

Inside this Issue

- Informational meetings to focus on Georgetown steel mill site, Page 2
- Free mulch giveaways continue throughout month of March, Page 3
- Emergency responders recognized by medical center, Page 5
- ShushCon returns for 2nd year, Page 6
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection scheduled, Page 10

Calendar

March 10-12 – ShushCon (“gaming and geekery” convention) at the Waccamaw Library. See Page 6

March 16 – Lecture on the influence of black Americans on music through the ages. See Page 7

March 14 – Georgetown County Council meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

March 16 – Georgetown County Planning Commission meeting, 5:30 p.m. in the historic courthouse

March 25 – Melting Pot March in Georgetown. See page 4

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

April 1 – Household Hazardous Waste Collection at Midway Fire Rescue. See Page 10

The Georgetown County Chronicle



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

Volume 5, Issue 7

March 2017

Busy weekend planned as Bassmaster returns

It should be a festive atmosphere on Front Street March 4, when a full day of activities has been scheduled surrounding the Bassmaster College Series’ final weigh-in.

The three-day tournament will bring anglers from at least 23 southeastern colleges and universities to Georgetown County. Leading up to the final weigh-in, the Bassmaster stage at the corner of Front and Broad streets will also be the site of the annual S.C. State Duck Calling Contest at 12:30 p.m. Live music and a free photo booth have also been booked.

The State Duck Calling Contest, sponsored by the Winyah Bay Heritage Festival, involves three separate rounds of calling routines, with the judges sequestered in a tent behind the stage, so they can’t see the contestants and can grade them solely on how their calls sound. After two rounds that include all the contestants, the field is whittled down to five finalists vying for three places in the final round. The winner gets a seat in the national competition.

The trailered Bassmaster weigh-in will begin making its way down Front Street at around 3 p.m. Out of about 200 anglers, just 20 finalist teams will take the stage that Saturday, showing off their best catch of the day and hoping for a chance to move on to the national championship.

Immediately following the



Collegiate teams from 23 Southeastern schools will participate in the tournament March 2-4. See a list of participants on Page 3.



The Will Ness Band will close out the festivities on March 4 in Francis Marion Park.

weigh-in, the Will Ness Band will get audiences moving with a performance in Francis Marion Park. A local favorite, the band is scheduled to play from 6-9 p.m. Ness is a Waccamaw High School graduate and a regular performer at Georgetown’s Music in the Park. The band just released its first LP, “Heaven in Disguise.” Ness is also

See “Bassmaster,” Page 3

Veterans Pier to close for repairs beginning March 6

The Veterans Pier in Murrells Inlet, located at the south end of the MarshWalk, will close for repairs in early March and remain closed for most of the month.

Work is scheduled to begin Monday, March 6, and should take about three weeks, said James Coley of Georgetown County’s Engineering and Capital Projects Division. Repairs are needed on the bulkhead and boardwalk following damage done by Hurricane Matthew last fall.

Georgetown County is also in the process of working with contractors to complete repairs on beach accesses in Garden City and Litchfield beaches. The county maintains a total of 66 beach accesses. After Hurricane Matthew, 54 were left needing repair or replacement, necessitating a contractor be hired to supplement county staff as repairs to numerous facilities began. All beach access repairs are scheduled to be complete by April 15.

As repairs are in progress, members of the public are asked to heed all barricades and warning signs on structures undergoing or awaiting repairs. This is for the public’s safety.

Repairs have recently been completed at the county-maintained South End parking lot on Pawleys Island.

Look for updates on repairs in next month’s newsletter, www.gtcounty.org, or on our social media accounts.

Informational meetings to focus on future of Georgetown steel mill site

A series of three public meetings will take place in the City of Georgetown this month to discuss the future of the plan for the Georgetown steel mill site drafted last fall by a panel from the Urban Land Institute. The final, 53-page version of the group's study and recommendations was released in February and is available at <https://goo.gl/XgCFmS>.

