County will be featured in an issue of "B.A.S.S. Times" magazine the month prior to the tournament. Folks from around the nation will also be exposed to fishing opportunities available in Georgetown County via www.bassmaster.com, where daily stories and photo galleries will be posted during the tournament, and daily weigh-ins will be streamed live.

"An integral component of the development of the Carroll Ash-

more Campbell Marine Complex was to attract nationally-recognized tournaments to our area, and to expose the participants and their guests to our waterways and quality of life, in hopes of their returning for future tournaments or perhaps vacations or even home purchases," Hemingway said. "The immediate economic benefits of these tournaments will certainly make a large impact on our communities, but our goal is to develop a longstanding relationship with these organizations and their participants."

Sign up now or get more information about the King Kat tournament at www.kingkatusa.com. For information about kids events taking place during the tournament, call Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, (843) 545-3275.

Look for more details to be released about the King Kat, IFA and B.A.S.S. Nation tournaments in the future.

We Need Your History Help!

The Georgetown County Library is collecting information and scanning photos and materials about these churches:

Prince George Episcopal	St. Cyprian Episcopal
Bethesda Baptist	Mt. Olive Baptist
Bethel A.M.E.	Wesley A.M.E.
Duncan Methodist	Temple Beth Elohim
St. Mary's Catholic	

If you have any materials you'd like to add, please contact Julie Warren at 545-3316. All documents are returned after scanning.

**Have questions or comments
about this newsletter?**

Contact Jackie Broach,
jbroach@gtcounty.org or (843) 545-3164

Cabela's King Kat

April 25-26, 2014

IFA Redfish and Kayak tours

August 15-17, 2014

B.A.S.S. Nation Southern Divisional Championship

April 19-25, 2015

SAVE THE DATE!

**The Friends of the Waccamaw Library
invite you to attend these fundraisers**

Silpada Trunk Show — April 22

Following last year's successful Silpada party, we are once again having an afternoon of fun, good food and jewelry galore

A Musical Evening — May 16

New this year, the Friends are planning an evening of piano music and song with Jackie O'Neil and Gretchen Downer. Wine and dessert included.

Work begins on new Waccamaw Library



Site clearing and preparation started late last month on the grounds where the new Waccamaw Library will be constructed in Litchfield. At right is Ken Taylor of Coastal Structures, who is overseeing the project. Photos courtesy of Lee Brockington.



Communities encouraged to sign up for Wildfire Preparedness Day

In an effort to promote wildfire preparedness, Midway Fire Rescue encourages all communities to participate in the 2014 National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day.

“A simple commitment of a couple of hours or an entire day will contribute to reducing your community’s wildfire risk,” said Midway Chief Doug Eggiman. “We encourage you to challenge your friends, your family, relatives, faith-based group or youth organization to develop a project and join others

throughout the nation in making big changes.”

By signing up, communities will help raise wildfire awareness, promote collaboration and bring neighbors together to work on projects that can help protect homes and neighborhoods from future wildfire risk or current post-fire impacts.

Funding for community projects may be available. For more information, visit wildfireprepd.org or contact Todd Blomdahl, fire marshal at Midway, (843) 545-3610.



Communities get ‘firewise’

Georgetown County Council recently recognized three communities — Prince George, Camden Creek at Allston Plantation and DeBordieu Colony — for achieving national “Firewise Community” status. Pictured from left are Jim Cooper of DeBordieu, Denny Larabee of Prince George, Council Chairman Johnny Morant, Rainer Hengst of Camden Creek and Todd Blomdahl of Midway Fire Rescue. To learn more about how to become a Firewise Community, call Midway, (843) 545-3620.

MONEY
Smart Spending and Saving

Georgetown County Library
Wednesdays, Noon– 1 p.m.

Learn how to budget, how credit works, how to talk to your kids about money, the basics of investing, and how to save in 2014!

FREE! Childcare & Refreshments Provided

Made possible through a Smart Investing@your library Grant from the FINRA Foundation and the American Library Association, managed by the Georgetown County Library.

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.



Forum offers expert economic outlook for tri-county area

County's economic development director is featured panelist

Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments will bring together a panel of local and national experts to participate in a Regional Economic Outlook Forum on March 19 in Litchfield. The event will give leaders in business, industry and government from throughout Horry, Georgetown and Williamsburg counties an important look at economic trends and projections and the impact they may have for the Waccamaw Region.