The meeting schedule is as follows, with all meetings beginning at 6 p.m.:

- Thursday, March 2 at Screven Baptist Church, 2221 S. Island Rd.,
- Monday, March 6 at Howard Auditorium, 1610 Hawkins St.,
- Tuesday, March 7 at Duncan Methodist Church, 901 Highmarket St.,

Each meeting will begin with a brief overview of the plan created by the Urban Land Institute and the process the panel went through. Following, there will be an opportunity for members of the public to offer input and ask any questions they may have.

Members of the public have been encouraged from the beginning of the ULI process to be involved, helping mold the vision for the future of the steel mill site. More than 800 individuals provided input through one-on-one interviews or surveys during the planning process, and every comment received was reviewed and considered by the ULI panelists.

Georgetown County and the City of Georgetown are excited about pursuing the opportunities the ULI plan presents for our community, and look forward to beginning a conversation with residents about the direction the community should take in regard to development of that site.

County to work with Tech college to build advanced manufacturing training center at Georgetown site

Georgetown County has partnered with Horry-Georgetown Technical College in the school's plans to put a new Advanced Manufacturing Training Center at the Georgetown Campus. The project will aid economic development efforts in the county by helping provide a well-trained workforce for new and growing companies in the area, such as SafeRack and EnviroSep.

Georgetown County Council recently agreed to provide \$1.5 million in funding toward construction of the \$9 million project. The college anticipates moving forward with bidding the project this year and having the center complete by the end of 2018.

The 25,000-square-foot facility would house training programs including advanced welding, machine tool, robotics and mechantronics. Individuals with this type of training are among the most sought after and highly paid workers in the nation, said officials with Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

Georgetown County sees great potential in making this type of training readily available in our community and is proud to be a partner in making the facility a reality.

Adult Indoor Soccer

**Come play at Howard Gym
on Tuesday nights
6 -7:30 p.m.**



*Open to anyone
age 16 and older.
It's free to play,
so come give
it a shot!*

**For information, contact Matt Jordan,
(843) 520-9621
or mjordan@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



S.C. Duck Calling Contest to open Bassmaster tournament

Though there will be no Winyah Bay Heritage Festival this year, the S.C. Duck Calling Championship is back in Georgetown March 4, sponsored by the Festival committee and the Georgetown County Museum. The S.C. Open Junior State Contest will begin at 12:30 p.m. on the Bassmaster stage and is open to anyone age 16 and under (age determination date is Nov. 25, 2017). Immediately following will be the S.C. State Contest, which is open to all S.C. residents age 17 and older (same determining date as youth contest), as long as they have not won the contest three times previously. The winner will go on to represent South Carolina in the World Contest on Nov. 25 in Stuttgart, Ark. For more information, contact Jesse Tucker, (864) 706-2545 or jessietucker@scfbins.com, or Mark Ackerman at ibcallindux@gmail.com. Come enter or watch the contest for free at Francis Marion Park on March 4.

Bassmaster

Continued from Front Page

a student at Coastal Carolina University, one of the schools that will be represented in the tournament.

The Georgetown Business Association will additionally sponsor a beer and wine garden at Francis Marion Park from 3-9 p.m., and a free photo booth will be open at the park from 12:30-6:30 p.m.

Finally, event attendees will have numerous opportunities for shopping throughout the day as many Front Street businesses have committed to having sidewalk sales and specials.

About the Bassmaster College Series:

The Bassmaster College Series will take place in Georgetown March 2-4, with boat launch occurring daily at dawn from the county's Carroll A. Campbell

Marine Complex, 101 River Walk Drive. Weigh-in, set for 3 p.m., will be at the same location for the first two days of the tournament, before moving to Front Street for the final day. A free Snapster photo booth will also be set up at the marine complex on March 3 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. before it moves to Front Street on Saturday.

Members of the public are encouraged to support their favorite team by wearing the team's school colors and cheering on teams during boat launch and weigh-in events. Georgetown businesses are also encouraged to decorate store fronts in support of one or more schools participating in the tournament.

If this tournament is a success, it could lead Bassmaster to bring its Elite Series back to Georgetown County, said County Administrator Sel Hemingway.

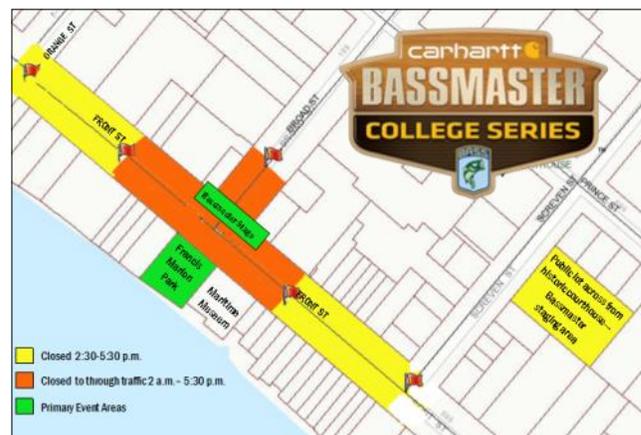
Tournament to necessitate partial closure of Front, Broad streets March 4

The final weigh-in for the Bassmaster College Series tournament will necessitate a partial closing of Front Street in historic downtown Georgetown on Saturday, March 4. The section of Front Street between Alfresco Bistro and First Citizens Bank will be closed from 2 a.m. through 5:30 p.m. that day to allow for set up and other event preparations. The closed area will expand west to Orange Street and east to Screven Street from 2:30-5:30 p.m.

Though festivities surrounding

the weigh-in will continue until around 9 p.m., all activities will be moved to Francis Marion Park after announcement of the tournament winner at approximately 5:30 p.m., allowing the street to be re-opened to traffic.

Evening activities include a performance by the Will Ness Band at Francis Marion Park from 6-9 p.m. A free SnapsterBooth photo booth will also be set up in the park from 12:30-6:30 p.m. to provide attendees with a fun souvenir of the day.



20+ schools participate in Bassmaster tournament

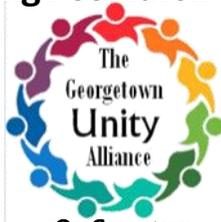
More than 200 anglers from at least 23 colleges and universities across the Southeast have signed up to participate in the Bassmaster College Series in Georgetown. A list of participating teams is as follows:

- Auburn University
- Augusta University
- The Citadel
- Clemson University
- Coastal Carolina University
- Emmanuel College
- Florida State University
- Georgia College
- Lander University
- Liberty University
- Mississippi State University
- North Carolina State University
- Savannah Coll. of Art & Design
- Snead State Community College
- Stetson University
- Troy University
- University of Alabama
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of Central Florida
- University of North Alabama
- University of North Carolina — Charlotte
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia
- University of Montevallo
- University of South Carolina
- University of West Alabama
- Valdosta State University
- Wallace State University
- Winthrop University



Unity Alliance to host Melting Pot March

The recently formed Georgetown Unity Alliance has scheduled its kickoff event — the Melting Pot March — for Saturday, March 25. The event is geared toward helping to bridge the racial divide in our community and all members of the public are invited to participate.



The march will begin at Winyah Auditorium at 1 p.m. and end at Howard Recreation Center. Walkers are asked to meet at the auditorium at noon.

The route is a symbolic one, said Al Joseph, an Alliance committee member. Longtime Georgetown residents may recall that Winyah Auditorium was once Winyah High School, the all-white high school during the days of segregation, and Howard was once Howard High School, where black students attended.

“We deliberately chose this route because it showcases that by working together and participating in open, impartial dialogue, we can become greater by working together for the common good,” Joseph said.

Register, donate or reserve a T-shirt at <https://goo.gl/yjSwwT>. There is no cost to participate in the march. T-shirts are \$11.50. Additionally, tax-deductible donations are gladly accepted to help cover event costs.

For more information, visit the registration page above, or look for the Unity Alliance’s page on Facebook. The Georgetown Unity Alliance is an all-volunteer organization created to discuss and address issues of racial divide within our community.

County to offer free mulch in March

Georgetown County will offer free mulch again at its Pawleys Island Recycling Center every Saturday in March, as well as Sunday, March 5. Additional Sunday dates may be added if there is enough demand. The mulch is a result of the massive vegetative debris cleanup following Hurricane Matthew. This material will be given away at no cost from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., or until it runs out.