Sponsored by Waccamaw Regional's Economic Outlook Board, with support from the Waccamaw Workforce Investment Board, the forum will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort. Registration

is required.

The event is a resurrection of a tradition the board carried out annually until several years ago. Recognizing its value to the communities it serves, the current board made the decision to again make the economic outlook forum an annual tradition beginning in 2014.

"We're excited to have this event back and to be able to get quality speakers to come in and share their insight. That's going to be extremely beneficial to business and governmental leaders in the counties we serve," said Tom Britton, planning director for Waccamaw Regional and an organizer for the forum. Invitations have already started going

out and Britton said he expects a good turnout from leaders in a range of sectors.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Dr. Bruce Yandle, Dean Emeritus of Clemson University's College of Business and Behavioral Sciences. He is also an alumni distinguished professor of economics emeritus at Clemson, and distinguished adjunct professor of economics with George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. He lectures regularly in George Mason's Capitol Hill program and served on the White House staff during the Ford and Carter administrations. He was executive director of the Federal Trade Commission during the Reagan administration and was a member and chairman of South Carolina's State Board of Economic Advisors. Additionally, Yandle served as a member and chairman of the board of trustees of Spartanburg Methodist College. In 2012, he received the Adam Smith Award from the Association of Private Enterprise Education for his career-long leadership in promoting the free enterprise system. His quarterly newsletter, "The Economic Situation," is distributed by Clemson and George Mason universities.

The forum will also feature Dr. Rob Salvino of Coastal Carolina University, who will give a regional economic forecast, and Richard Kaglic, senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Va.

There will be a panelist discussion on "Workforce and the Regional Economy." The panel will include Brian Tucker, who is director of economic development for Georgetown County. Tucker said he is excited to see the economic outlook forum returning as an annual event.

"I look forward to any opportunity to have a broader discussion on how to address our economic development opportunities, especially focusing on strengthening our workforce," Tucker said. "These are very regional topics and they are best handled in a regional manner."

Brad Lofton of the Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation and Stan Williamson of Santee Electric Cooperative, in addition to Salvino and Kaglic, will comprise the rest of the panel.

For more information about the forum, the Economic Outlook Board or Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments, visit www.wrcog.org, or contact Tom Britton, (843) 546-8502 or britton@wrcog.org.

Summer Adult Basketball League

Georgetown County Parks & Recreation

Four Leagues Two Divisions

Waccamaw-WRRC
Georgetown-Beck
Andrews-Rec Center
Northwest-Choppee Gym

18+ & 35+



Beck Recreation Center
2030 Church Street
Georgetown, SC 29440

Provide: One Book/Score Keeper
Registration Ends: May 16th
Starts: June 9th
Fees: Contact Justin Blomdahl

5 v. 5

End of Season Tournament
to Declare
County Champion

Contact: Justin Blomdahl
843-545-3319
jblomdahl@gtcounty.org



Tucker

Continued from front page

remain a priority, “we can’t wait for those two things to happen before we go out and really start beating the bushes to get businesses here,” he said. “There are a ton of opportunities out there I believe we can pursue successfully with what we have now.”

He listed the county’s top strengths as quality of life, low-cost reliable energy, availability and cost of land, port access and proximity to Boeing. He pointed to businesses that are already thriving in the county, such as AgruAmerica, International Paper, SafeRack and Mercom, and talked of helping those businesses grow. He also referenced a large number of successful business owners who retire to Georgetown County and spoke of finding ways to identify that type of individual earlier. The county should be working to convince them there’s no reason to wait for retirement to move to the beach — they could move their family and their business to Georgetown County and start enjoying life here now.

Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway said if he had to give a theme to the county’s current economic development efforts, he’d choose “the game has changed.” He described Tucker as the county’s new quarterback and said the county has a winning game plan and an incredible advantage with the home field.

“We will play to our strengths and not dwell on our weaknesses,” Hemingway said. “Brian has a true vision that we all embrace for Georgetown County. There are some exciting times ahead for us.”

The message given was “spot on with where we are in the county right now,” said Dan Stacy, a board member for the Alliance for Economic Development,

a partner agency for the county. “There does seem to be a renewed spirit of teamwork and cooperation toward a common goal. There are some new players, some new leadership, and I think we will be well positioned to partner with Horry County, NESAs, or on our own to develop many more new opportunities.”