Mulch may be picked up at the Pawleys Island Recycling Center, located at 596 Grate Ave. Staff will be on site to help load mulch into vehicles and trailers. There will be no limit on the amount of mulch residents can take.

Basketball Classic to benefit quadriplegic granddaughter of Assessor’s Office employee

Airman First Class Jamia Porcher, known to friends and family as Mia, was just 18 when an accident in 2016 left her paralyzed and confined to a wheelchair. She was driving to McEntire Joint National Guard Base when a truck drifted into her lane and nearly hit her head on.



Porcher

Porcher avoided the crash, but saw the truck hit another vehicle and knew she had to stop and try to help. It was then she was hit by a passing car. Doctors told her family she wasn’t likely to survive. That she did is a sign of her incredibly strong spirit, said her grandmother, Nina Zegler, who is an administrative assistant in the Georgetown County Assessor’s Office.

Porcher will be the beneficiary of an All-Star Basketball Classic on March 11 at Georgetown High School. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Proceeds will help get Porcher into a “smart” home with voice-activated equipment and appliances she can use. The fundraiser starts at 5 p.m. Participating schools include Choppee, Pleasant Hill, Carvers Bay, Winyah, Howard and Georgetown.

For more information, call Thomas Lance, (843) 485-7195.

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



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

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

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

Freelance program instructors are always wanted. Call to inquire.

Call (843) 545-3275 for information



When:
Thursdays,
10 a.m.

Where:
Howard Center
Auditorium,
1610 Hawkins St.,
Georgetown

Films are family friendly, appropriate for all ages and presented by Georgetown County Parks & Recreation.

All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Concessions are available to purchase.

For details: (843) 545-3275



Georgetown County Employee Spotlight:

Finance's Maureen Gavron is the picture of dedication

In the Georgetown County Finance Department, senior accountant Maureen Gavron is well-known for being a dedicated and outstanding employee.

Her supervisors say she's usually the first one in the office and she attends to her daily tasks with an attention to detail that is prized in the world of governmental accounting.

Aside from general financial analysis, she is an expert in fixed asset and sales tax accounting, and point of contact for customer care related questions regarding the landfill, local accommodations taxes and local hospitality taxes, as well as retiree's medical insurance billings. She is dedicated when it comes to providing customer service, and consistently produces high quality work, her supervisors say.

Gavron recently celebrated 15 years of service with Georgetown County. Originally from Warwick, R.I., she made a stop in North Chelmsford, Mass., before moving down to South Carolina. She resides in Surfside Beach with her husband Ray. They have a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

Gavron has a bachelor's degree in accounting from Northeastern University, and started her career in New England in corporate accounting. After that, she took a position with the S.C. Department of Revenue as a sales tax auditor, then came on board with Georgetown County.

Outside of work, Gavron said she enjoys taking cruises, going to spinning classes at Health Point and walking on the beach.



Maureen Gavron

County firefighters honored



Several Georgetown County Fire/EMS members were recognized this week by Grand Strand Regional Medical Center for going above and beyond the call of duty in their response to a call received on Nov. 20. The medical center issued special award coins to Battalion Chief Ryan Allen, Lt. John Armstrong and EMT Gavin Moree, pictured at top. These men were among responders dispatched during the Nov. 20 incident.



On that day, Georgetown County 911 was notified of an industrial accident, in which a man had gotten his leg caught in a conveyor belt. His life was saved by the quick thinking of responders, who immediately called for a Tactical Rescue Team to handle the extraction and a medical helicopter to transport the victim to Grand Strand Regional. The outcome for the victim would have been more dire if not for the way the call was handled, said medical center officials.

Free Pickleball Clinic

at Beck Recreation Center



Join us to learn how to play one of our area's most popular new games

**April 10 & 11,
10 a.m. to noon**

Call (843) 545-3275 for details, or visit http://www.gtcounty.org/parks_recreation/

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.

ShushCon to bring 'gaming and geekery' to library for 2nd year

After a successful inaugural event last spring, ShushCon is ready to make its return to the Waccamaw Library March 10-12.

Dedicated to "gaming and geekery," the convention is a project of the library and is designed to have something for people of all ages, from kids to adults. Best of all, it's all free.

"At ShushCon we celebrate gaming in all its forms and expose the Grand Strand to new games and geeky events," said Donald Dennis, a librarian and one of the organizers of the convention. "Like last year, we will be showcasing a wide variety of activities, such as board games, roleplaying games, escape rooms, video games, collectible card games, anime and more."

A new event for this year will be an escape room creation workshop from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Day 1 of the convention. The best professional escape experiences have rich stories, intricate set design, cunning use of technology and innovative puzzles, Dennis explained. These environment-oriented activities are suitable for a wide variety of locations, from schools and libraries to museums.

The workshop will teach the basics of design and how to create an engaging experience for escape room enthusiasts. A Breakout EDU kit valued at \$125 will be awarded to one of the workshop participants. Afterward, ShushCon will include hands-on escape room activities including table-top and room-scale escapes.

Also on the schedule for ShushCon 2017 are a Pokemon Scramble and Tea Duel on Friday, a geek swap meet and War Machines/Hordes tournament on Saturday, and a King of New York tournament and Guild Ball on Sunday. Additionally, expect cosplay, board game tournaments, demos from game companies, a Steampunk tea party, time stories, Carolina Men in Black and an Artemis bridge simulator.



Cosplay is welcome at ShushCon. Pictured are some of the participants from last year's inaugural convention, which was well-attended.

The event also offers a great opportunity for families looking to enjoy game time together and/or learn about and try new games.

For more information about ShushCon 2017, including a full schedule of events, directions to the library, registration for the escape room workshop and more, visit www.ShushCon.com. Questions can be directed to Dennis and co-organizer Stephanie Frey, at (843) 545-3343.

Registration is now open for Spring Youth Sports



Track and Field
Cost: \$10

Soccer
Cost: \$25



Flag Football
Cost: \$25
*Includes NFL jersey, belt and flags.

Registration dates vary.

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

Ladies Stretching Classes at Beck Recreation Center



**Mondays, Wednesdays
and Fridays**

10:30-11:30 a.m.

*Classes are \$1
Walk-ins Welcome*

2030 Church St., Georgetown



**ZUMBA®
gold**

**Join the party
at the Murrells Inlet
Community Center!**

**Tuesdays & Saturdays
10-11 a.m.**

**Zumba fitness
classes customized
with lower intensity
moves for active
older adults.**

**\$3 per class.
Walk-ins welcome!**



Edwards recognized for 45 years of service



On Feb. 15, Georgetown County recognized employees who celebrated milestone anniversaries in 2016, ranging from five years to 45 years of service. Assessor Susan Edwards was the employee with the longest tenure in this year's group of honorees. She left the real estate field to come work for Georgetown County in 1971. At that time, the Auditor and Assessor functions were housed in one office and all entries were done manually. When the offices were split into two in 1975, Edwards was given a choice of which to work in and chose the Assessor's Office. In 2003, she was promoted to department head and has served in that position ever since. We hope to see her stick around to celebrate her 50th year.

Workshop aims to help parents become education advocates for their children

Educational Advocate Sheri Smith will present a three-part series at the Waccamaw Library titled "Let's Get Started: Navigating a Path for your Children's Success." The series will help parents navigate the educational system, create valuable relationships between school and home, and prepare for the ups and downs of a child's educational lifetime, Smith said.

Sessions take place on the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m., beginning March 13.

Smith has been an educational advocate for 20 years. After earning her degree in early education, she became a preschool teacher. She also owned and operated her own preschool in California. She has a degree in communication disorders and has worked as a speech therapist. After retiring, she started her own company called L.E.A.R.N. LLC.