Bill Crowther, executive director for the Alliance noted that the meeting was “well attended by all the people that should be here” and had a very positive energy.

“Brian and Sel working together have a great vision for where they want to take the county,” he said. “As for the Alliance’s participation, we’re going to work hand-in-hand with them to try to make some great things happen for Georgetown County.”

The summit also featured an overview of workforce development needs in the county from H. Neyle Wilson, president of Horry-Georgetown Technical College. He said the presence of a community technical school with programs such as welding, machine programming and machine tool training is imperative to economic development.

His school is fully on board with maintaining and/or creating the programs the county will need to be able to attract and provide workforce for new and expanding industries.

South Carolina is already leading the country in attracting industry, Wilson said, and he believes Georgetown County is well positioned to become a leader in the state for attracting businesses that create 200-250 jobs and offer good wages and benefits for trained workers.

Tucker will also participate this month in a Regional Economic Outlook



Forum sponsored by the Economic Outlook Board of Waccamaw Regional Council of Governments. The event will be March 19 at 9:30 a.m. in Litchfield.

Read more about the upcoming Regional Economic Outlook Forum on Page 7.



At top, Brian Tucker outlines his economic development plans during a recent presentation. Above, H. Neyle Wilson discusses the role of technical education in economic development.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

Saturday, April 12
9 a.m. to noon
at Midway Fire Rescue,
67 St. Paul Place,
Pawleys Island



Please join Georgetown County Public Services and Midway Fire Rescue in keeping pollutants out of our drainage system!

The following materials will be accepted:
Paint, oil, batteries (alkaline and rechargeable), incandescent bulbs, household cleaners, non-commercial pesticides and fertilizers.



For more information, call (843) 545-3524

Wooden Boat Show receives tourism award

The Georgetown Wooden Boat Show was announced last month as winner of the prestigious Charles A. Bundy Award, an award that recognizes contributions to rural tourism in South Carolina.

The show was started in 1993 by a group of local business people who wanted to improve business in downtown Georgetown. For the past two decades, this event has continued to build its economic impact on the community. Local hotels, for example, experienced a 50 percent increase in accommodations revenues during the boat show weekend, and restaurants along Front Street have seen a 45 percent spike in revenue.

"We are so proud to receive this award and are looking forward to even more folks coming to Georgetown for next year's 25th Anniversary Boat Show," said Johnny Weaver, president and founding member of the Harbor Historical Association, which is in charge of organizing the show.

Georgetown's Wooden Boat Show — always held on the third Saturday in October — features more than 140 classic wooden boats displayed on land and water, children's model boatbuilding, knot tying, maritime art and crafts, and food and music. A special attraction is the Wooden Boat Challenge, during which two-person teams race to build a rowing skiff within a four-hour time limit and then test their boats for seaworthiness in a rowing relay on the Sampit River. Admission is free.

Through committed volunteer management and the support of local businesses, government, and the community, the Wooden Boat Show has become Georgetown's premier event.

In addition to the economic impact for the area, revenues from the Wooden Boat Show have helped revitalize two historic buildings in downtown Georgetown and created the South Carolina Maritime Museum. The show continues to play the major role in development of the museum and its programs, having recently added programs such as a Youth Sailing Camp and a welcome boat that distributes information about local businesses and services to visiting boaters, and smaller events such as the annual "Burning of the Socks."

After the devastating fire on Front Street last September, only three weeks before the Boat Show, the Georgetown Wooden Boat Show crew and the community rallied to overcome the challenges brought by the tragedy and launch a record-breaking show.

More information about the Georgetown Wooden Boat Show is available at <http://woodenboatshow.com/> or boats@woodenboatshow.com.



Visitors and locals alike packed Georgetown for the 2013 Wooden Boat Show.



Meet Diesel

The Georgetown County Sheriff's Office welcomed a new addition to its Bloodhound Tracking Team recently. Diesel, pictured with Deputy Hunter Causey, is a 3-year-old blue tick-red bone mix blood hound.

Tax filing assistance available

Individuals and families earning a household income of under \$51,000 a year are eligible to receive help with preparing and filing their income tax returns.

The Georgetown County United Way's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program provides free income tax assistance to low-to-moderate income earners. The program features IRS-trained and certified volunteers who specialize in ensuring residents receive all eligible tax credits and deductions, particularly the Earned Income Tax Credit. Such credits can put thousands of dollars back into the pockets of local families, program officials said.