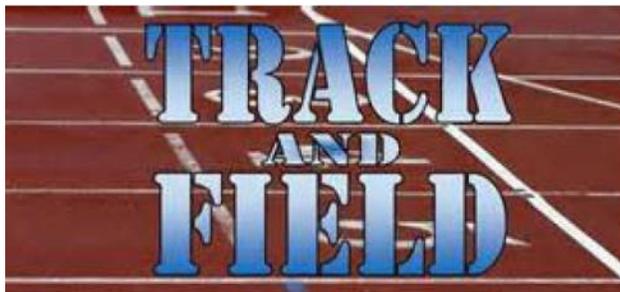
"I want to help parents become their child's expert advocate," Smith said. "I feel that by providing a few key tools, I can help more parents successfully navigate our very complicated educational system."

After educating hundreds of young minds – and working with parents to create a fulfilling learning experience – Smith says she has found a path that all can find helpful.

"I realize that each child is unique and therefore each parent's individual situation is also unique," Smith said. "I also recognize the importance of a good relationship between the home and the school. In each of these workshops I will provide the parents with a specific set of tools, vocabulary and methods to empower them."

To reserve a seat or for more information, send an email to sbremner@gtcounty.org.

Georgetown County Parks and Recreation is now registering youth participants for



Open to boys and girls ages 5-14
Registration is \$10 per child

Call (843) 545-3275 or register online at http://www.gtcounty.org/parks_recreation/, or at any regional recreation center

Lloyd Kaplan Presents a Lecture on
The Black American's Influence on Music
 From Blues to Classical
 March 16, 2017 – 10 am

 A black and white photograph of Lloyd Kaplan, an older man with glasses, playing an acoustic guitar. He is looking down at the instrument with a focused expression.

From the Blues to Classical and more, learn about the influence of black Americans on music at this free lecture at the Waccamaw Library, 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. For reservations, email sbremner@gtcounty.org.

Coastal Reaction band to rock library

On Saturday, March 4, the Coastal Reaction Band will fire up a toe-tapping live performance that includes favorite selections of rock, soul, funk, R&B and beach music. The concert will be from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Waccamaw Library, 41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island.

The Coastal Reaction Band is made up of seven talented local musicians who have been honing their craft together and with other ensembles for years. Band founder and leader Joey Carter is a local independent artist who has been performing up and down the Grand Strand and beyond for many years. He is known as a gifted and versatile musician, a true professional, a teacher who expresses himself as a passionate vocalist and an accomplished guitarist. As an independent artist he has released several recordings, including a contemporary gospel album entitled "Take a Stand" and in 2010, a CD entitled "Another Shot." He is a music instructor at The Andy Owings School of Music and Performing Arts Center located in Myrtle Beach.

Walt Polinski plays the tenor and alto saxophone. He started playing saxophone soon after high school and has performed in the Northeast and, over the past 20 years, locally. Polinski has played many different venues and today enjoys playing as part of



the music ministry at Chesterfield Baptist Church. Currently he is a supervisor at Waccamaw Center for Mental Health in Conway.

Alan Bremner is a bass guitarist originally from Toronto. After traveling all over the world as a site manager for building projects, he decided to move to Pawleys Island in 1996 and follow two passions: fitness and guitar playing. He has a son, Alistair, and with his wife Steele owns Winyah Fitness One on One.

Donia Dawson is from Georgetown. She graduated from Georgetown High and enjoyed a career singing with several bands up and down the East Coast, and performed in several shows including the Dixie Stampede and The Carolina Opry. She has two children, Danny and John Dawson. She is owner and operator of Southern Style Hair Salon in Georgetown.

Robert Cox is another Georgetown native in the band. He started playing drums at 10, and after graduating from Winyah High School in 1979, studied engineering and music at Coastal Carolina University. He retired from Georgetown County in 2015 and currently owns Cox Construction Consulting. He has toured with bands including Bill Pinkney and the Drifters, Gina and Reminiscing, and Double Exposure.

Trumpet player Michael Elliott is originally from Biloxi, Mississippi. He's from a military family and moved around his entire youth. He has lived in the Conway/Myrtle Beach area for a little over 21 years and says he really likes it. "I have been playing trumpet now for over 35 years and I can't see myself not playing," he adds.

Mark Todd started playing guitar in 1964, when he was 10. He has played all kinds of music through the years and proudly shreds on a Fender Strat and a Les Paul Copy through a Marshall Clone tube amplifier. He has worked for Stereo Video Center in Georgetown since 1997 as an A/V and Computer tech.

Reservations for the concert are not required, but are encouraged. Please email sbremner@gtcounty.org.



Showings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Waccamaw Library,
41 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island

March 3: "The Caine Mutiny"

When a U.S. Naval captain shows signs of mental instability that jeopardize the ship, the first officer relieves him of command and faces court martial for mutiny. (1954, Not Rated)

March 17: "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre"

Fred Dobbs and Bob Curtin, two Americans searching for work in Mexico, convince an old prospector to help them mine for gold in the Sierra Madre Mountains. (1948, NR)

March 24: "Network"

A television network cynically exploits a deranged former anchor's ravings and revelations about the news media for its own profit. (1976, Rated R)

March 31: "The Bridge on the River Kwai"

After settling his differences with a Japanese POW camp commander, a British colonel cooperates to oversee his men's construction of a railway bridge for their captors — while oblivious to a plan by the Allies to destroy it. (1957, Rated PG)

April 7: "Tootsie"

Michael Dorsey, an unsuccessful actor, disguises himself as a woman in order to get a role on a trashy hospital soap opera. (1982, Rated PG)

Reserve your child's spot in the annual Georgetown County Parks and Recreation Spring Break Camp

Spring Break is April 17-21 this year.
We'll be opening registration in early March.
For more information, call (843)545-3275
or visit www.gtcounty.org.

News from our Georgetown County Veterans Affairs Officer

By David Murphy

Hello and Happy St Patrick's Day to all our wonderful veterans! May each of you find that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow!

As a reminder, we are still working on putting together a Veterans' Fair for this summer. I have talked with so many people about this event, which will connect veterans with resources they are entitled to receive, and all seem very excited. If anyone has any input on information they would like to see included at the fair, please let me know and we will see if we can have a representative present to have information on that subject.



Murphy

Remember, the Veterans Fair is scheduled for July 14 at the Beck Recreation Center from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please plan to attend and reap the knowledge that is being presented for our veterans and families.

The Post Commanders of each area veterans organization would like to remind all members about their monthly meetings, and to all veterans who don't belong to any particular veterans organization, they would love for you to attend as well.

American Legion Post 69 of Andrews meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. **American Legion Post 114 of Georgetown** meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. **American Legion Post 197 of Pawleys Island** meets on the fourth Thursday at 6 p.m. **American Legion Post 178 of Murrells Inlet** meets on the second Saturday at 10 a.m. **VFW Post 6444 of Georgetown** meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. **Low-country Veterans Group** meetings are on the second Saturday at 11 a.m.

Pawleys Island American Legion Post 197 is excited and proud to announce that **Jake Homan**, a senior at **Waccamaw High School**, has won the American Legion's district Constitutional Speech (oratorical) Contest, which took place in Florence on Feb. 18. Homan attended the American Legion Palmetto Boys State last June at Anderson University. He was sponsored by Post 197 for Boys State as well.

To qualify for the district/regional contest, Homan won the local Waccamaw Neck high school contest in December 2016. Given

that this high school competition was Post 197's first effort to conduct this type of contest locally, the group is especially proud to have Homan win the District contest. The group is grateful for the opportunity to sponsor this contest in our community.

These were the initial steps in a four tiered set of contests that afford students an opportunity to win significant college scholarship money. After winning at both the local and district/quadrant levels, Jake now moves on to represent Post 197 at the state contest, which will take place at 10 a.m. on March 11 at American Legion Headquarters in Columbia. Subsequently, the state winner will compete at the American Legion national contest in Indianapolis April 22-23.

Post 197 is seeking help to defray costs for these upcoming contests, as well as to continue its annual Palmetto Boys State sponsorship, which will occur in June. The speech contest and Boys State are key community outreach projects that benefit local high school students. Donations made payable to American Legion Post 197 may be sent to P.O. Box 3295, Pawleys Island, SC 29585.