Qualifying members of the public can find assistance through the VITA program at the following locations:

- The Georgetown County United Way office at 515 Front St., Georgetown.
- Library branches in Andrews, Carvers Bay and Pawleys Island.

Taxpayers can schedule an appointment with a VITA volunteer by dialing 211 or visiting: <http://uwasc.galaxydigital.com/vita>.

Those seeking assistance through the program should plan to bring the following items: Picture ID; Social Security cards and birth dates for self, spouse and dependents; wage and earning statements (Forms W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, 1099-Misc., etc); interest and dividend statements; a copy of last year's federal and state returns if available; proof of bank account information; total paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax ID number (if applicable). In some cases, both spouses must be present to sign forms.

Deputies recognized

Georgetown County sheriff's deputies and correctional officers recently received challenge coins for outstanding service. Those who received this award were: Deputies Dawud Aswad, Hunter Causey, Mandy Glover, Janna Grubbs, Brandon Lee, Robbie Sarvis, Karl Tanner, Nicholas Trevathan and Joseph Wilson, and Correctional Officers Neal Boshears, James Drye, Letha Grant, Veronical Gibbs, Anthony Matthews, Lloyd McCrea, Lucy Perez, Jamie Poinsette, Marquis Wright and Pastor Charles Williams. At right are: (from left) Drye, Gibbs, Williams, Sheriff Lane Cribb, Boshears and Matthews. Below are: (from left) Tanner, Causey, Glover, Aswad, Sheriff Lane Cribb, Lee, Sarvis and Wilson. Please join the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office in congratulating these employees.



Georgetown County Parks & Recreation Presents "Kids in Action" 2014 Summer Camp!

- Week 1: June 9-13 "Toes in the Sand"
- Week 2: June 16-20 "Weird Science"
- Week 3: June 23-27 "It's a Zoo in Here"
- Week 4: June 30-July 3 "America the Beautiful"
- Week 5: July 7-11 "Lets go Camping"
- Week 6: July 14-18 "Minute to Win It"
- Week 7: July 21-25 "Building & Creating"
- Week 8: July 28-August 1 "Best of the Best"



Register now at either the Beck Recreation Center or the Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center. You must register in person. ****Please ask about reserving summer camp weeks in advance**** You can either reserve weeks & pay later or pay in full.

For boys and girls ages 5-11

Camp is Monday—Friday,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
****\$60 per child per week
\$10 registration fee**

For information:

Georgetown: 545-3275
Pawleys Island: 545-3202

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



Tennis on Campus tournaments continue to draw interest

The Waccamaw Regional Tennis Center at Stables Park played host to six teams during the Pawleys Island Winter Warm-Up Classic, a Tennis on Campus tournament that took place last month. Participating teams included Virginia Tech, two teams from the College of Charleston, Coastal Carolina University, the University of North Carolina—Wilmington and East Carolina University.

After a two-pool round robin was completed, Virginia Tech and defending champions from the College of Charleston battled for the title. In the end, Virginia Tech edged out the College of Charleston 26-22.

All teams came to the tournament to sharpen their skills before a southern regional event in Auburn, Ala., said David Bromberg, head tennis pro at Stables Park.

The first day of the weekend tournament saw a great match in which UNC trailed ECU by seven games at the end of the final mixed doubles match, but won the final set, won seven games in overtime, then lost 7-5 in a super tie-breaker, Bromberg said. In the Tennis on Campus format, if the trailing team wins the final set of mixed doubles, they continue to play until the leading team



The winning team from Virginia Tech.

wins one game, or the team from behind ties the score. If there is a tie, both teams play a super tiebreaker — first one to seven points wins.

"All the student athletes really had a nice time, and are already looking forward to our next TOC event, **Nov. 8-9**," Bromberg said.

The Waccamaw Regional Tennis Center is gearing up now for a **USTA Level 4 Junior tournament from March 21-23**. Anyone interested in sponsoring or volunteering is asked to call Stables Park, (843) 545-3450. Junior registration is open online at <http://www.southcarolina.usta.com/Juniors/Tournaments/>.

Basketball at Waccamaw Regional Rec. Center



Georgetown County Parks and Recreation was able to host its youth recreational basketball program on the Waccamaw Neck in a county-owned facility for the first time this year, thanks to the Waccamaw Regional Recreation Center, which opened last May at Parkersville Park.