The local **Veterans for Jesus** group will have its next event on March 25 at Huntington Beach State Park. Veterans and their families are invited to embark on an easy walk to enjoy the sights and sounds of the park nature trail. Participants should meet at 9:30 a.m. March 25 at 72 Swamp Fox Lane in the Wedgefield community of Georgetown. Lunch will follow. The group will have its next meeting on March 28 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at 72 Swamp Fox Lane.

Lastly, I would like to make you all aware of the upcoming **2017 Military Appreciation Day Parade**, for which Army National Guard Specialist Alek Skarlatos has been selected as Grand Marshal. The parade is set for May 27 on Farrow Parkway.

In August 2015, Skarlatos and two childhood friends, Spencer Stone and Anthony Sadler, made international headlines when they overpowered a gunman on a Paris-bound train.



From left are Walt Richardson, third vice commander of the American Legion Department of South Carolina, Jake Homan and Glenn Hero, commander of Post 197.

For his heroic actions, Alek Skarlatos was awarded the United States Army Soldier's Medal by President Barack Obama and France's highest decoration, the Legion of Honour, by French President Francois Hollande. He subsequently was invited to compete on season 21 of ABC TV's hit show, "Dancing with the Stars," finishing in third place with professional partner Lindsay Arnold. Skarlatos recently completed a tour of duty in Afghanistan and continues to be a member of the Oregon National Guard.

A number of other activities are also scheduled for that day.

Proud to Serve!

David Murphy,
Manager,
Georgetown County
Office of Veterans Affairs

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



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



Time for some spring cleaning!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and paper shredding event return

In the years since Georgetown County introduced its semi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection, the public response has grown with each new event.

At the most recent event back in October, the county collected a whopping 6.2 tons of waste, including paint and household cleansers, and an additional 1.5 tons of paper documents that were shredded. An even larger amount is anticipated at the next collection, said event coordinator Terri Davis of the Georgetown County Stormwater Division.

The next event will be Saturday, April 1, from 9 a.m. to noon at Midway Fire Rescue headquarters, 67 St. Paul Place, Pawleys Island. As usual, residents are invited to bring for disposal their unwanted hazardous household items including paint, oil, car batteries, antifreeze, household cleansers, non-commercial pesticides and fertilizers. The event will also again include a paper shredding truck, allowing residents to safely dispose of personal documents, such as bills and other items containing personal information. That service was very much in demand last year.

Though one might suppose collection amounts would begin declining as many residents cleaned out stockpiles of materials during some of the earliest events, Davis said she's not surprised to see numbers climbing.

"We're doing a better job with promotion every year and we're at a point now where people are asking about these events, they're telling people about them and they're holding on to items until the collections roll around every spring and fall," Davis said.

In the past, folks had to either take household chemicals to the landfill on Highway 51 for proper disposal, or they would dispose of them improperly. By bringing the semi-annual collections to the Waccamaw Neck, proper disposal has been made significantly easier and Davis believes that means more people are willing to take advantage of it.

More people practicing proper disposal habits keeps dangerous chemicals from leeching into the ground and ending up in the water supply.

"I think we'll continue to see it grow for a while yet," she said of the event.

In addition to the services offered through the collection event, there will also be some promotional giveaways intended to remind residents



In this photo from a previous collection event, county staff members load dropped-off waste items to be taken for proper disposal.



Some examples of household hazardous waste items commonly found in homes. If not properly disposed of, these chemicals can get into and contaminate the water supply.

that by properly disposing of these items, they help keep our waterways clean.

For more information about the collection event, contact the Stormwater Division of the Public Services Department at (843) 545-3524.

Attention, Teachers:

Book a video eco tour for you class!

Thanks to a new eco-literacy grant, the Georgetown County Library system has a unique field trip opportunity for Georgetown County students.

This grant will allow us to:

1. Come to your school to teach basic video production classes.
2. Pay for transportation and entrance fees to area nature sites.
3. Help kids videotape themselves as they explore the site.
4. Edit their footage into a cool mini documentary!

For information, call (843) 318-4930
or email hpelham@gtcounty.org.